



## NOTES

Terms defined in the glossary appear in the Environmental Assessment. Definitions are specific to that assessment. They are broken up by the module in which they appear. Some terms appear in more than one module and are listed in the “Overall” section of the glossary to avoid duplication.

## OVERALL

- **Chronic disease:** Diseases that affect a person’s life for a long time. They include obesity, diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, COPD, asthma, and many others.
- **Environment:** All of the things that make a community what it is. There are many parts that make up the environment.
  - The **physical environment** includes things that you can see, touch, or interact with. This includes roads, parks, or signs. It can also include programs or services that people can use.
  - The **social environment** includes attitudes or feelings that people have and that may change how they act.
  - The **economic environment** includes things related to money that may encourage or discourage behaviors. This could include fines, rewards, or discounts.
- **Policy:** Laws, regulations, rules, and procedures that tell how things should be done. They should be written down. They are usually designed to guide or change behavior. Policies often come from the government or an organization. They can lead to changes in the environment or in the way things are done. Putting changes into policy can make them last longer and be harder to undo.
- **Strategies:** How you plan to do something. For example, if the goal is for people to drink more water, the strategy might be to have water at all public events.

## AIR QUALITY

- **Idle-free policy:** Policy that requires vehicles to turn off their engines while the vehicle is parked or not in use. The most common reasons why an individual idles their vehicle are when they are warming up the vehicle, waiting for someone, or when running an errand.
- **Indoor public places:** Any indoor space where the public is allowed to be. This may include bars, restaurants, shopping malls, retail stores, or indoor play spaces.
- **Outdoor public places:** Any outdoor space where the public is allowed to be. This may include parking lots, parks, playgrounds, ball fields, public pools, or green spaces.
- **Smoke free policy 24/7:** A policy that keeps people from smoking. This policy is in place 24 hours a day 7 days a week. In Ohio, indoor public places are covered by the Ohio Smoke free Workplace law.
- **Tobacco free policy 24/7:** A policy that keeps people from using any tobacco products. This policy is in place 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

## HOUSING AND NUISANCE

- **Healthy home**: The quality of our homes greatly impacts our health. A healthy home can support wellness, while preventing disease and injury. An unhealthy one can contribute to numerous adverse health outcomes and limit quality of life. There are many aspects of a home that make it healthy. Key components of a Healthy Home include keep it dry, keep it clean, keep it safe, keep it well-ventilated, keep it contaminant-free, keep it well maintained, and keep it pest-free.
- **Home visits**: Visits to residents' homes made by Firefighters, EMS, public health or other government employees or volunteers to check on the welfare of the resident & status of the home.
- **Housing standards**: Minimum standards for maintenance that are required for all homes. This includes both private homes and rental housing.
- **Nuisance policies**: Policies that tell property owners the minimum they must do in order to keep their property up to standards. They may include standards for hygiene and sanitation and what utilities must be connected.
- **Property standards**: Minimum standards for private property maintenance.

## PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

- **Americans with Disabilities Act**: Protects people living with disabilities. It also protects people no matter their race, color, sex, age, religion, or where they come from. It makes sure people living with disabilities have the same access to public spaces, jobs, buses, sidewalks, and state and local government services as everyone else.
- **Bike facilities**: Changes made by the community that can make it easier for people to ride their bikes. They may also encourage people to use bikes more often. They may be things like bike racks, storage or parking areas, and shared roadways or paths.
- **Bike lanes**: A portion of a road that has been marked for bicycles. This might include signs, stripes, or other markings on the pavement that make it clear bicycles are allowed.
- **Complete streets**: Streets that allow everyone to use them, no matter how they move around. They work well for those who drive cars or motorcycles, ride public buses, walk, or ride bikes. They are also safe for all users including people living with disabilities.
- **Developments**: Any type of new building that is being done. It can be residential (a new sub-division going in), commercial (a new business or office building), or educational (a new school).
- **Land use plan**: A plan to regulate how land in a community is used and prevent conflicts. This can be a comprehensive plan, a master plan, or some other plan that deals with land use.

## PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

- **Mixed land use**: Having a mixture of different types of places located close together. Think about a street where you have shops on the ground floor, with apartments above. There might be a school on the next block and a park next to that. There won't be large areas that are only shopping or only houses. Everything is mixed together. This type of community makes it easy for people to walk rather than drive to places because everything is close together.
- **Playground safety checks**: Checks of public playgrounds that ensure the playground meets current standards and is free from any dangerous items (e.g., broken equipment, missing items).
- **Public recreation facilities**: Public spaces that have at least one thing that helps people be more active. This might include a trail or path for walking, biking, or hiking. It could also be an open play field, play area, or playground.
- **Reasonable walking distance**: One mile.
- **Safe Routes to School**: A program that tries to encourage more students to walk or bike safely to and from school. It includes education, encouragement, enforcement, engineering, and evaluation strategies.
- **Shared use paths or trails**: A path or trail for people who are walking, biking, skating, or using scooters. It is usually made of concrete. It can be used to get from one place to another, for exercise, or just for fun.
- **Traffic calming measures**: Physical changes to the road or area around the road that cause drivers to slow down or drive more carefully. They will improve the safety of people walking, biking, or using the road in other ways. They may include central islands, roundabouts, speed bumps or humps, narrowing the road, or adding on road parking.

## WATER QUALITY

- **Illicit discharge**: Putting anything that is not rain water into storm drains. This may include pouring paint or grease into a storm drain. It may also include people putting things like trash, yard trimmings, or pet waste into storm drains.
- **Storm water management techniques**: Practices that reduce the amount of pollution that enters **waters of the state**. This might include labeling containers of oil, having clean-up materials nearby, or building structures to contain spills.
- **Waters of the state**: All streams, lakes, wells, springs, irrigation or drainage systems, and other bodies of water that have some part in a certain city, village, or township. This can include water on the surface but also water that is underground. This does not include private bodies of water that do not join with natural bodies of water.

### SOLID WASTE

- **Compost**: Composting turns yard trimmings and food scraps into nutrient-rich dirt that you can use in your garden or flower bed. Composting can be done with a specialized compost bin or simply by creating a compost pile outside. Both types require turning the compost to help the items break down. When done correctly, compost should not have a strong smell or attract pests like raccoons or rodents.
- **Comprehensive trash collection**: Residents are provided trash, recycling and composting collection options as part of the standard trash collection services provided by the local government.
- **Open dumping surveillance system**: A process or system to monitor open dumping activity within the City/Village/Township.
- **Open dumping**: The improper disposal of any waste including household trash, garbage, tires, barrels, demolition/construction waste, appliances or any material which will rust, rot or burn.
- **Recycling collection**: The curbside collection of recyclable items, including yard waste and compostable items, at a person's home.