



Built Environment: Recommendations to Advance Social Connection



Foundation for
Social Connection
ACTION NETWORK

We envision a vibrant society where social connection is at the heart of public policy and how we live.

CALL TO ACTION

Join the movement to confront the growing crisis of social disconnection. Call for bold investments and policy reforms across health, education, employment, infrastructure, arts and culture, nutrition, and research to build a more connected, resilient, and thriving society for all.



OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

The Action Network aims to strengthen social connections by improving access to broadband, public spaces, housing, and transportation—especially for low-income, rural, and socially isolated communities. It supports funding for shared community spaces, walkable neighborhoods, affordable housing with built-in supports, and better transit options, including senior and rural mobility.



To provide access to a built environment that fosters social connection, policymakers should:

Launch a digital access program under the FCC to bridge the digital divide in geographically isolated areas.



Enhance funding and incentivize the utilization of shared use agreements to increase access to public spaces like libraries, community art spaces, and green spaces.



Partner with HUD to create design guidelines for federally funded infrastructure projects, prioritizing mixed-use and multi-generational spaces, shared areas, and inclusive neighborhood planning.



Direct funding through HUD's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program to support projects that create walkable neighborhoods and increase green spaces, with a focus on pedestrian-friendly street design, parks, and community gathering areas in low-income communities.



Create incentives through the HOME Investment Partnerships Program for developers to build co-housing and co-living projects that include shared community spaces, targeting areas with high housing insecurity.



Develop a Senior Mobility Program under the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to incentivize cities to improve public transportation options, such as subsidized ride-sharing services and accessible bus routes for older adults.



About Us

The Foundation for Social Connection Action Network (F4SCAN), formerly known as the Coalition to End Social Isolation and Loneliness (CESIL), has the mission to bring together a diverse set of national organizations, including consumer groups, health plans, healthcare providers, technology innovators, patient advocates, and more to develop and advocate for federal policy solutions to address the epidemic of social isolation and loneliness. Our efforts span a wide range of activities – developing and advocating for federal and state policy solutions, leading public awareness activations in Washington D.C. and across the nation, and incorporating the latest research into our policy platform. Our full 2025-2027 Policy Priorities can be found [here](#). Visit our website at www.endsocialisolation.org