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Walkable Communities

20 years strong AMERICA WALKS

February 2018

What Does a Walkable Street Look Like?



We're excited to feature a guest post from **Strong Towns** this month outlining some of the characteristics that make a street walkable and, conversely, features that repel walking. Does the street have no more than one lane of traffic in each direction? Are the lanes narrow? Is parking directly on the street or behind the buildings? Are there people out on the street? These are all positive signs, writes Raquel Quednau. Read the full post [here](#).

Relatedly, **STREETFILMS** has released a compelling short called **The Right to Walk** that outlines some of the characteristics that make for walkable communities.

We're always looking for new perspectives on walking and walkability. Interested in

Don't Miss Out on Your Chance at a 2018 Walking College Fellowship

We're giving you more time! The deadline for applications for the **2018 Walking College Fellowship** class has been extended to noon EST Friday, March 2nd. The 6-month, online training program for walkability advocates is helping graduates make meaningful change across the country. [Learn more here](#). Need some inspiration? [Check out a recent blog post by a Walking College grad](#).

How to Accommodate Pedestrians in the Snowy Winter Months

Every Body Walk! celebrates active communities this month, recognizing effective snow removal as one of the ways we can support safe, accessible pathways so that all of us can remain as active and engaged as possible during winter weather. Guest blogger Rachel Beyerle, communications director for the **National Aging and Disability Transportation Center**, outlines four ways communities should take action to mitigate the effects of snowy conditions on people walking. [Read the full post here](#).

Introducing America Walks' Newest Board Member

Check out [this brief Q & A](#) with Billy Hattaway, P.E., director of the City of Orlando's transportation department and a newly-appointed member of the America Walks board. Read about his "conversion experience" that convinced him of the need to plan for all road users, his favorite city to walk in, and how he is working to change Florida's car-centered transportation paradigm for the better.



Billy Hattaway

What We're Reading

A look at some of the articles circulating around our networks this month:

- America Walks Executive Director Kate Kraft writes about the organization's work to foster walkability in small towns and rural communities [in this blog](#) for Campbell University.
 - 2017 Walking College fellow Anne Nagle's work to make streets more people-friendly in her hometown of Wilamette, Illinois is highlighted [in this Tufts publication](#).
 - Aubrey Byron argues on the [blog Strong Towns](#) that a lack of investment in walkable infrastructure in Ferguson, Missouri is indicative of a disregard for citizens' humanity.
 - Florida students are [walking in support of expanded gun laws](#) in the wake of this month's tragic school shooting.
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Mark Your Calendars

- March 13-15: [2018 DOT Civil Rights Virtual Symposium](#)

- March 14: America Walks webinar *Pushing Boundaries: What Makes a Walkable Community*

Quote of the Month

"Failing to invest in sidewalks is a failure to invest in the very people who live in a community. If the city of Ferguson wants to climb out of the decline it is currently facing, it must take seriously the needs of its own residents, and that means starting with the most foundational need - to walk safely. Only a new mindset that focuses on building neighborhood prosperity from within rather than moving drivers quickly through this community can change that."

-Aubrey Byron

Walking Across America

Calling all photographers! We want to see images of walking in your community. Send us your photos capturing special events, everyday walking, and anything that reflects what walking means to your town for possible inclusion in a future newsletter or other publication. We'll give you credit and you'll help us make the case for making America a better place to walk. **Email your photos to Heidi Simon.** Images that include people are preferred. Be sure to include any captions or descriptions that should be included.



Takin' it to the Streets
The Treme Sidewalk Steppers lead a secondline along Broad Street in New Orleans February 18th, filling the right of way with walkers, dancers and revelry, and featuring a special appearance by Grammy-nominated musician Trombone Shorty.

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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