A Note of Thanks

America Walks is grateful for all of our walking champions and in this season of giving thanks, we want to take the time to single out one special person in particular who has been critical to our growth and success over the years. Tyler Norris of Kaiser Permanente has been a longtime advocate and thought leader for the healthy community and walking movements.

His support and commitment were instrumental in the creation and success of the Every Body Walk! Collaborative, helping to expand its reach and membership to include new partners and sectors. He has worked with us on creating walkable communities, expanding the definition of what it means to be healthy, and growing the National Walking Summit as a forum for us to come together around our shared goals. More importantly, he has been a supporter and inspiration as we work towards our mission of creating safe, accessible and enjoyable places for every community member to walk and be physically active.

Tyler will be starting a new chapter at the Institute for Mental Health and Wellness at Providence St. Joseph Health in 2017. We wish him all the best and look forward to working with him in his new role. On behalf of all of America Walks and the Every Body Walk! Collaborative, thank you, Tyler, for the continuous support, inspiration and friendship.

Meet Our New Board Members

America Walks is excited to welcome two new board members to our board of directors, both
Moore of whom bring valuable expertise and add to the diversity of experience of our governing body.

Lawrence Frank, Ph.D. is a professor of sustainable transportation and public health at the University of British Columbia and president of Urban Design 4 Health, Inc. Alex Moore is a senior analyst at Adidas North America.

Walking College Highlighted in Strong Towns Podcast

Walking College alumna Heyden Black Walker, an Austin-based urban planner and walkability advocate, was recently interviewed by Strong Towns on her opposition to her state's plans to expand Interstate 35. For $4.3 billion, she argues, much could be done to create a compact, connected, walkable Austin. Listen to the interview here. We will begin accepting applications for the 2017 class of Walking College Fellows on February 1st. Applications will be due February 28th.

America Walks Works to Keep the US on the Walking Path

As a member of the Partnership for Active Transportation, America Walks has crafted recommendations for the incoming administration and Congress related to transportation investment and priorities. You can read a detailed report on our recommendations here.

Be sure to join us on January 5th at 2pm EST for a free webinar on the future of active transportation. The session will explore what changes in the political landscape might mean for federal trail, walking and biking policy.

Catching up on Batesville, Arkansas' Main Street Rehab

We first profiled Batesville, Arkansas' work to revitalize its Main Street in one of our 2014 case studies. Since that time, the city has continued its efforts to great effect. Read about what's happening to create a vibrant, walkable downtown here.

Promoting Everyday Opportunities for Walking

As part of our travels this holiday season, we were heartened to come across these signs in the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airportencouraging travelers to walk between terminals where possible rather than take the train. The CDC profiled the airport's efforts as part of a guide to...
encouraging airport walking last year.

Mark Your Calendars!

• **January 5th:** Join us for a free webinar on the future of active transportation in a Trump administration and new Congress. The session will explore what changes in the political landscape might mean for federal trail, walking and biking policy.

• **January 6th:** Submit a walking champion or walkable community as a nominee for CNU's 2017 Charter Awards.

• **January 11th:** We're kicking off our 2017 series of webinars by exploring the many benefits of walking. Join us for a free webinar at 2pm Eastern with presentations from Kaboom!, Walk with a Doc and the Walking Classroom.

What We're Reading

• A [new study finds](#) that Americans' life expectancy is dropping for the first time in decades, reinforcing the need for continued support of walking and walkability.

• This [New Yorker article](#) from 2014 explores the vital link between walking and thought.

Supporting America Walks just got even easier—Amazon will make a donation to America Walks every time you shop!

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