

October 2016

America Walks Joins Walk Audit Training

Executive Director Kate Kraft and Program Coordinator Kristen Henry put their best foot forward at a walk audit training hosted by [National Association of Realtors](#) earlier this month in New Jersey led by [Mark Fenton](#). The training offered a chance to learn walk audit best practices and hit the pavement with newly learned skills. Want to get on path to a walk audit? Consider these resources:



- [Every Body Walk! Getting Started Guides](#) to get a chance to learn from Mark Fenton yourself
- Get in on the action with this [Walk Audit Guide and Toolkit from AARP](#)
- [This great overview](#) from Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center on all things Walk Audits

Every Body Walk! Micro Grants Receive Matched Funding for Transit Projects

TransitCenter

[TransitCenter](#) is thrilled to partner with America Walks and the Every Body Walk! Collaborative to help bridge the often siloed worlds of walkability and transit advocacy. Our research has shown that hospitable walking environments and robust pedestrian networks are essential for making transit the mode of choice for all trips throughout the day. We are excited to work with America Walks and the Every Body Walk! Collaborative to support projects that improve pedestrian connections to transit, and build more integrated multimodal networks. Towards that goal, [TransitCenter](#) will award 1-1 matching funds to walkability projects selected as part of the [Every Body Walk! Micro Grants](#) that improve access to transit.

While this is a broad umbrella, organizations must explain how their project addresses the intersection of transit and walkability. To be eligible for matching funds, applicants must check the "improving access to transit" box in the application, and indicate in their project description specific stop locations or elements of the transit network that they seek to affect. Project budgets may be submitted at the \$1,500 level, awardees will receive assistance if needed on how to use the additional funding. [Learn more and apply here!](#)

America Walks Welcomes New Board Member Charles Brown

America Walks is excited to announce the appointment of our newest board member, [Charles Brown](#), MPA, a livability and healthy community advocate based in New Jersey. Brown is a senior research specialist with the Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center and adjunct professor at the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers University. We look forward to adding his knowledge and expertise to our efforts to make America a great place to walk.



America Walks Board Member Charles Brown

The Surgeon General's Call to Action, One Year Later

America Walks' Executive Director Kate Kraft sees lots of progress made in expanding the walking movement in the year since the [U.S. Surgeon General's unprecedented Call to Action](#) to encourage walking and walkability. In a recent [blog post](#), she points to evidence of progress made and work still outstanding to get America moving and urges participation in [2017 National Walking Summit](#) in St. Paul in September, 2017.

Get America Walking This Election Day!

In the run up to Election Day, America Walks has joined forces with the Center for Transportation Excellence, the American Planning Association, the Vision Zero Network and others to highlight the importance of walking infrastructure in making a transportation network successful with the monthly theme ["Walk for a Strong Community."](#) 2016 is a record-breaking year when it comes to the number of public transportation-related ballot measures going before voters across the country, [according to CFTE](#). On November 8th, voters have the chance to decide on nearly \$200 billion in local transit investment at the ballot box. Share your [#Walk2Vote stories with us on Twitter](#).

Mark Your Calendars!

- **November 15th: [Street Lights](#), the first Complete Streets Conference Hosted by the National Complete Streets Coalition**
[Take a look](#) at the exciting programming, which will include a presentation by America Walks Board Member Charles Brown.

- **November 17th: [Walking at Work Webinar](#)**
Learn the what, why and how of walking meetings to get more physical activity in your daily routine. [Register here!](#)
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Promoting Walking in Rural Communities

This month's free webinar on specific considerations involved in promoting walking in rural communities and other less-populated areas sparked unprecedented interest and participation. For those unable to attend or who want a refresher on what you learned, a recording of the webinar "[Walking and Walkability in Rural Communities](#)" is now available for download. Be sure to check out our [other webinar recordings here](#).

What We're Reading

- [Strong Towns](#) looks at the connection between walkability and people-centric communities with this post featuring the 2017 National Walking Summit.
 - [The New York Times](#) explores growing demand for retirement communities that are walkable and urban.
 - [Capitol Weekly](#) quotes America Walks Executive Director Kate Kraft in an article on the growing death toll among walkers and bicyclists in America's streets.
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Help Get America Walking!

Our Sponsors

America Walks thanks our sponsors for their generous support of this publication and all of the work being done by America Walks to promote the walkable movement. Thanks for helping to make America a great place to walk!

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