



The Role of Non-Profit Organizations as “Anchor Institutions”

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College of Architecture Book Series
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Examine the role of hospitals and non-profit organizations as “anchor institutions” within communities.

What impact do these non-profits have on the health of surrounding neighborhoods and how might we measure these effects?

What is health?



Health is the ability of an individual or group “to identify and to realize aspirations, to satisfy needs, and to change or cope with the environment.”

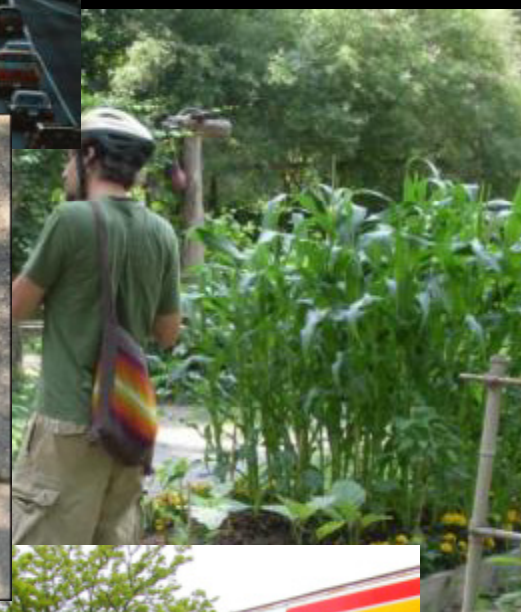
1948 World Health Organization Constitution and
the 1986 Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion

- The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act calls on non-profit hospitals to increase their accountability to communities
- Provide communities with information that will help them engage their local non-profit hospitals in community health assessment and improvement

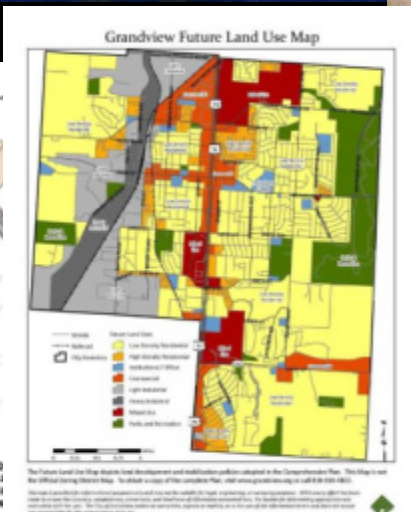
- The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act revises the tax exemption standards applicable to non-profit hospitals
- Non-profit hospitals are now required to conduct a community health needs assessment, widely publicize assessment results, and adopt an implementation strategy to meet needs identified by the assessment

- Hospitals and other non-profits have tax-exempt status as a result of the requirement and expectation that they will engage in and supply community benefits

- Conduct comprehensive community health assessments
- Frame health prevention practices
- Forge partnerships between healthcare providers, public health care community, others
- Work with community to identify and improve primary health challenges



Determinants of Determinants?



Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is a combination of procedures, methods, and tools that systematically judges the potential, and sometimes unintended, effects of a policy, plan, program, or project on the health of a population

- **Screening:** is an HIA necessary?
- **Scoping:** possible consequences, boundaries, management
- **Appraisal/Assessment:** nature and magnitude, affected population

- **Recommendation:** evidence-based impact management strategies
- **Dissemination:** reporting results to decision makers
- **Monitoring and Evaluation:** review effects of HIA

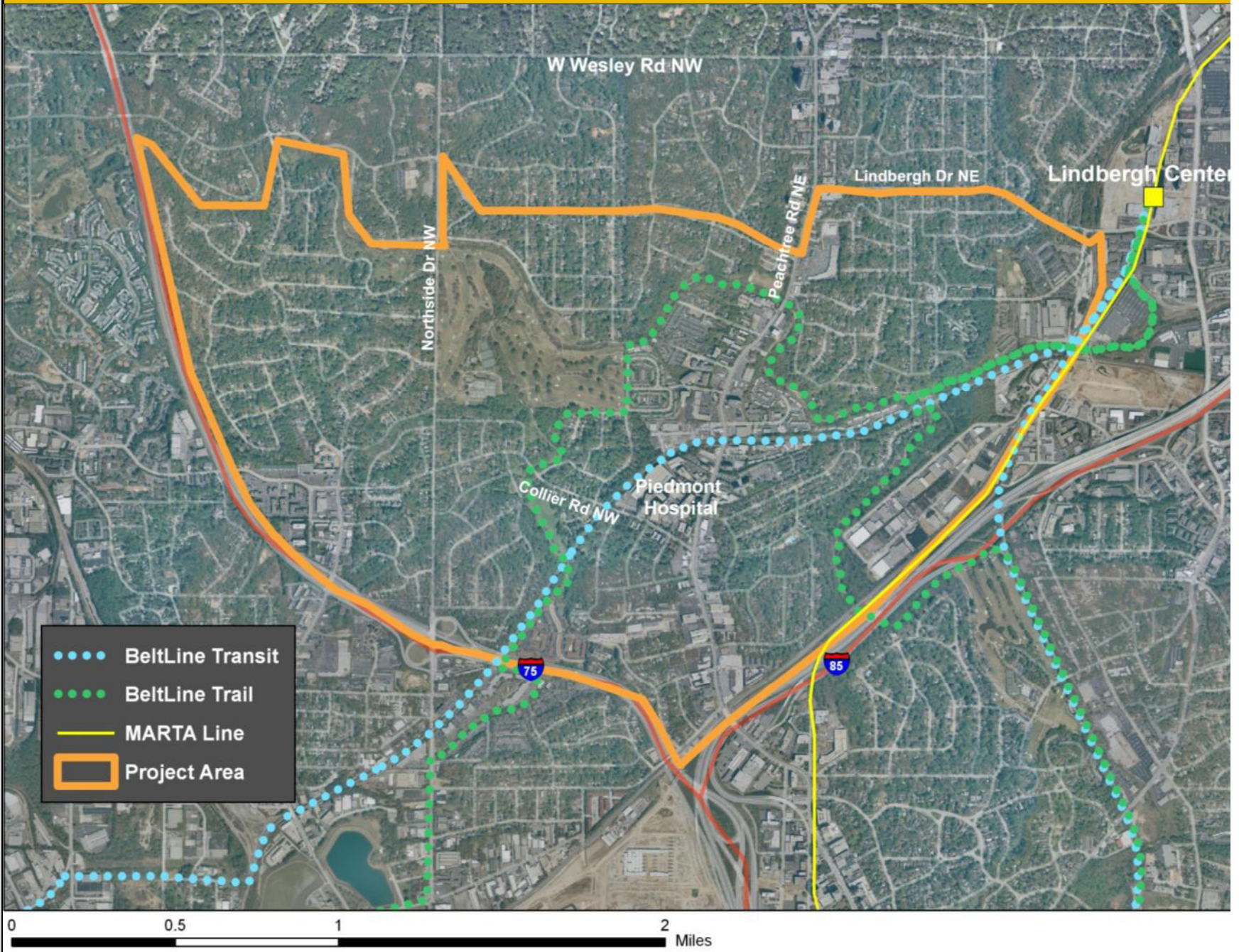
- A retrospective HIA of Piedmont Hospital on the surrounding neighborhoods; a prospective HIA of how future plans can change hospital impacts



Are there potential health impacts?

- **Piedmont Hospital:** over 8,000 staff and thousands of daily visitors
- **Subarea population: over 14,000** and 11,000 area workers (2000 Census)
- **Peachtree Corridor:** proposed streetcar and street redesign

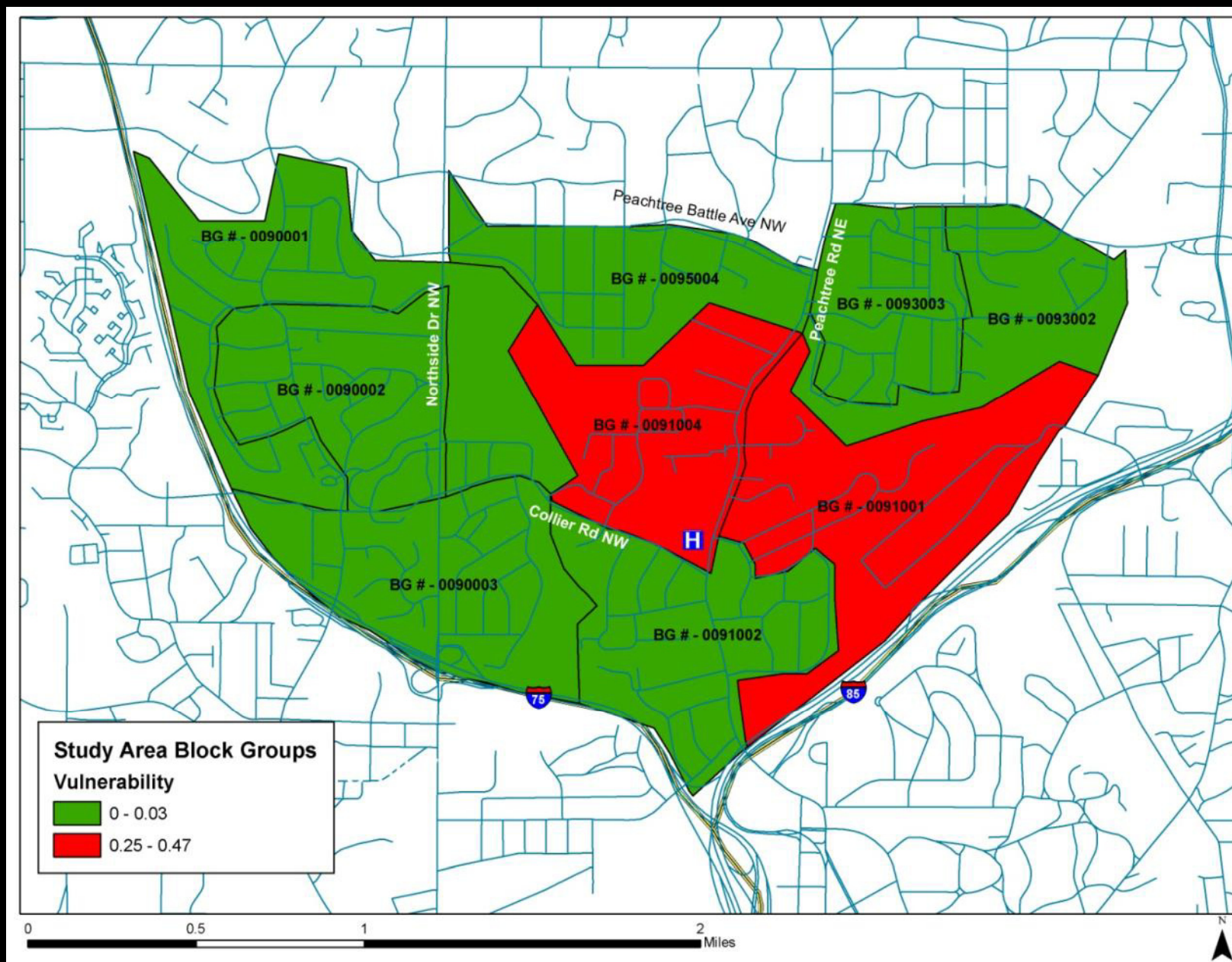
- **Atlanta BeltLine:** 700 acres of park improvements and 1,300 acres of new parks, 33 miles of new multi-use trails, 22 mile loop of transit service, 6,500 acres of redevelopment, sidewalk, streetscape, road, and intersection improvements
- **Engaged** neighborhood associations and city officials
- Known traffic and development concerns



- Health Statistics Data
- Mortality Data
- Community Outreach Plan
- Survey of Community Residents and others
- Active Travel Survey
- Physical Exercise Data
- Survey of Safety Perceptions
- Walkability Audit and others
- Analysis

- Study population relative to City of Atlanta
 - Wealthier
 - Better access to motorized transportation
 - Smaller percentage of the population belonging to minority ethnic groups
 - The most vulnerable populations, including elderly populations, could be found living closest to Piedmont Hospital

Land Use Data



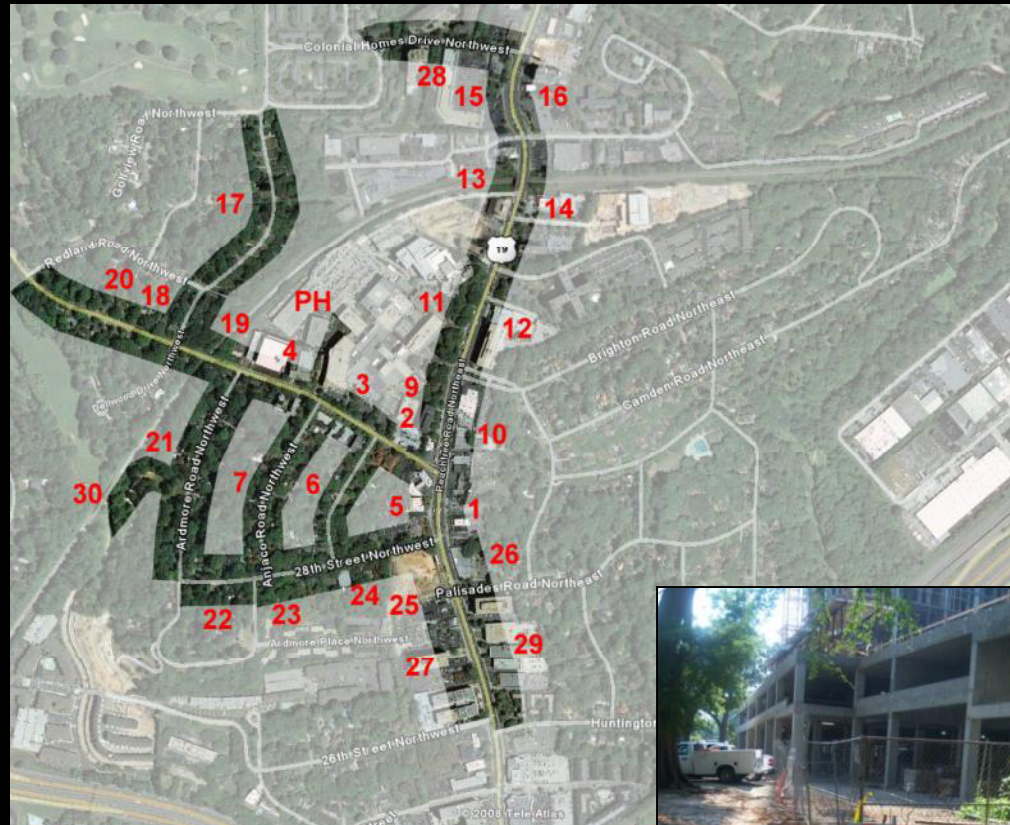
Walkability Audit



Example of a good pedestrian environment: well-kept, highly shaded, flat, and separated from the roadway.



Along parts of the segment, there are times that the sidewalk height is even with the roadway height, creating essentially a continuous curb cut, with no separation between pedestrians and automobiles.



Closed sidewalk due to construction on The Brookwood condominiums.

- 127-page report plus appendices
- Executive summary
- One-page handout
- Communication with the community associations
- Meetings with elected officials
- Follow-up conversations with neighborhood representatives
- Website
- Presentations to professionals
- Papers submitted to peer-reviewed journals

Outcomes

- Stakeholders empowered to negotiate with hospital and decision makers
- Collaboration between hospital and neighborhoods
- Implementation of pedestrian improvements
- Increased community awareness of health determinants
- Increased community awareness and involvement in local planning and development

