PURPOSE

In Phase Four of the Mobilizing for Action Through Planning and Partnerships, or MAPP, process, findings that emerge out of the assessments in Phase Three are used to identify common strategic issues crucial to achieving the vision in Phase Two. These issues can be particular health conditions or can also be broader root causes or challenges that need to be addressed collectively.

PROCESS

The IPLAN core team held a meeting in July 2022 with community members and health system partners to review the findings from all four MAPP assessments, identify common themes that emerged out of the assessments, and go through a structured process to prioritize three to four key strategic issues.

Based on the assessments, a total of 15, cross-cutting, potential strategic issues were identified:

- Mental health
- Substance use, including drinking
- Obesity, diabetes, and chronic disease
- Access to care
- Senior isolation/aging population
- Gun violence
- Reproductive care access/abortion care
- Current/emerging communicable diseases
- Homelessness/housing
- Public health workforce
- Trauma/fear
- Climate change/environmental health
- Emergency preparedness
- Healthy lifestyles
- Systems coordination/collaboration

To prioritize these issues, meeting participants voted for their top issues through each of three different lenses, using three questions. The questions were:
1. Which issues are most aligned with advancing our vision?
2. Which issues will cause the greatest long-term negative consequences if we do not address them?
3. Which issues are most feasible to address?

After all participants voted on their top three issues, the group discussed the areas that received the most votes and combined or reworked each area until consensus was achieved. Four areas were chosen as strategic priorities through this process.

Four Prioritized Strategic Issues

Built and Natural Environment
Mental Health and Substance Use
Gun Violence
Access to Care