

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 343—ASSEMBLYWOMAN THOMAS

MARCH 22, 2021

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Provides for the development of plans for conducting walking audits of urbanized areas in certain counties. (BDR S-742)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to public health; requiring the development of plans for conducting walking audits of urbanized areas in certain counties; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law authorizes the establishment of regional transportation
2 commissions in certain counties. (NRS 277A.170) This bill requires the regional
3 transportation commission in a county whose population is 100,000 or more
4 (currently Clark and Washoe Counties), in collaboration with certain other state and
5 local agencies, to develop and submit to the district health department and the
6 Legislative Committee on Health Care a written plan for conducting walking audits
7 of urbanized areas within the county.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** (Deleted by amendment.)

2 **Sec. 2.** (Deleted by amendment.)

3 **Sec. 3.** 1. The regional transportation commission in a
4 county whose population is 700,000 or more shall, in collaboration
5 with the district health department and district board of health
6 created by NRS 439.362, other local governments in the urbanized
7 areas of the county and, to the extent feasible and appropriate, the
8 Department of Transportation:



1 (a) Develop a written plan for conducting walking audits of
2 urbanized areas within the county; and

3 (b) Not later than June 1, 2022, submit the plan to:

4 (1) The district health department; and

5 (2) The Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for
6 transmittal to the Legislative Committee on Health Care.

7 2. The regional transportation commission in a county whose
8 population is 100,000 or more but less than 700,000 shall, in
9 collaboration with the regional planning commission created by
10 NRS 278.0262, the governing board for regional planning created
11 by NRS 278.0264, the district health department and district board
12 of health created in the county pursuant to NRS 439.370, other local
13 governments in the urbanized areas of the county and, to the extent
14 feasible and appropriate, the Department of Transportation:

15 (a) Develop a written plan for conducting walking audits of
16 urbanized areas within the county; and

17 (b) Not later than June 1, 2022, submit the plan to:

18 (1) The district health department; and

19 (2) The Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for
20 transmittal to the Legislative Committee on Health Care.

21 3. A plan developed pursuant to subsection 1 or 2 must:

22 (a) Identify the agencies that will conduct the audits and the
23 responsibilities of those agencies;

24 (b) Identify the priorities that will be considered when
25 designating areas to be audited;

26 (c) Identify the size of the areas to be audited;

27 (d) Identify any additional parameters for the audits or
28 information that must be included in the audits;

29 (e) Identify any additional public or private entities that will be
30 involved in the audits;

31 (f) Identify ways to engage the community in the area where an
32 audit is conducted in the audit;

33 (g) Prescribe a regular schedule for the audits and the number of
34 audits that must be conducted each year; and

35 (h) Prescribe formats for displaying and publishing the results of
36 the audits, including, without limitation, the use of geographic
37 information systems technology to collect and display data from the
38 audits and the posting of the results of any walking audit on the
39 Internet website of the district health department of the county in
40 which the audit was conducted.

41 4. As used in this section, "walking audit" means an audit to
42 evaluate how land use, site design and ease and safety of access on
43 varying scales affect public health and suggest enhancements to
44 improve public health within the audited area. A walking audit may:



1 (a) Involve persons with various roles in the community, which
2 may include, without limitation, teachers, operators and employees
3 of local businesses, members of planning commissions, community
4 organizations, residents and representatives of community
5 organizations; and

6 (b) As part of the evaluation of how land use, site design and
7 ease and safety of access affect public health, assess whether:

8 (1) An area is safe and has adequate lighting at night;

9 (2) There are curb cuts and audible crosswalks that provide
10 pedestrians with sufficient time to cross the street;

11 (3) Sidewalks are in good condition and free of barriers;

12 (4) There are benches and other places available for
13 pedestrians to rest; and

14 (5) Healthy food is available in the area.

15 **Sec. 4.** The provisions of subsection 1 of NRS 218D.380 do
16 not apply to any provision of this act which adds or revises a
17 requirement to submit a report to the Legislature.

18 **Sec. 5.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

