

HEALTH AND SAFETY IN WALKABLE NEIGHBORHOODS WITH REFERENCE TO TEHRAN, IRAN

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The surveys in modern neighborhoods of Tehran show that, traffic engineering is the main principle of street design and the human experiences such as meanings, health and safety are neglected. Recently a new interdisciplinary paradigm for traffic and neighborhood design suggests a way towards a walkable, continuous and integrated public realm, where cars no longer divide neighborhoods and open spaces (Hamilton and Jones 2005, Moudon 2006). This paper presents the effects of neighborhood design on the safety and health of residents in Tehran. The early result of the study shows that many neighborhoods of Tehran have been designed with a traffic engineering approach. So, the effects of neighborhood built form on the safety and health of residents have neglected. The results of the study show that residents of the case studies are not physically active people. We need to more pedestrian oriented neighborhoods with more connected, enjoyable and quality open spaces. This will lead to more physically active, safety and healthy behaviors.