

How can I make **MY** community walkable?

Contact PEDS for examples of good sidewalk and land use policies, sample letters and advocacy training, information about walkable design principles, and data to support pedestrian-friendly policies.

If you are a resident, business owner, or civic association:

- Share what you learn with friends and neighbors
- Request sidewalks for existing and proposed developments
- Participate in public meetings and other community planning events

If you are an elected official, planner, or developer:

- Establish funding and maintenance goals for pedestrian facilities
- Use Livable Centers Initiatives or other innovative funding options
- Encourage collaboration between land use and transportation planners, public health officials, developers, school boards, and elected officials, and across jurisdictions



Citizens, planners and transportation engineers can work together to make their community a safer and more inviting place to walk.



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10 GOOD REASONS



TO MAKE YOUR **COMMUNITY** **WALKABLE**



10 good reasons to make your community walkable



1 less traffic congestion

One-fourth of all car trips are less than a mile. Sidewalks and safe crossings enable you to reach destinations on foot, which reduces traffic congestion and air pollution.

2 higher property values

Homes in pedestrian-friendly communities make good investments. Sidewalks and quiet, tree-lined streets boost the value of your home.

3 lower transportation costs

Fewer car trips=lower gasoline costs. Each time you walk instead of drive, you save money on gas and maintenance. The savings add up.



4 more places to have fun

A walkable downtown attracts more stores and creates a thriving place to shop, eat, and find entertainment. Meanwhile, reduced demand for parking leaves more open space for parks and playgrounds.

5 stronger communities

Where pleasant walking conditions exist, residents are more likely to know their neighbors and feel connected to their community, which leads to increased civic involvement.

6 reduced crime

Vibrant, walkable neighborhoods have more eyes on the street. People look out for each other, which deters crime.

7 better access for non-drivers

Sidewalks enable children, seniors, and others who do not drive to get around on foot.



8 less stress

Chauffering children and driving in commuter traffic can be a hassle. Being outdoors and walking at your own pace can be enjoyable quality time with your family.

9 less pollution

Walkable trips cause no harmful emissions. Also, walkers inhale less poisonous fumes than people inside a slow moving car, reducing their risk of asthma.

10 better health

People who live in walkable communities are more active, enjoy cleaner air, and experience fewer car crashes. Walking helps prevent heart disease, diabetes, and strokes.