



# Quick-Action Grants for Walkable Communities

Funding for Walkability Webinar

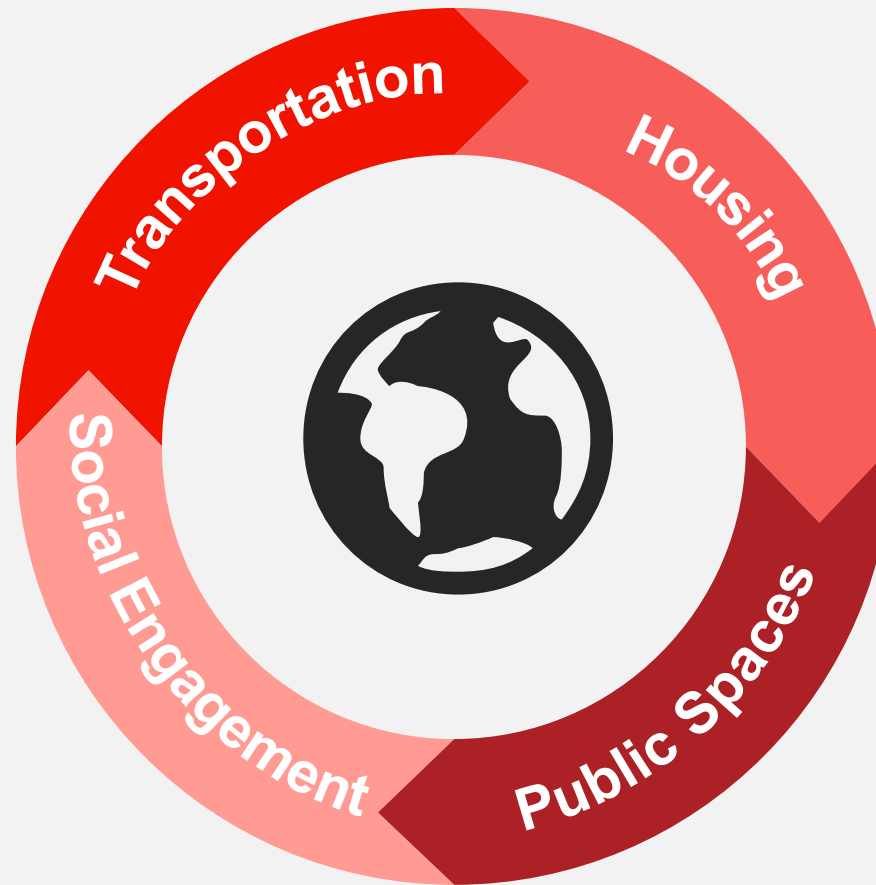
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# Our Goal



AARP Livable Communities seeks to support state and local leaders to ensure that **they are designing communities that work for people of all ages** by addressing:



“By 2034, there will be **more people over 65 than under 18** – for the first time ever.”

AARP LIVABLE COMMUNITIES

# Older Adults Want & Need Walkable Communities



## 8 IN 10

adults 50+ want streets and sidewalks that are safe and accessible.

At the same time, adults age 65+ are

**50% more likely**

than younger people to be struck and killed by a car while walking.

*Source: AARP Home and Community Preferences Survey*





# Our Approach to Pedestrian Safety



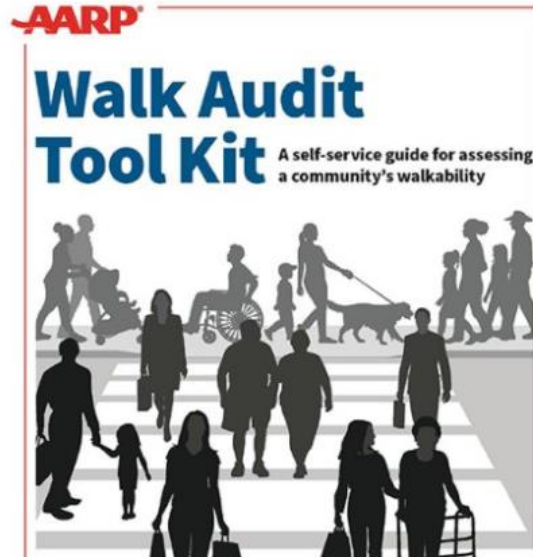
## AARP COMMUNITY CHALLENGE

Grants to make communities livable  
for people of all ages

[aarp.org/CommunityChallenge](http://aarp.org/CommunityChallenge)

### Quick-action grants through the AARP Community Challenge

\$24.3 million via 2,100  
grants in nine years



### Tools that lead to ACTION

Including *The AARP  
Walk Audit Tool Kit*



### Skill-Building and training

For advocates and  
local leaders



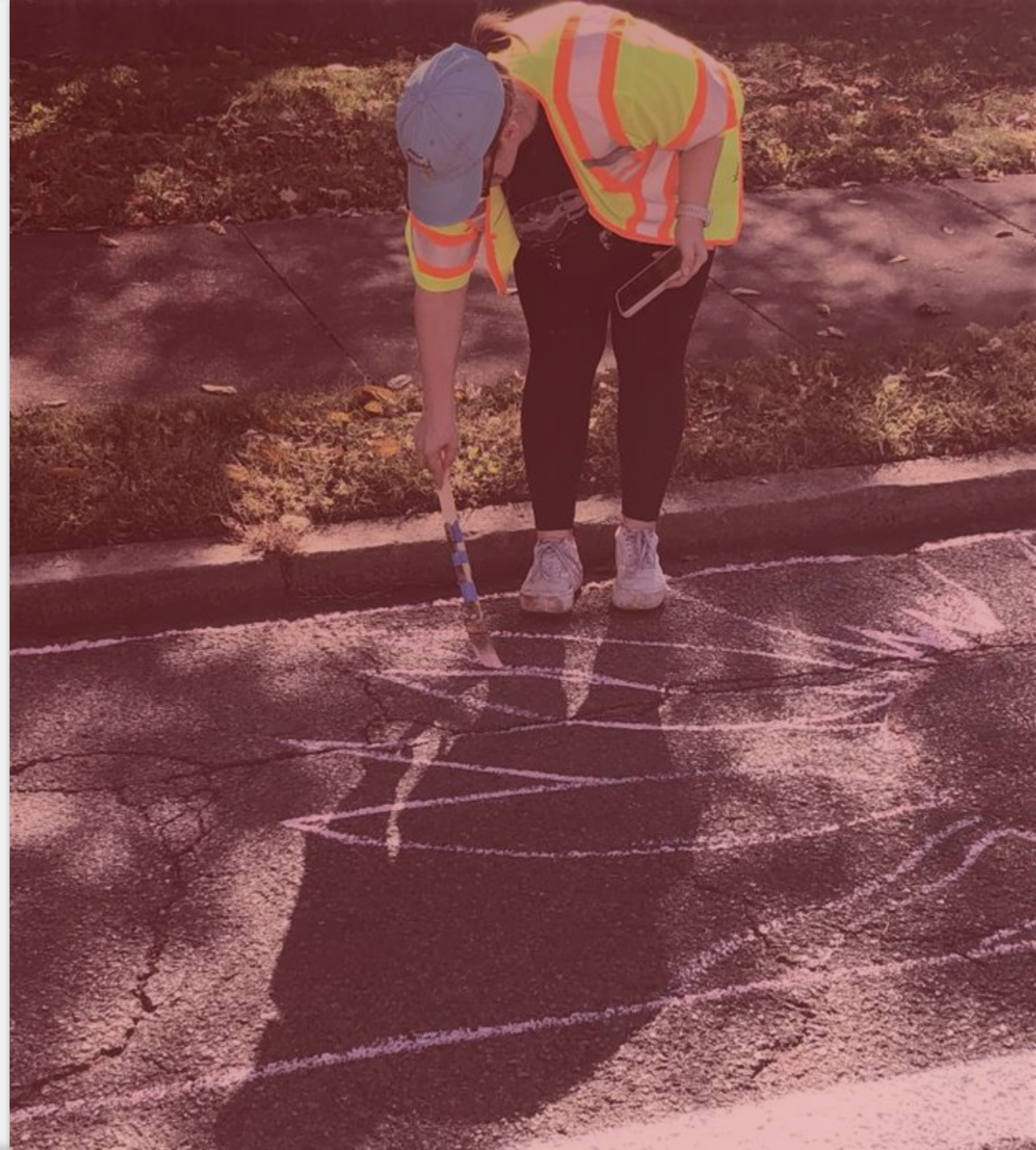
### Federal, state and local advocacy

Working with 1,000+  
communities in 50  
states, DC, PR, and  
USVI

# AARP Community Challenge



A grant program to make communities *more livable* for people *of all ages* with *tangible improvements* that jump-start *long-term change*



# Impacts



- ✓ **BENEFITING PEOPLE 50+:** We estimate that 12M people 50+ have benefited, 10% of the U.S. 50+ population.
- ✓ **INSTALLING PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS:** Created 45,000 tangible improvements and 8,000 resources.
- ✓ **ATTRACTING FUNDING:** 50% of grantees have garnered additional funds, attracting an additional \$23.6 million.
- ✓ **OVERCOMING BARRIERS:** 87% have overcome policy barriers.
- ✓ **INCREASING AWARENESS:** 100% have seen greater awareness and engagement in their efforts.
- ✓ **ENGAGING VOLUNTEERS:** Over 40,000 volunteers have participated in grant-funded projects.

**\$24.3 million**

through

**2,100 grants**

across

**1,200 communities**

directly benefiting

**12 million people 50+**



# Creating More Walkable Communities



- Delivering **transportation** and mobility options that increase connectivity, walkability, bikeability and access to public and private transit
  - ✓ *500 crosswalks and sidewalks improved*
  - ✓ *200 artistic crosswalks installed*
  - ✓ *300 traffic calming interventions created*
- Implementing **walk audit** assessments to enhance safety and walkability in communities
  - ✓ *300 walk audits completed*
- Enhancing **pedestrian safety** by creating safer streets and sidewalks with funding support from Toyota Motor North America.
  - ✓ *500 tangible improvements implemented*





AARP COMMUNITY CHALLENGE

# Street and Sidewalk Enhancements



*“Who knew there were little pockets of green so close to the downtown? I had no idea until I took a walk about instead of a drive by.”*

**City of Madison**  
**Madison, Georgia**





AARP COMMUNITY CHALLENGE

# Crosswalk Art



*“In being a part of the work in the district, I felt honored and very proud giving back to the Fountain Heights Community and Fourth Avenue District by helping to restore and revitalize art at the curb.”*

**Urban Impact**

**Birmingham, Alabama**





AARP COMMUNITY CHALLENGE

# Pedestrian-Friendly Infrastructure



*"I engaged with an older woman waiting for the bus at our hub near the Quarry Shopping Center, and she thanked me for the new bench. She shared that she often has had to wait 15-20 minutes for a bus, with packages, and that she's struggled as there's been no seating."*

**City of Minneapolis**

**Minneapolis, Minnesota**





# Pop-Up Demonstrations



*“I was really surprised with how instantly and impactfully the test circle changed driver behavior and pedestrian experience.”*

**City of Milwaukee Department of  
Public Works**  
**Milwaukee, Wisconsin**





AARP COMMUNITY CHALLENGE

# Walk Audits



*“One participant was legally blind and attended the walk audit with her service dog. The perspective gained for all other participants was doubly impactful as the group was able to see in real time how many improvements are needed to make her experience not only enjoyable but safe.”*

**City of Auburn**  
**Auburn, Maine**



# Free Publication



## PART 1: Getting Started

Step 1: Get Ready

Step 2: Get Set

Step 3: Go Do a Walk Audit!

## PART 2: Information and Instructions

A Streetscape Vocabulary List

What Is a “Complete Street”?

The Scorecard

## PART 3: Taking Action

Reporting Results, Proposing Solutions

Strategies for Safer Streets

Learn More

Worksheets

The free **AARP Walk Audit Tool Kit** publication and worksheets are available in **English** and **Spanish**.



# Walk Audit Tool Kit

A self-service guide for assessing  
a community's walkability



Worksheets available at  
[AARP.org/WalkAudit](https://www.aarp.org/WalkAudit)



## Parks for People and Pups of All Ages

Off-leash dog parks are the fastest-growing type of park in the United States. Well-designed, well-maintained dog parks can be especially important for older people with pets — as well as for the pets themselves.

[READ](#)

## Dog Park Details and Design

Dog parks can be fun places for sociable dogs (like Daisy, pictured) as well as dog-friendly children (shown) and adults. But the enjoyability of a dog park for both people and their pets is greatly influenced by the quality of the park. Amenities matter.

[READ](#)

**MORE DOGS!** Learn how an AARP Community Challenge grant helped create a [Paw Park on the Prairie](#).

## Livability News & Notes



**The Healing Effects of Social Connections and Community** — Among the solutions presented in the U.S. Surgeon General's report *Our Epidemic of Loneliness and Isolation*:

# AARP LIVABLE COMMUNITIES Resources



## Tools to help local leaders



**Livable Communities Landing Page:**

[aarp.org/livable](https://aarp.org/livable)



**Livable Communities Newsletter:**

[aarp.org/livable-newsletter](https://aarp.org/livable-newsletter)



**Livable Communities Map:**

[livablemap.aarp.org](https://livablemap.aarp.org)



**Livability Index:**

[aarp.org/livabilityindex](https://aarp.org/livabilityindex)



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