

TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE
INTEGRATING HEALTH INTO MUNICIPAL DECISION MAKING
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

2022



PURPOSE

Social construct, environment, and behaviors play a serious role in long-term individual and community health. The Township's health in all policies approach stems from a manner by which to inclusively recognize that the aforementioned impacts significantly influence how a community is able to grow and achieve productive and equitable policy decisions. This framework helps to legitimize and formalize the development of implementing collaborative efforts towards sustained healthy programs and strategies for applying community wellness.

SCOPE

1. Consider the potential impacts on individual & community health incorporated into the process for projects and programs.
2. Be mindful of potential impacts on individual & community health incorporated into requests for proposals (RFPs) and requests for qualifications (RFQs) for municipal projects as appropriate.
3. Regularly assess the impacts of municipal operations (policies, projects, programs, plans) on the health of vulnerable or marginalized individuals.
4. Recognize, plan for, and evaluate social determinants of health and health equity.

**NOTE: According to the World Health Organization, "Health equity is achieved when every person has the opportunity to attain their full health potential and no one is disadvantaged from achieving this potential because of social position or other socially determined circumstances."*

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Supporting the growth of scientific, social, and environmental knowledge on health determinants as they pertain to community wellbeing;
- Identifying and prioritizing emerging health issues;
- Monitoring activities that impact community health;
- Helping to create structures and mechanisms for identifying and understanding social determinates of health and health equity.