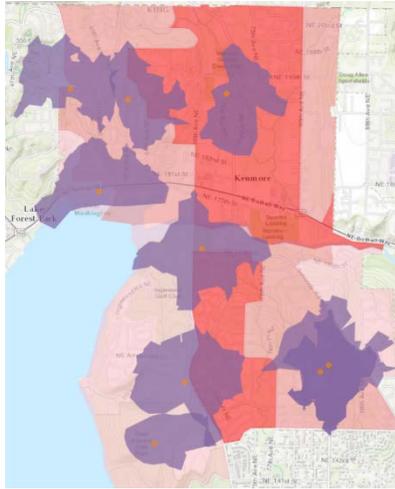


National League of Cities: Culture of Health Spotlight Kenmore, Washington

The City of Kenmore, home to just over 21,000 people, is committed to providing a safe and healthy future for all its residents. Through comprehensive data analysis and geographic information system (GIS) mapping, city leaders in Kenmore have successfully informed their health-based policies and practices by focusing on community needs, all with an eye towards building a Culture of Health.

All-Stars: Let's Move! Cities, Towns, and Counties



This Kaboom! map depicts areas in the city with playground access, with purple being half mile playground access and dark pink demonstrating the highest level of need for play spaces. City leaders in Kenmore use these maps to understand areas in need.

The City of Kenmore, Washington was awarded gold medals in all five *Let's Move! Cities, Towns, and Counties (LMCTC)* goal areas in November 2014. By receiving the highest distinction that a city can reach through this program, Kenmore demonstrated its dedication to healthy policies that affect children and families. In addition, Mayor David Baker received the LMCTC [Legacy Award](#) for his commitment to cross-sector collaboration with a focus on providing healthy, affordable food and physical activity options to children in the area.

As a [Kaboom! Playful City](#), Kenmore uses [maps](#) to inform areas in the city with the greatest need of safe play spaces for children. By understanding the gaps in play spaces in the community, city leaders are equipped to address inequities and understand related implications, such as lack of access to transportation or healthy food options. Analyzing these maps from a holistic perspective ensures that vulnerable populations will get the attention and support that they need, which is a strong approach to building a Culture of Health.

The City has also adopted a Complete Streets policy that promotes a bicycle friendly community alongside safe routes to school as part of the City of Kenmore [Target Zero initiative](#). In addition, the [Walkways](#)

[and Waterways bond measure](#) aims to improve city parks and natural open space access, as well as add sidewalks and bike lanes on main roads through Kenmore over seven years.

In describing the City's remarkable efforts in enacting healthy policies and programs for residents, Mayor Baker stated that his team always asks themselves, "Where's the fun in this?" While residents in the City of Kenmore benefit from the focus on fun, they also benefit from having dedicated city leaders who prioritize health and well-being for all.

Benefits of Cross-Sector Collaboration

City leaders in Kenmore have developed strong partnerships with county and state officials to seek out sustainable funding sources for the benefit of the community. In addition, multiple school districts and



The Target Zero Initiative was adopted by the City of Kenmore in April of 2014 with the goal of achieving zero pedestrian and bicyclist fatalities and serious injuries in Kenmore by 2025 by increasing awareness of pedestrian, bicyclist and driver safety issues.

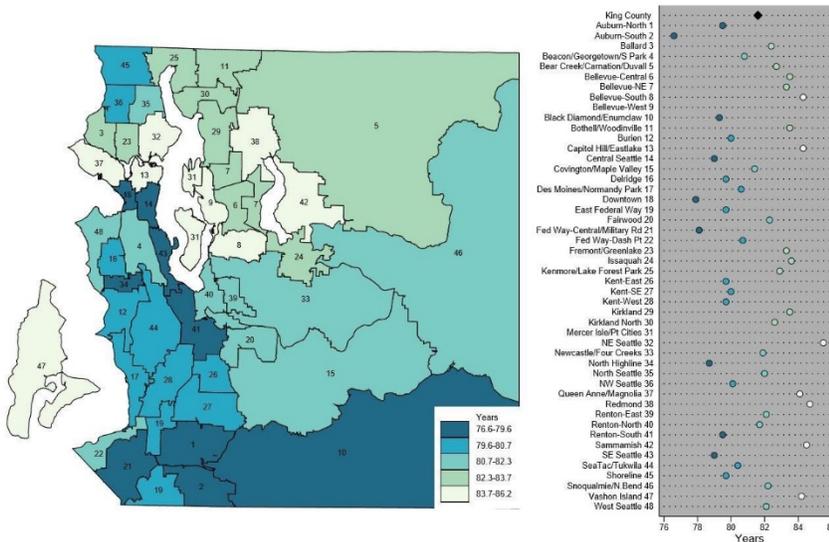
universities, such as the Northshore School District and Bastyr University, help promote the healthy lifestyle work of Kenmore and support the [Safe Routes to School](#) efforts. The shared sense of accountability associated with coordinated partnerships helps leaders provide the most efficient services to those in the community.

Data as a Catalyst to Building a Culture of Health

As part of an LMCTC convening at the White House to meet with former President Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama, Mayor Baker was presented with GIS maps outlining childhood obesity in his city. Mayor Baker was intrigued with the effectiveness of data visualization, which sparked his interest in using data to better understand community needs.

Mayor Baker said, “We now use the county’s data to pinpoint our city and understand childhood health data in our community. We stay on top of that data to design programs based on the results.” For example, to address childhood obesity, city leaders in Kenmore are designing programs to get children away from screens and encourage them to be active outside, which builds upon the previous work with LMCTC.

Life expectancy at birth by health reporting areas, King County, 2008-2012



By partnering with the County Health Department, Kenmore is pushing targeted, data-driven policies that are informed by community needs. With an understanding of the areas in Kenmore with the highest demonstrated need, city leaders can tailor their efforts to maximize their impact. As Mayor Baker says, “This is exactly what data should be used for – to improve the health of those in our community.”

This GIS map shows life expectancy in King County. This is one of the maps that city leaders in Kenmore use to inform their healthy living programs and policies.

The City of Kenmore is a strong example for other cities looking to build a Culture of Health in their community. To city leaders in Kenmore, a Culture of Health means incorporating healthy living into all city programs and policies.