

November 2020



The Biden Transition Plan and Walkable Communities

Your work is why we now see sidewalks, transit and racial equity explicitly called out in the Biden transition plan. Now we need to make those ideas into federal laws, policies and budgets that change our streets.

@AMERICAWALKS

A change in administrations can be a time of great possibility and hope – that the right people and policies can finally generate real change on the ground.

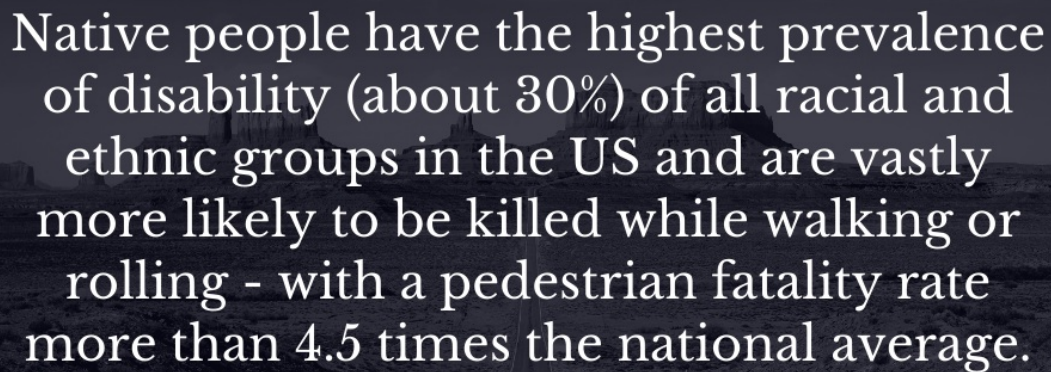
But the ultimate engine of change is people in local communities identifying the changes they want to see, contacting elected officials, educating their neighbors, and working to build coalitions to make our streets safe and inclusive.

We've spent decades making them unsafe and hostile to people walking, biking and moving outside of cars. It's going to take a long-term people-powered movement to change that.

[Read the Full Blog](#)

Here are some other critical post-election thoughts:

- What will and should Biden-Harris mean for transportation? Experts, advocates weigh in / *CHI Streetsblog*
- Regulate Cars, Not Pedestrians / *Next City*
- State and Local Transit Won in a Landslide Yesterday: That may be *because* — not despite of — a pandemic that terrified millions of Americans off buses and trains / *Streetsblog*
- To Lift Up Communities of Color, Fix Public Transit/ *Bloomberg*



Native people have the highest prevalence of disability (about 30%) of all racial and ethnic groups in the US and are vastly more likely to be killed while walking or rolling - with a pedestrian fatality rate more than 4.5 times the national average.

On Wednesday, December 9th, America Walks **will release a new White Paper on Inclusive Planning in Tribal Communities and hold a webinar** featuring the author and members of the Project Advisory Board. Details of a new Tribal Inclusion Mini-Grants Program will also be announced ahead of awarding two \$2,500 mini-grants in January.

Funded through a Partnership for Inclusive Health Innovation Grant, this project has involved research, key informant interviews, and expert analysis to understand how people with disabilities are engaged in tribal community planning processes, and develop recommendations for expanding inclusion and ensuring the design and construction of safe and accessible transportation systems.

White Paper author Yamelith Aguilar will describe her research and key findings around tribal culture, existing infrastructure for walking and rolling, and the legal applicability of the Americans with Disabilities Act. A panel of experts in disability inclusion, community engagement/advocacy, accessible design, and tribal planning will discuss the implications of the study and recommendations for future projects and processes.

[Register For the Webinar](#)

It takes a Village! Creating and Installing a Community-Engaged University of Massachusetts Boston Harborwalk Grace Trail



2020 COMMUNITY CHANGE GRANTS

Installing a Grace Trail at University of Massachusetts

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University of Massachusetts Boston staff connected their urban university to its surrounding community with the aim of improving mental health and increasing walking along the 47-mile Harborwalk in the Harbor Point neighborhood of Dorchester, Massachusetts. Read more about how this Community Change Grant Project came together through some deep collaboration.

[Read the Full Blog](#)



Did You Hear The News?

Back women across the country and around the world have given us another reason to be thankful and answered the call.

Our deepest congratulations to our friends at [Girtrek](#) on the incredible milestone of reaching 1 million members!

Learn more about GirlTrek in our last PED Talks interview with cofounder and COO Vanessa Garrison [by clicking here](#).



American Heart Association declares that Structural racism causes poor health, premature death from heart disease and stroke

This is a new presidential advisory from the American Heart Association.

The Association calls for allies to work together to address barriers to health caused by structural racism.

The Association is also developing new strategic business goals with an increased focus on health equity. Read the full declaration [by clicking here](#).



American
Heart
Association.

Presidential Advisory

'Foot Notes' Examines the Intersection of Walkability and Race

"We can design the 'perfect' street, but if we don't address the culture that governs that street, walking will continue to be a luxury enjoyed by some, and not the deeply human right it must be, enjoyed by all."

LILY LINKE

@americawalks

Lily Linke believes when sustainable transportation advocates talk about street safety, the murders of Trayvon Martin, George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Dijon Kizzee and more – must be as central to our cause as those of pedestrians killed by cars. This is at the heart of the exploration of her podcast *Foot Notes*, where she interviews a variety of transportation planners, researchers, and advocates about the issues with our current approach to walkability, and what solutions may be out there.

[Read the Full Blog](#)

CHOOSE AMERICA WALKS THIS GIVING TUESDAY

Because walkable communities, grassroots change-makers and PEOPLE need our support more than ever.

Make Your Tax Deductible Donation

You can also make an impact while you online shop for Black Friday deals. Simply use [THIS](#) link if/when shopping at Amazon. AmazonSmile will donate to America Walks at no cost to you.

Mark Those Calendars:

November 23rd – [Enter your Freeways Without Futures 2021 Nomination Form](#) by today! The Congress for the New Urbanism is accepting nominations for a new report in their Freeways Without Futures series.

December 2nd – [National Safe Routes Partnership webinar on Advancing Safe Routes to Parks in the Time of Coronavirus](#) highlights three Safe Routes to Parks grantees who did great work to prioritize community needs during the pandemic while simultaneously working on community members' long-term vision for park access.

December 9th – [America Walks Monthly Webinar: Inclusive Planning in Tribal Communities: Engaging People with Disabilities in Designing Safe and Accessible Transportation Systems.](#)

December 9th – [Proposals are Due for Walk/Bike/Places 2021](#).

December 18th – [2021 Safe Routes to Parks Activating Communities](#) is now accepting applications for awards for seven organizations in 2021. Applications are due: December 18, 2020 by 11:59 p.m. PT.

Content of the Month:

- [I Love to Ride My Bike. But I Won't Call Myself a 'Cyclist.'](#) / *Bicycling*
- [It's Time to Fund Public Transportation and Highways Equally](#) / *Transportation for America*
- [We Can Grow Tree Equity in Our Cities by Keeping Score](#) / *American Forests*
- [3A Soundwalk Series: Overlay by Branic Howard A one Hour Soundwalk Through Portland's Mt. Tabor Park](#) / *Third Angle*
- [Barcelona Will Supersize its Car-Free 'Superblocks'](#) / *Bloomberg*
- [Two Nashville Residents Ask: Should Landowners Fund Sidewalks?](#) / *Streetsblog*

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