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AMERICA WALKS

Making America a Great Place to Walk

February 2017

Transit-Walkability Collaborative to Promote Walkable, Transit-Rich Communities

America Walks announced this month the formation of a new collaboration whose purpose is to expand safe, healthy, equitable and sustainable communities by harnessing the synergy between walkability and quality public transit service. "Walkability and transit advocacy complement each other and accomplish common goals neither can achieve on its own," said America Walks State and Local Program Director Ian Thomas, a coordinator of the new Transit-Walkability Collaborative. [Read more about this effort here.](#)



Strong walking and transit networks help to address a range of community issues from health to economics to quality of life.

New Data Released: 2016 Saw Increase in Traffic Fatalities

America Walks is alarmed and saddened by grim statistics released earlier this month showing that traffic deaths have spiked for the second year in a row. [A total of 40,200 people](#) - each one a family member, friend, and neighbor - lost their lives in motor vehicle-related crashes in the US in 2016. [Read our full statement on the new data here.](#)

Meet Molly O'Reilly, America Walks Board Member

Over the next several months, we'll be rolling out a series of Q&As and video interviews with members of the America Walks Board. We're thrilled by the depth and breadth of

experience that makes up our board of directors and hope you'll enjoy learning a bit more about these thoughtful, insightful walking advocates. This month, we're profiling [Molly O'Reilly](#), who has used her retirement to advocate for walkability on the local, state and national levels and was a founding member of America Walks. Check out a video of Molly talking about her work [here](#).



O'Reilly

Time is Running Out to Apply for the 2017 Walking College

Looking for a way to gain important skills and knowledge that can help you advance walkability in your community? [Apply today to become a 2017 Walking College Fellow!](#) Applications are due February 28th for the third cycle of this online, interactive educational program.



Walk the Walk with These Job Openings

Our partner, [Indianapolis-based Health By Design](#), is hiring! The organization, which works to foster built environments that are conducive to active living, is looking for a transit and accessibility program manager and a part-time administration assistant. Interested? Learn more [here](#).

[Walk San Francisco](#) is looking for a new executive director! Join this exciting team working to make walking in San Francisco safer for everyone. [Learn more here](#).

Mark Your Calendars!

- **February 24:** Deadline to submit a proposal for the [Walk21 Calgary Conference](#).
- **February 25:** [New Jersey Bike + Walk Conference](#), Princeton, N.J. featuring a presentation by evaluation and research manager, Kristen Henry
- **February 28:** [Walking College](#) registration deadline
- **March 8:** Join us for [The Right to Walk](#), the latest installment in our free webinar series. This session will focus on walking and physical mobility as a basic human right and address ways that communities and advocates can address challenges standing in the way of allowing people to move more.
- **March 21:** America Walks hosts the free webinar [Advancing Neighborhood Change through Equity and Inclusion](#), which will explore our recent work on gentrification and displacement and allow participants to hear from people working with and in communities around the country that are tackling this challenge.

- **May 15-16: [Community Agency and Health symposium](#)**, Oakland, CA. Explore how fostering community agency is key to the future of health and fundamental to sustainable and equitable communities.
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In Case You Missed Them

Even if you didn't catch them live, you can still watch recordings of our free February webinars on the National Quality Forum's [The Action Guide](#), a framework for working together across sectors to improve community health; and [Path to a Walkable Future](#), which features ways walking advocates can work with other sectors to advance walkability.

What We've Been Reading (and Listening to)

- A [new study finds](#) that drivers are less likely to stop at crosswalks for pedestrians of color.
 - NPR catches up with [Paul Salopek of National Geographic](#), who is in the midst of a years-long walk around the world tracing the earliest routes of human migration.
 - Get paid to walk? [This company](#) has created an app that rewards people for getting around by biking and walking.
 - Writer [Jane Brody](#) describes how walking can serve as a powerful means of disconnecting in a society that is finding it increasingly difficult to break free from the digital leash.
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Help Make Every Community a Walkable Community

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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Have an item for our newsletter or a question for our team? Contact America Walks

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