

Support Walkable Communities

20 years strong AMERICA WALKS

December 2018

Our New Year's Pledge to You

As we walk briskly into 2019, we're getting reflective and introspective. This year, we witnessed powerful strides forward in the walking movement and were reminded that our work is far from over. One realization that we keep returning to – it's the seemingly little steps that are creating some of the greatest change. Like the steps our **2018 Walking College Graduates** took



to receive their (virtual) diplomas, or the steps that dozens of kids took to school this year on the **Salvation Army Kroc Center's Walking Bus**.

Looking back on these steps has inspired us as we look ahead to 2019 with a bit of a New Year's pledge to you:

- ***Informed people are empowered people.*** We'll be working diligently to engage you in the most pertinent walking advocacy knowledge and emerging issues in 2019.
- ***People are dying in our streets.*** And we know this is occurring at devastatingly disproportionate rates among people of color and in low-income communities. We'll continue to be a voice for safety and the fact that even one life lost is too many.
- ***We're stronger together.*** We'll continue to expand our network and yours inform decision-makers of the critical need for walking and walkable communities, and find new allies for the walking movement.
- ***Be inspired.*** We're continuously inspired by the work being done at the local, state, and national level to create walkable communities and we'll share these models, data, and inspirations with you through messaging, information sharing and resources to implement change.

These are just a few of our promises on the table for the coming year. We are so excited to bring new things to you in 2019.

Help Us Actualize Our Vision in 2019

Earth Notes Features America Walks

Ever wondered how it all came to be? How did we become the



only national organization devoted solely to walking? **Check out this charming short story of how America Walks originally convened**. And give a listen for how we're working towards fostering change in small, vulnerable communities to help uphold the meaning of place and traditional knowledge any chance we get.

Jeff Speck Gives Us His Word

On the blog this month, **we featured the profound exploration of how Jeff Speck came to embrace *deep walkability***. A graceful tale of how his once semi-pretentious acquaintance – walkability – unwittingly became his best friend in standing *for* something.

Speck unravels the ways walkability won him over as an ultimate tool in the mandate to create not only safe walking places, but spaces that are useful, comfortable and interesting too. You will not regret this read.

Start Thinking About Going Back to School



One of the things we're most excited about for 2019 is convening another class of Walking College Fellows. Over the last four years, almost 100 local advocates and professionals in various fields have completed the 6-month Walking College curriculum and developed their own Walking Action Plans, many of which have led to new programs and policies in their communities. The online

application process will be open from February 1st – 28th, 2019 and **you can learn more about the Walking College here**.

America Walks Attends Release of NADTC Transportation Survey

America Walks attended the release of a **national poll done by the National Aging and Disability Transportation Center** on December 7, 2018. The poll finds that older adults and people with disabilities are facing significant transportation challenges. This is a critical component in the accessibility, engagement, and health of that population. Accessible transit and walkable communities is a solution we believe should be strongly considered to addressing these challenges. **Visit NADTC's website** to learn more about the poll and its new **Every Ride Counts** campaign.

Mark Those Calendars

- **January 9th**: Ring in the new year with our first webinar of 2019. **Register for, Let's Get Moving: The Power of Physical Activity**. We'll explore the new HHS Physical Activity (PA) Guidelines and how communities are getting creative to promote PA.
- **January 10th**: Deadline to **submit a proposal to present at the APBP 2019 Conference** in Portland, OR.

- **January 25th:** Deadline to **apply for Road to Zero's 2019 Safe System Innovation Grants**. A great opportunity for organizations with innovative approaches to making roadways safer and eliminating preventable roadway deaths.

Content We Loved This Month

- **The Pedestrian Strikes Back** / *The New York Times*
- **18 enticing new books on design, cities** / *Curbed*
- **I'm on the Verge of Breaking-up With San Antonio** / *Every Body Walk!*
- **Automated Vehicles and Pedestrian Safety: Exploring the Promise and Limits of Pedestrian Detection** / *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*

“ One of the best panels I've ever witnessed - raw, honest, informational and with solutions discussed. ”

- America Walks Walking Towards Justice webinar attendee

Your dollar
**INSPIRES
CHANGE**

Donate to America Walks Today

20 years strong
**AMERICA
WALKS**

America Walks Thanks 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!

APBP, PC, Arnold & Itkin LLP, Bankers Fidelity, Baumgartner Law Firm, Berenji and Associates, Cardinal Digital, Carmanah, CDC, Citywide Law Group, Dagmar Marketing, Daniel Rose Law, Diamond Injury Law, Fernandez & Karney, Family Law Attorneys, Ehline Law Firm, Emerald City Law Group, Eskew Law, Every Body Walk!, Feet First, Garcia, Artigliere & Medby, GirlTrek, Glotzer & Leib LLP, Harrell & Harrell Personal Injury Lawyers, Health by Design, Idaho Bike Walk Alliance, Injury Trial Lawyers, Kademenos, Wisheart, Hines, Dolyk & Zeiher Co., Kaiser Permanente, Kaufman Law, Kellogg Foundation, Key Tax Group, Kisling,

Nestico & Redick Ohio Personal Injury Lawyers, Kostopoulos Law Group LLC, Krist Law Firm, Krzak Rundio Law Group LLC, LAD Solutions, Landman Family Charitable Trust, Larry Pitt & Associates, Lavent Law, Law Offices of Ned Barnett, Lawsuit Legal, Law Offices of John Rapillo, Law Offices of Vikas Bajaj, APC, Legal InSites LLC, Lindquist Wood Edwards, LLP, MIG, Inc., Matchbox Design Group, McKneely Law Firm, Medpost Urgent Care, National Association of Realtors, PEDS, Personal Injury Lawyers San Diego, re:Streets, The Rodriguez Law Group, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Rosen Injury Lawyers, Sally Flocks Charitable Fund, San Diego Personal Injury Lawyers, Shaping New Jersey, ShoreWalkers, Inc., Simmons & Fletcher, PC, Staver Accident Injury Lawyers, Straight North, Tarlton & Polk, PLLC, Terry Bryant Accident & Injury Law, Thomas Law Offices, Turner Pest Control Orlando, US Fish and Wildlife Services, Weissman-Landman Family Trust

STAY CONNECTED



Support Walkable Communities