

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Date: July 1, 2019

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### **KCPHD Requests Survey Input as Built Environment Work Begins in Upper County.**

The Kittitas County Public Health Department (KCPHD) is seeking input from Cle Elum and South Cle Elum residents as part of a survey around built environment work. The survey goes live as of July 1, 2019 to assess “walkability” and “bikeability” in the upper county. Survey respondents can enter a chance to win a gift card from Pioneer Coffee by completing the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CE-walkbikesurvey>

Built environment refers to our “human-made” surroundings and “walkability” and “bikeability” are terms used to describe how easy it is to walk or bike in a community, specifically issues like are the streets connected, are there sidewalks or bike lanes, does it feel safe, and are places to walk and bike near homes. KCPHD wants communities to be walkable and bikeable, so that physical activity is available and safe for everyone.

This year, KCPHD received a grant via the Washington State Department of Health to address issues with physical activity and nutrition. As part of that grant, KCPHD has partnered with the City of Cle Elum to address issues around built environment. “We are starting by asking for residential input in the Upper County, so we can determine ways that we can work together in the future to increase walkability and bikeability,” states Kasey Knutson, Health Promotion Supervisor. “Like any issue KCPHD addresses, we need to know what local residents see as concerns.”

2019 is the first year of the four year grant. Other areas that the grant will address include breastfeeding access policies, early childhood interventions, and nutrition at our local food banks.

For more information about the survey or to request a paper copy, please contact KCPHD at 509-962-7515.

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