About the Conference

The National Walking Summit is the premier opportunity for community advocates, nonprofit representatives, government officials, and transit, health, and planning professionals to share best practices, tell community stories, build support for the walking movement, and create momentum for the work ahead.

Since the first National Walking Summit, held in Washington, DC in 2013, the conference has emerged as the must attend event for anyone working to increase walking and improve walking conditions. The National Summit has explored important topics such as the disparities facing communities across the US, creating accessible and inclusive spaces to be physically active, and expanding who is involved with walking and walkability to include transit, affordable housing, climate change, and many other sectors.

Reimagining the Future of the National Walking Summit

Issues related to walking and walkable communities start at the local level, with the strategies to create safer, more accessible, well-connected networks of mobility emerging from local efforts to shape communities into active, healthy, and engaged places. These efforts demonstrate that there is no one-sized fits all solution. Strategies that create safer walking environments are best when they reflect the history, culture, and background of each community.

With that in mind, America Walks has decided to take the opportunity to have the National Walking Summit refocus around geographic-based convenings that feature the unique characteristic of each place, highlight solutions from on the ground, and explore how communities are adapting national strategies to fit their needs. The lessons from these Summits will be shared with the national network of America Walks.

One of these National Walking Summits will be held in Columbus, OH on September 24, 2019 and will focus on the theme "Places for People." America Walks is working with a local planning committee to identify ways the meeting can help address issues related to health, safety, equity, inclusion, and more. The National Walking Summit- Columbus will explore the power, positivity, and progress that come when we create places for people.

Local Success for National Change

The National Walking Summit- Columbus will celebrate and showcase several local approaches that have put people first in community design, policies, and programs. These approaches will be offered as local solutions to our national challenges concerning the development of safe, accessible, equitable, and enjoyable places to walk and be physically active. America Walks will share the lessons and recommendations from the convening with a national network, inspiring action and creating change in communities across the US. Attendees of the National Walking Summit- Columbus will learn valuable advocacy and communications skills and will come together to develop collective action plans for how to continue to create places for people.

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Join Us a We Celebrate Walkability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsor Type</th>
<th>Sponsorship Amount</th>
<th>Speaking Role in Program</th>
<th>Acknowledgment in Opening Remarks</th>
<th>Local Planning Committee Membership</th>
<th>Newsletter Profile</th>
<th>Logo Placement</th>
<th>Registrations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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About the Sponsorship Benefits

- **Speaking Role in Program**: America Walks will work with the Local Planning Committee to identify a speaking role for the representative of the sponsor, either at a general session or participating in another area of the program.
- **Acknowledgment in Opening Remarks**: Sponsor will be mentioned during the opening remarks made by America Walks staff or other conference representative.
- **Local Planning Committee Membership**: Representative(s) from the sponsor will have the opportunity to take part in the Local Planning Committee of the Summit, working with America Walks to identify potential speakers, plan and develop mobile workshops, and serve as the introduction to organizations, businesses, and individuals within the city who should be part of the conference.
- **Logo Placement**: Sponsor’s logo will be featured on conference materials including website, program and other promotional items.
- **Registrations**: Representatives of the sponsor will be given complimentary full-registrations. Registrations can be used by sponsor employees or other representatives designated by the sponsor.

Contact Kate Kraft for more information on becoming a sponsor.

kkraft@americawalks.org
(609) 203 7078

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