

PhD Completion Seminar: Maureen Murphy

Local food environments for a healthy equitable city: evidence to inform urban planning policy and governance in Melbourne, Australia

Supervisors:

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Date: Thursday 1 March 2018, 12 noon -1 pm

Venue: Seminar room 302 - 303, Level 3, 207 Bouverie Street, Carlton

Spatial access to food outlets may influence dietary intake and health outcomes. Within a context of rapid population growth and urban development, this thesis examines local food environments and how they vary across socioeconomic areas, and across established residential and growth areas of Melbourne. Quantitative and spatial analysis showed that food access is unevenly distributed and differentially impacts body mass index of residents, while key stakeholder interviews contextualised results. Based on these findings, urban planning policy and integrated governance actions are proposed to advance healthy local food environments and reduce inequities.



Maureen Murphy is a PhD candidate with the Centre of Health Equity at The University of Melbourne and is part of the NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence in Healthy Liveable Communities research program. Maureen holds Master of Social Science and Bachelor of Engineering degrees and is interested in applying her research in policy settings. Maureen has published and presented her research to policymakers, practitioners and researchers and is currently working for the Victorian government in preventive health.