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AMERICA WALKS

Making America a Great Place to Walk

May 2017

The Time to Act is Now

America Walks recently published an essay on the importance of prioritizing safe streets for active transportation for the [U.S. Department of Transportation's blog](#). "We as Americans have grown so accustomed to our auto-centric ways that the perils of the status quo are largely accepted as the price we pay for mobility," the essay reads in part. [Check out the full entry here](#). America Walks and others will be exploring this topic more at the [2017 National Walking Summit](#).



Prioritizing safe streets for all users has never been more pressing.

National Walking Summit speaker works at the intersection of active transportation and social justice

This year's [National Walking Summit](#) will include a strong emphasis on the role that transportation options play in shaping opportunity and outcomes in our communities. To that end, we are thrilled to count [Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition Executive Director Tamika Butler](#) among our speakers. "The bike is second to me. The bike is a tool for social justice," says Butler, who considers safe, accessible, dignified opportunities for active transportation critical to addressing our nation's inequities. [Read the full interview here](#) and be sure to [join Butler in St. Paul](#).



Tamika Butler
Photo by:
Serena Liu

Early bird registration available now for
the 2017 National Walking Summit in St. Paul!



Share your transit-walkability work with us

Is your organization engaged in a collaboration involving walking and transit? If so, **take our survey** to help us learn more about the powerful connections between walkable communities and transit.

Grantees get walking in Hawaii and Maine

Residents of a Honolulu assisted living facility and area high school students are joining forces to make the Hawaii city more walkable for people of all ages. As part of Honolulu Walks, more than 100 participants are taking to the streets with digital cameras to explore ways to make the city's streets more "age-friendly." Meantime, in Portland, Maine, students are at work redesigning a local bus stop as part of a placemaking project designed to improve conditions for transit riders while educating project participants on the impacts the urban environment has on our daily lives. **Both projects received funding as part of America Walks' 2016 microgrant program. Read more here.**



Members of Hawaii Walks take to the streets of Honolulu

Join us for our next free webinar, on measuring walkability

Data collection, mapping and other assessment tools can prove useful in making the argument for investing in walkability and for developing more healthy and inclusive communities. Join America Walks June 14th at 2 p.m. EST for the next installment of our free webinar series, **"Tracking the Walking Path: Tools and Programs for Measuring Walking and Walkability."**

A big thanks to Dr. Vivek Murthy, outgoing U.S. Surgeon General

The path to a healthy, active, and walkable America is created by passionate walking champions working tirelessly to promote a culture of health. America Walks would like to take a moment to thank one such walking champion, Dr. Vivek Murthy.

As he leaves his post as U.S. Surgeon General, we cannot forget the commitment he made to promote walking as a national priority. [Read more here.](#)

Mark your calendars!

- **June 1:** ioby webinar: "[Crowdfunding for Walkable Communities](#)"
 - **June 14:** America Walks free webinar: "[Tracking the Walking Path](#)"
 - **June 26-29:** 2017 [APBP Professional Development Seminar](#), Memphis, TN
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Work in walkability

Circulate San Diego is seeking a director of advocacy. The successful candidate will have a master's degree in urban planning or a related field plus 7-10 years experience with a winning record promoting walkable and transit-friendly sustainable communities through policy initiatives, grassroots campaigns, and by working with elected officials and municipal staff. Fluency in Spanish is highly desired. [Learn more here.](#)

What we've been reading

- America Walks Executive Director Kate Kraft weighs in on the value of [restricting cars in cities](#) in light of the recent Times Square tragedy.
 - How can your suburb make you healthier? By encouraging more walking, biking and transit, of course, according to *Politico*.
 - *Governing* magazine explores [how walking-friendly land use and transportation policies](#) are helping people get healthier in some rather unlikely places.
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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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