# STREETWISE: Evidence and Insight for Better Transportation

Abstract

The relationship between certain transportation strategies, such as complete streets, and the outcomes we want to see in our communities, such as improved safety and health, have been described and documented in the research literature. However, this information isn't readily accessible to those who need it: planners, elected officials, and the communities they serve. An interactive web-based tool, StreetWise, illuminates these relationships in a visually rich and compelling way using the best evidence available.
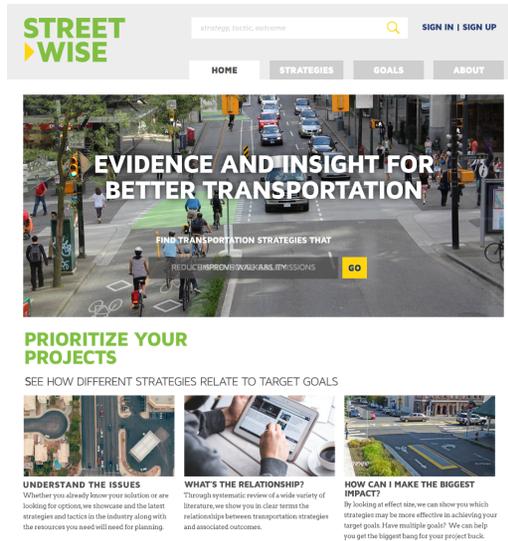
StreetWise home page

What Is StreetWise?

StreetWise is an online platform that helps people understand the complex relationship between transportation investments and their effects on communities. StreetWise visually illuminates the relationships described in the research through the use of compelling graphics and standardized, easy-to-read descriptions. StreetWise users may search by outcome and by strategy. For each strategy or outcome, StreetWise provides a definition and description, with annotated hyperlinks to support claims. StreetWise displays how transportation strategies affect outcomes through a performance dashboard, which is derived from systematic reviews. The design is especially adept in highlighting how certain strategies offer multiple benefits. Those who want more detail can to click through to a table that displays the study findings, and further may click through to the study itself when it is available.

The Value of StreetWise

StreetWise helps civic leaders evaluate and prioritize transportation investments, defend innovation, and learn from case studies to successfully implement projects and programs. Below describes how StreetWise meets the needs of planners, elected officials, researchers, and advocates:

- **Accessible**: We summarize research findings that are behind journal pay walls
- **Understandable**: We synthesize and communicate research into a standardized and easy-to-read format
- **Time-saver**: We collect scattered research and put in one easy-to-find place
- **Contextualize**: We help you frame the issues to scope out the problem in its full context
- **Trust**: We review and vet the evidence for you, objectively
- **Defend/validate**: We give you the facts you need to defend your decisions
- **Risk reduction**: We give you the evidence and case studies that demonstrate how a plan or project worked
- **Success**: We give you all the relevant guides, case studies, and lessons learned to successfully implement plans and projects
- **Integrate research**: Integrate cutting-edge research into practice
- **Research agenda**: By highlighting emerging research and research gaps, we can help develop a research agenda.
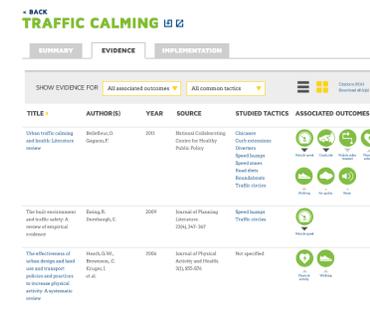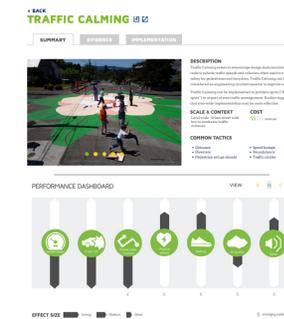
StreetWise Traffic Calming Results

We Need Your Help

Our priority right now is to index literature from systematic reviews for inclusion into the StreetWise database. We're looking for faculty interested in using StreetWise as part of their curriculum. The StreetWise assignment is an effective way for students to learn about the current transportation issues and better understand research methods. We've piloted an approach with students from Arizona State University and Portland State University. The assignment is ready for use and can be easily adapted to fit the needs of your classroom. We can provide a webinar to introduce students to StreetWise.

Are you a student interested in participating outside the classroom? We have limited opportunities for student internships. Students will gather, synthesize, and summarize information from guidebooks and case studies on a topic of interest to them. Internships are unpaid, but students acknowledged on their reports that will be published on StreetWise. Three internships per term are awarded. Course credit may be available, depending on your institution. Masters students working on a final project are encouraged to apply.