



# MEDIA ADVISORY

KNOX COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

140 Dameron Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37917-6413

## Planning and development expert to speak to local elected officials

- Who:** Knox County Health Department (KCHD), Tennessee Department of Health, Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization, Knoxville Area Association of Realtors, East Tennessee Quality Growth
- What:** Joe Minicozzi, principal of Urban 3, will serve as the keynote speaker at a luncheon for local elected officials. Minicozzi's presentation, "Understanding the True Costs of Development," is part of a speaker series focusing on how the built environment impacts population health and economic vitality.
- When:** Tuesday, Nov. 29 at 12 p.m.
- Where:** The Market Place room, Knoxville Chamber, 17 Market Square
- Interviews:** Knoxville Regional TPO Senior Transportation Planner Ellen Zavisca and Integrated Planning Manager Amy Brooks as well as KCHD Public Health Educator Liliana Burbano will be available for interviews.

### Background:

Part of a speaker series coordinated by KCHD, the Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization and East Tennessee Quality Growth, Minicozzi's presentation will explore the fiscal impact of different types of growth in communities.

Minicozzi is the founder and principal of Urban3, LLC, an Asheville-based consulting firm of the real estate development company Public Interest Projects. Urban3 specializes in land value economics, property and retail tax analysis, and community design. Prior to creating Urban3, Minicozzi served as the executive director of the Asheville Downtown Association. His background includes city planning in the public and private sectors as well as private sector real estate finance. He received his Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Miami and Masters in Architecture and Urban Design from Harvard University.

Built environment factors that contribute to poor health was an area of concern in KCHD's [2014-2015 Community Health Assessment](#). It is well documented that the built environment influences public health, especially in relation to chronic disease – the burden of which can be reduced through an active lifestyle and proper nutrition. However, many urban and suburban environments are not well designed to facilitate healthy behaviors or create the conditions for good health.

On Nov. 29, Minicozzi will also serve as the keynote speaker at an event beginning at 6 p.m. at KCHD. This event is free and open to the public.

For more information contact Katharine Killen at 865-215-5534 (office) or 865-755-1121 (cell).