

Community engAGEMENT for Age Friendly Environments



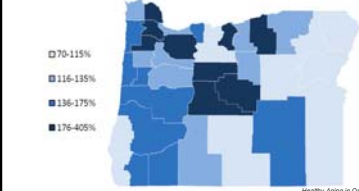
Deborah H. John, PhD and Kathy Gunter, PhD
 School of Biological and Population Health Sciences
 Extension Family and Community Health
 College of Public Health and Human Sciences
 Oregon State University



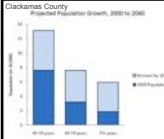
Oregon State **OSU** College of Public Health and Human Sciences

Our nation is aging... Oregon is no exception!

Figure 1: Projected percent increase of adults 75 years and older for the state of Oregon from 2000 to 2040, data from the Office of Economic Analysis.




Clackamas County
 Projected Population Growth, 2000 to 2040



Age Group	2000 Population	2040 Population
65-74	~100,000	~120,000
75+	~50,000	~70,000

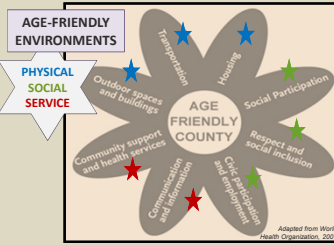
Healthy Aging in Oregon Counties, 2009

Oregon State **OSU** College of Public Health and Human Sciences



Campus-community health partnership to create a more 'Age-Friendly' Clackamas County!

Age-friendly places support *all* people's choices that enhance their health and well-being and allow participation in *all* aspects of community life



Adapted from World Health Organization, 2007

Oregon State **OSU** Extension Service Health, Housing & Human Services **CLACKAMAS COUNTY** **AARP** Oregon

Telephone Survey Research

"Please think about your community. I'm going to read you several statements and ask you to tell me how much you agree or disagree with each of them and then how important each of them is to you."

- My community is walkable with sidewalks and paths that are maintained.
 - Do you strongly disagree, disagree, agree, or strongly agree with that statement?
 - And how important is that to you, not important, somewhat important, important, or very important?
- Public buildings are accessible to people with different abilities.
 - Do you strongly disagree, disagree, agree, or strongly agree with that statement?
 - And how important is that to you, not important, somewhat important, important, or very important?
- A range of housing options are available that meet a variety of abilities and lifestyles.
 - Do you strongly disagree, disagree, agree, or strongly agree with that statement?
 - And how important is that to you, not important, somewhat important, important, or very important?

Oregon State **OSU** College of Public Health and Human Sciences

Community-Engaged Participatory Action Research (CPAR) using MAPPS

Mapping Attributes using Participatory Photographic Surveys

MAPPS combines UNIQUE tools - *Participatory Photo Mapping*¹ and the *Community Readiness Model*²

- ✓ explore people's experiences of health and place
- ✓ assess age-friendly resources and readiness for change
- ✓ communicate experiences to inform decisions and actions

Our Goal for MAPPS

engage local residents and partner with communities to develop collaborations and design projects to improve healthy aging options for **ALL** Clackamas County people and places

Oregon State **OSU** College of Public Health and Human Sciences

¹Dennis et al. 2009
² Edwards et al. 2000

Mapping Community Attributes using Participatory Photographic Surveys


1. **Community residents** use GPS and photography to map attributes of the community
2. **Mappers** decide which photographs along routes best represent the conditions in the community
3. **Community members – residents and sector stakeholders** discuss photographs as supporting or hindering place-based aging



MAPPS was developed and facilitated by Extension's Family & Community Health faculty for the engAGE in Community project.

Oregon State **OSU** College of Public Health and Human Sciences

engAGE MAPPS



MAPPS Rural & Non-Rural Communities:
 Hoodland (December 2010)
 Wilsonville (March 2011)
 Canby (April 2011)
 Oregon City (September 2011)
 Damascus (November 2011)
 N.Clackamas (March 2012)

MAPPS Volunteers: 62 women and men who reside in their respective participating community mapped over 630 community attributes

MAPPS Community Conversations: Over 220 participants commented on the physical, social, and service assets of their community place.

Oregon State **OSU** College of Public Health and Human Sciences

Analytical Frame

WHO model organized into 3 separate and intersecting environmental categories

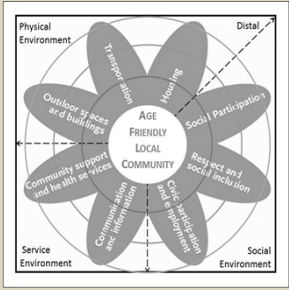
Attributes of People operate at multiple levels:

- **Individual:** beliefs/values, thoughts/feelings, knowledge/skills, demographics
- **Group:** families, social networks, supportive relationships
- **Community:** culture and norms

↓ Interplay ↑

Attributes of Place, experienced as assets or obstacles, operate:

- **Locally or proximally:** homes, schools, worksites, neighborhoods, community
- **Distally:** county, state, national, corporate, global



Oregon State **OSU** College of Public Health and Human Sciences

Significant Results of Contingency Table Analyses

Telephone Survey Sample of Clackamas County, Oregon Adult Residents (n=387)

More rural compared to non-rural residents reported they strongly disagreed/disagreed that these attributes were available in their community

	Rural	Non-Rural
Transportation		
Adequate public transportation	48.6%	31.0%
Adequate special needs transportation	28.9%	11.7%
Housing		
Long-term care options available	20.0%	7.7%
<i>Fewer rural reported this attribute as important</i>	66.6%	73.4%
Outdoor Spaces and Buildings		
Community is walkable	67.0%	32.4%
<i>Fewer rural reported this attribute as important</i>	38.0%	61.8%
Public buildings are accessible	22.7%	12.3%
<i>Fewer rural reported this attribute as important</i>	59.0%	68.5%

Note: Alpha level for analyses was 0.05.

Oregon State **OSU** College of Public Health and Human Sciences

Age-Friendly Social Environment Supports and Barriers Proximal and Distal to Communities in Clackamas County, Oregon

Social Environment WHO Category	Thematic Supports P = proximal or local/Community D = distal/County and beyond	Thematic Barriers P = proximal or local/Community D = distal/County and beyond
Social Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community culture (P) Tradition norms (P, D) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low critical mass (P) Community safety/criminal activity (P,D) Exclusionary policies and practices (P,D) Economic instability (P,D) School and school district policies (P,D)
Respect and Social Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community culture (P) Sense of community connectivity (P) Intergenerational and multi-ethnic programs and events (P) Inclusive strategic planning (P) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low critical mass (P) Costs (P) Intergenerational and multi-ethnic programs and events (P) Exclusionary policies and practices (P,D) School and school district policies (P,D)
Civic Participation/ Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spirit of volunteerism (P) Opportunities for productive civic engagement (P) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exclusionary policies, rules, practices (P,D) School and school district policies (P,D)

Note: **Bold** emerged as both supports and barriers for age-friendly communities.

Oregon State **OSU** College of Public Health and Human Sciences

Social Environment Themes

Age-Friendly Supports

- Strong sense of community and belonging that is as "good as family"
- Community and adult centers, faith groups, "senior only" activities
- Locally-owned businesses, restaurants, and entertainment venues
- Historical sites promote pride in Clackamas County history
- ❖ Volunteerism and opportunities for civic engagement valued and necessary resources
- Accessible and inclusive programs and gardens
- Locally hosted community events



Barriers to Age-Friendliness

- In-commuting and transient populations
- Absence of supports for ethnic minorities
- Commercial vacancies and safety
- Policies, rules, or costs that limit inclusion or volunteerism
- ❖ Shortage of intergenerational social, cultural, and civic opportunities


Oregon State **OSU** College of Public Health and Human Sciences

Significant Results of Contingency Table Analyses Telephone Survey Sample of Clackamas County, Oregon Adult Residents (n=387)

More rural compared to non-rural residents strongly disagreed/disagreed that these attributes were available in their community

Communications and Information	Rural	Non-Rural
Information about events, programs and services	19.0%	10.0%
Fewer rural rated this attribute as important	64.7%	75.4%

Note: Alpha level for analyses was 0.05.



Oregon State **OSU** College of Public Health and Human Sciences
