

## Eleven Reasons for Local Policy Development

1. Local policy can be implemented more quickly and cost-effectively than at the state or national levels
2. Local political leaders are more accessible than state or national level politicians
3. Local decision-makers are more aware of the issues that concern their constituents
4. Local decision-making processes provide more chances for community participation
5. Local policy provides communities with a realistic and achievable means of tackling the large, macro-issues that impact health (i.e. corporate policy).
6. There is greater opportunity to develop comprehensive policy solutions at the local level
7. Smaller local bureaucracies and community networks can facilitate collaboration
8. Local policies can be tailored to meet the needs of individual communities
9. It can be easier to build support and raise community awareness for local issues
10. Local initiatives are frequently a laboratory for broader level policy change
11. Local initiatives can act as a catalyst for statewide and national change