

Democratizing Data for Health:
Lessons from health impact
assessment at the local level



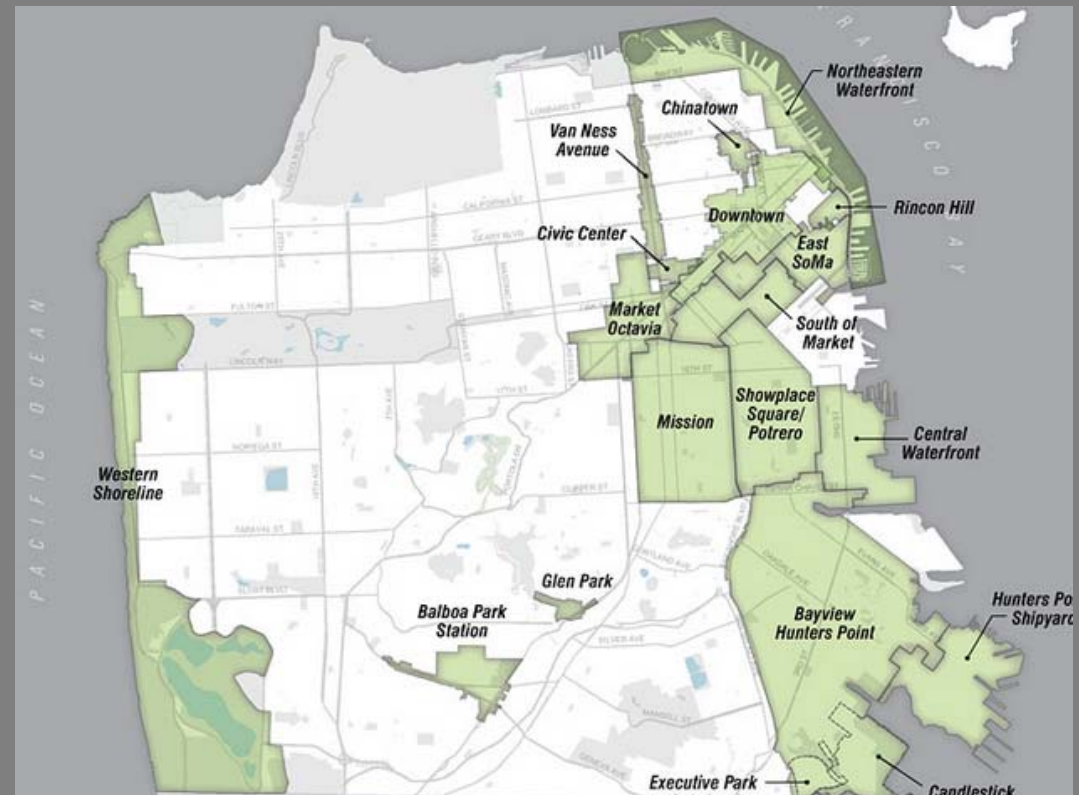
Rajiv Bhatia
Director of Environmental Health
San Francisco Department of Public Health

**In the late 1990s,
San Francisco began
repurposing historically
industrial land for
residential and office uses.**



The city planned for the most intense development on its eastern side, which had more industrial and commercial uses, and greater density,

but fewer neighborhood resources, such as parks and schools.



Concerned that plans did not meet their needs for healthy neighborhoods, many residents rallied to voice their opinions on the growth plans.

¡Luchar Contra Los Desalojos!

Familias Latinas Luchan Para Salvar Sus Hogares

Latino Families Fight to Save Their Homes!

and Developer Allen McCarthy is to evict and displace 6 Latino and Families in the Heart of the Mission. It is also planning on displacing a of business and even Grand Church, a community Latino congregation. In total a total amount will be to pay \$100,000-\$200,000 per month, to rent out these homes. Some of the names have lived there for 20 years, the mothers, children, teenagers, seniors and disabled residents, as of 2129 Harrison are committed this initiative, and are joining with other neighbors to say as a result of working class Latino families, and community institutions from Mission and San Francisco. Fight evictions! Housing is a human right!

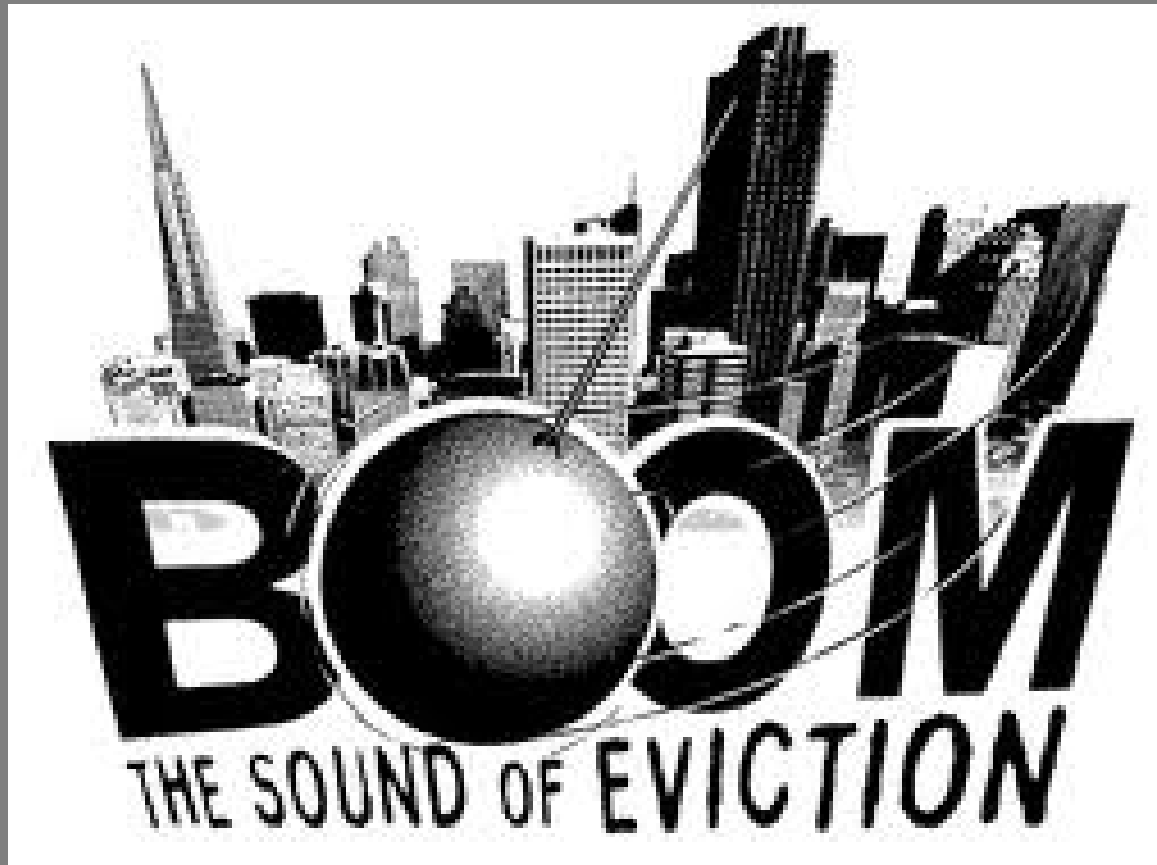
Allen McCarthy, un urbanizador y propietario de apartamentos en el corazón de la Misión. También planea de desalojar una iglesia latina y una escuela en el edificio. Mientras hay una crisis económica, él está imponiendo un aumento de alquileres de \$100-200/mes, con el propósito de desalojar a los inquilinos, entre ellos niños, adolescentes y residentes incapacitados. Algunas familias han vivido ahí por 20 años.

Los inquilinos del 2129 Harrison se comprometieron a pelear esta injusticia organizándose con activistas de la zona para decir "No más desalojos a los trabajadores!"

¡La Vivienda es un Derecho Humano!

24th & Harrison Committee
Mission Anti-Displacement Coalition
missionantidisplacement.blogspot.com

Eviction from their homes and loss of industrial jobs was one of the most pressing concerns of lower income residents.



In 2003, when a developer proposed to demolish the Trinity Plaza Apartments, he offered residents \$1000 for relocation.

Tenants said that displacement would lead to stress, the loss of jobs, distance from friends and family, budget strain, and overcrowding.



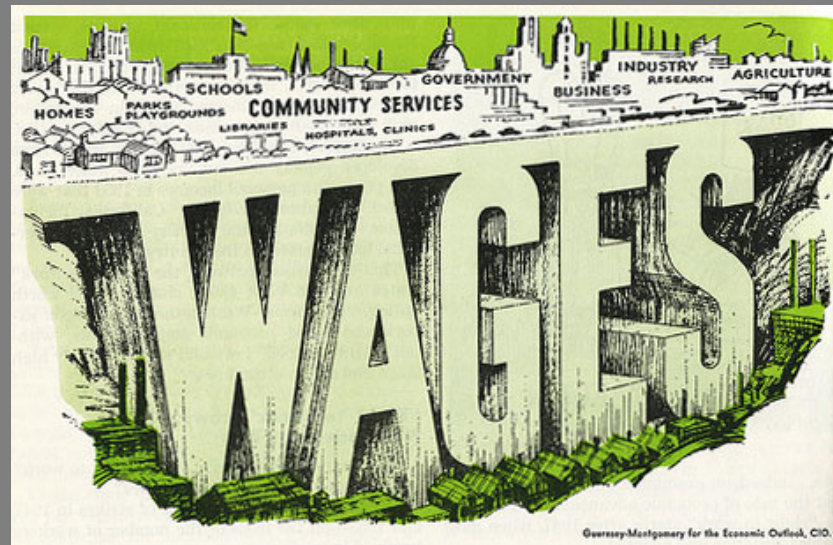
One of the first Health Impact Assessments in the US was conducted for the planning department on behalf of tenants at the Trinity Plaza Apartments.

The HIA validated the residents' concerns and ensured the tenants' homes would be replaced in the new building.



Over the next few years, the Department of Health conducted other Health Impact Assessments resulting in city policy action on:

- affordable housing
- concentrated poverty
- traffic safety
- parks and open space
- quality schools
- community facilities
- the minimum wage
- paid sick leave



In 2004, the Department of Health became more pro-active in addressing the needs of health in development.

DPH brought together diverse non-governmental organizations, businesses, and public agencies to look critically at land use plans for growth from a comprehensive health and equity lens.



The city conducted a Health Impact Assessment on several neighborhood growth plans.

The outcome was the Healthy Development Measurement Tool (later renamed the Sustainable Communities Index), a system of performance indicators to evaluate land use and growth plans.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES INDEX
Healthy Cities, Healthy People

Home Measures City Indicators Resources About

About the SCI

The Sustainable Communities Index is a system of indicators for livable, equitable and prosperous cities. This site provides the methods and data sources required for collecting indicators in your city or region and resources for applying these metrics to planning, policy making and civic engagement.

[> MORE](#)

News

November 19th, 2012
Open Data

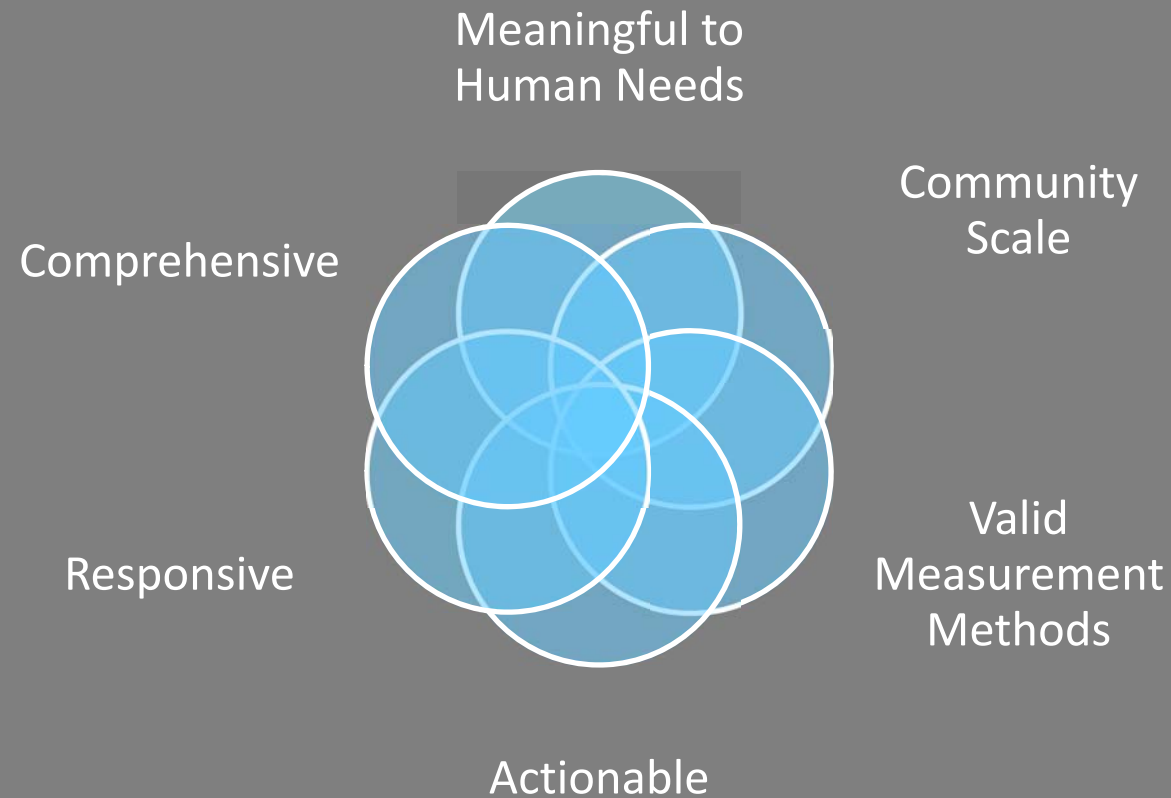
Data for most SCI measures for San Francisco are now available through the City's data portal, [DataSF](#), as part of its open data initiative.

Data sets now available for download [here!](#)

[> MORE](#)

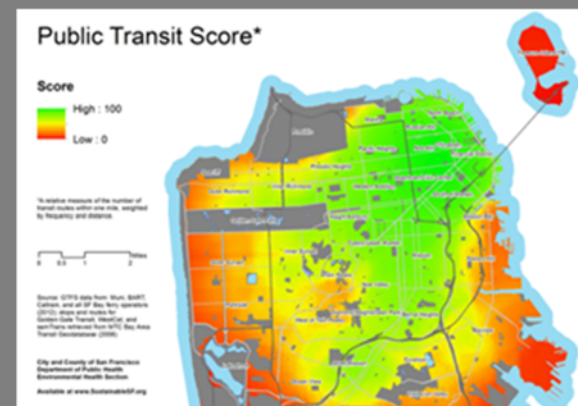
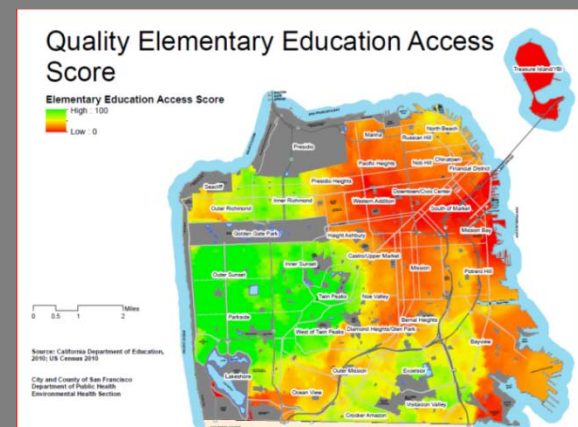
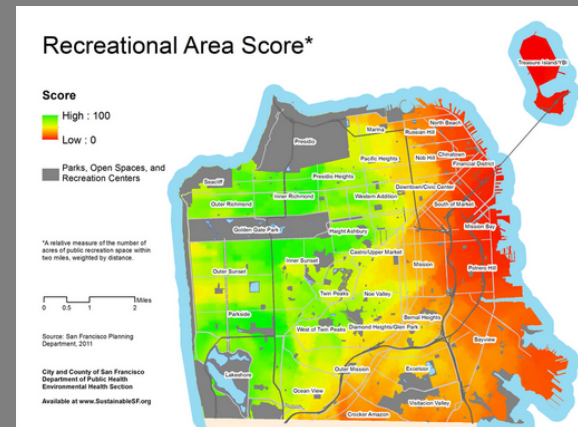
The diagram is a circular infographic with 'SCI' in the center. It is divided into eight segments, each with an icon and a label: Environment (globe), Transportation (bus), Community (group of people), public realm (shopping bag), Education (book), Housing (house), Economy (grid), and Health (ambulance).

In selecting the measures, the Department and stakeholders considered many criteria for powerful and effective performance indicators.



Mapping indicators for health resources demonstrated that neighborhoods with planned growth excelled in some health resources but had significant gaps with others.

The city established a fund to build new infrastructure for the community.



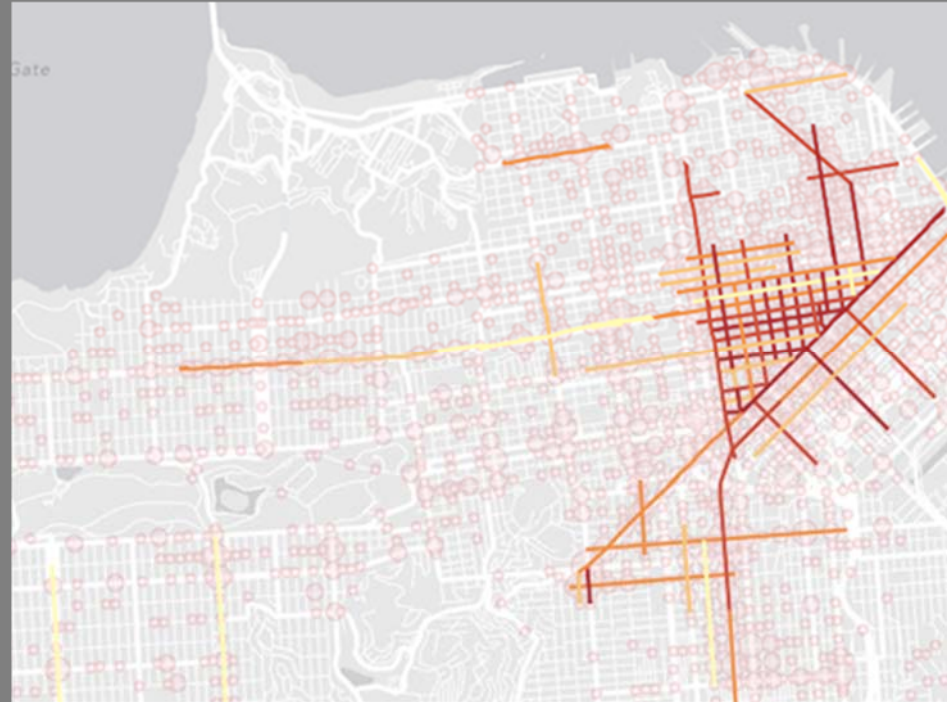
Local scale modeling demonstrated “hot spots” of pollution that were not seen by the existing regional air pollution monitors.

The city used these models to justify higher standards of building ventilation.



Indicators also revealed disturbing patterns of serious pedestrian injuries on a few main streets.

These models led the city to a greater focus on busy, wide streets in populated walking districts.



Several practical decisions explain the effectiveness of the city's use of health impact assessment and social indicators in integrated action among planning, transportation, and health sectors in San Francisco.

Worked with existing policy priorities and political agendas

Found ways to be helpful to both interest groups and public agencies

Brought data and scientific credibility to controversies

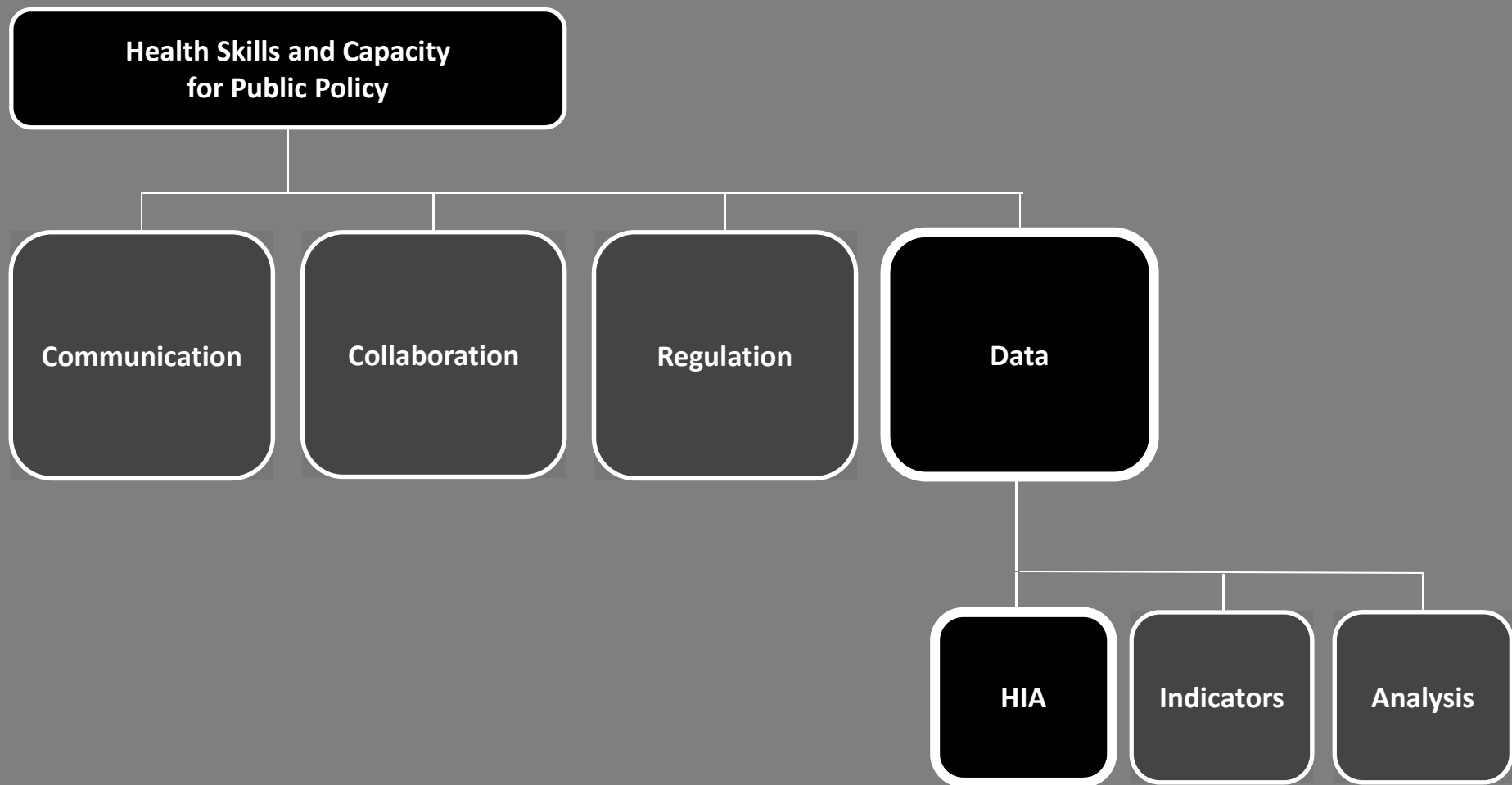
Used public health agency authority and responsibility

Focused equally technical capacity and maintaining relationships

Used existing regulatory processes

Valued the health and participatory ends and not the technical means

Today, health practitioners are using multiple informational and communicative tools. In San Francisco, HIA was the entryway for public health to engage in public policy.



Social media and other information technologies provide new opportunities to communicate health information directly to citizens and increase citizen engagement.

Mobile apps can create awareness of social and environmental conditions and inequities.

APPALLICIOUS Home San Francisco Rec & Park Press Contact

City of San Francisco Recreation and Parks Official Mobile App

SAN FRANCISCO RECREATION & PARKS MOBILE

Park Map Park List News Volunteer

Filters: Dog Play Area, Community Garden, Bas...

SF Rec Park Official App Support

City of San Francisco Recreation and Parks Official Mobile App

Public health can now use social media to expose business compliance with environmental health regulations, motivating businesses to improve.

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Tropisueño > Health Inspections

Tropisueño

January 4, 2013 — Routine Inspection

Violations
This inspection has no violations.

Previous Inspections

Date	Inspection Type	Violations	Score
December 10, 2012	Routine	0	89
December 6, 2012	Routine	2	89
August 14, 2012	Routine	3	87

Health Score

100

out of 100

About Yelp Health Scores
We collect public inspection data directly from your city's health department. Due to the city health department's inspection schedule as well as the time it takes to pass that information on to us, it is possible that we may not display the most recent inspection data. Please report any unreasonable delay and data inaccuracies to your city's health department.

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Miki Restaurant > Health Inspections

Miki Restaurant

December 13, 2012 — Routine Inspection

Violations

- Improper cooling methods [date violation corrected: 1/16/2013]
- Inadequate and inaccessible handwashing facilities [date violation corrected: 1/16/2013]
- Unclean or unsanitary food contact surfaces [date violation corrected: 1/16/2013]
- Foods not protected from contamination [date violation corrected: 1/16/2013]
- High risk food holding temperature [date violation corrected: 1/16/2013]
- Improper food storage [date violation corrected: 1/16/2013]
- Unclean nonfood contact surfaces [date violation corrected: 1/16/2013]
- Unclean or degraded floors walls or ceilings [date violation corrected: 1/16/2013]

Previous Inspections

Date	Inspection Type	Violations	Score
January 26, 2012	Routine	10	61
January 10, 2012	Routine	7	82
April 1, 2011	Routine	2	91

Health Score

65

out of 100

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Ultimately, no single organization creates the conditions for people to be healthy.

Health requires informed citizens to engage with effective democratic institutions.

