

Support Walkable Communities



June 2019

America Walks Announces New Approach for 2019-2020 National Walking Summits

The national walking movement has always been informed by local work to create safer, more accessible, well-connected networks of mobility. There is no one-sized fits all solution. Walkable community strategies must reflect the history, culture, and background of each community. That's why we've decided to redefine the National Walking Summit to focus on localized convenings.

Join us in celebrating and identifying local solutions for national change that feature projects, programs, and practitioners that are creating safe, accessible, equitable, and enjoyable places to walk and move. America Walks will kick things off in Columbus, OH on September 24th, 2019 and follow with our St. Louis, MO summit on March 10th, 2020.

The National Walking Summit- Columbus will explore the power, positivity, and progress that come when we create places for people. **We can't wait to see you there.** Click below to learn more and register.

Help Us Spread the Word About the National Walking Summit



REGISTER NOW

Places for People

walkingsummit.org



America Walks Workshop Inspires People-First Connectivity

The city of Brewton, Alabama has been working to overcome any number of obstacles to walkability. The America Walks **ACE Communities Workshops on Walkable and Vibrant Small Towns** held last summer helped to shape an entirely new directive around residential connectivity, inclusion and access, and breaking down departmental silos in the last year.



“When they split us up and sent us out with a person with disabilities, that was a real eye opener for all of us. There are a lot of times we may not be paying enough attention to what someone may be facing if they get to the end of the sidewalk and there is no ramp or connecting sidewalks when they get there. It really opened our eyes to the ways we can improve things in our city,” recalls Connie Baggett, Director of Program Management for the City of Brewton.

[Read more about the improvements the city is undertaking in our new blog post.](#)

Sharon Roerty Highlights Vulnerability As Critical Walkability Lens

Our Women of the Walking Movement series sparks honest conversations around the trials and triumphs of what it means to be an intersectional woman working in the walking movement.

This month we featured Sharon Roerty, Senior Program Officer at Robert Wood Johnson

Foundation focusing on health and the built and natural environment. [Read her story and advice here.](#) Stay tuned to see some of your nominations featured in the coming months.



Women of the Walking Movement



Women are tactile and they see the community as places for their families and are acutely sensitive to the needs of our most vulnerable family members. Vulnerability is an important lens to bring to the walkable community conversation; and it is an excellent conversation starter for so many other aspects of our communities.

- Sharon Z. Roerty, AICP/PP/MCRP, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Senior Program Officer

Mark Those Calendars

- **July 16th:** Join **Global Fleet Champions** for their upcoming free webinar, *Protecting Vulnerable Road Users*. Expert speakers will discuss ways to protect vulnerable road users, the latest safe systems approaches, and how to engage with local communities.
- **July 17th:** Are you curious how new technology and emerging trends in mobility could change the landscape for people with disabilities? Do you want to know how your community can maximize accessibility? **Register for our free webinar, *Partnering for Engagement: Accessibility of Public Spaces*. You can register for all America Walks webinars through September here.**
- **August 2nd:** National Recreation and Park Association is looking for the next 10-Minute Walk grantee to receive \$40,000. Are you working to increase access to high-quality parks? **Apply for the grant here.**
- **Ongoing:** GirlTrek is looking for 3,000 Black women all across America to serve as Neighborhood Captains and lead public walks in their neighborhoods. **Click here to learn more or apply.**

Register for Our July Webinar

PARTNERING FOR ENGAGEMENT - ACCESSIBILITY OF PUBLIC SPACES



Content We Loved This Month

- **Don't Blame 'Distracted' Pedestrians for Rising Death Toll** / *Streetsblog USA*
- **Foot Traffic Ahead 2019** / *Smart Growth America & LOCUS*
- **Safe Speeds, Safe Communities: Partners in Speed Management** / *America Walks*
- **Micro-Neighborliness: A Celebration of The Small** / *Strong Towns*

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