Perspectives on Smart Siting and Community-Centered Schools

Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute Conference
March 5, 2010
Commissioner Michael Knight in front of Dubuque’s St. Raphael School

www.PreservationNation.org
Proximity Matters

Courtesy of Google Earth
Benefits of Community-Centered Schools

- Anchors the neighborhood (property values, public / private investment)
- Close ties to community
- Smaller footprint
- Save on construction and operating costs (joint or shared use of facilities)

- Multiple transportation modes
- Fewer vehicle mile traveled improves air quality
Increase Physical Activity

… “factors such as school location have played a significant role in the decreased rates of walking to school, and changes in policy may help to increase the number of children who are able to walk to school.”

American Academy of Pediatricians
Committee on Environmental Health
2009
Helping Johnny Walk to School
Policy Recommendations for Removing Barriers to Community-Centered Schools

BY RENEE KUHLMAN
Eliminate Minimum Acreage Standards
Encourage Meaningful Planning Coordination

New Hampshire

Senate Bill 59

State Climate Action Plan

Keene, New Hampshire
Funding for School Construction

Arvada, Wyoming

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Full-Cost Accounting of Siting Decisions
Further More Information

www.preservationnation.org/issues/
www.bestfacilities.org/best-home/
www.epa.gov/schools/siting.html
www.ncef.org/rl/site_selection.cfm
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