

HUMAN HEALTH AND WELL BEING (2013)



Policy Statement

The American Society of Landscape Architects believes that the planning and design of our communities and landscapes have a significant impact on human health and well-being. The physical layout and the materials used in our environment can enhance physical and mental health by promoting active lifestyles, mitigating the impacts of environmental stressors such as air pollution and heat, and providing a diversity of public spaces that foster social interaction and contact with nature.

ASLA advocates for individuals and community leaders to incorporate the best practices and knowledge from both the design and health fields with the goal of improving human health and well-being through sound and creative planning, design, and management of our communities and built environment. ASLA urges the employment of a broad range of policies, practices, and development incentives that will encourage the creation of communities that are safe, affordable, lively and healthy. ASLA encourages increased research and collaboration between the design professions and health professions to advance our understanding and ability to create environments that enhance human health and well-being.