



GEORGIA WALKS SUMMIT

ROME, GA | March 15-16, 2018

2018 Class Descriptions

Thursday

Tactical Urbanism Build Out Session

To learn more about Tactical Urbanism, check this out: <http://tacticalurbanismguide.com/>
The guide is written by our Keynote Speaker for Friday morning!

We are beyond excited to be partnering with Alta Planning + Design to do our very own Tactical Urbanism event!

In short, tactical urbanism is about transforming places quickly and cheaply to test out new ideas about how a place could improve or function differently.

Along with your help, we are going to do exactly this! In collaboration with the City of Rome, we will re-design a street that recently received a lot of planning and public input from Rome residents and elected officials. This project has funding to be completed, but before that happens, we are going to help Rome try their concept out to see how it works! This session will involve physically assisting in creating the space. It could involve lifting, bending, or carrying heavy objects.

Tactical Urbanism Demonstration!

After all the hard work in the Tactical Urbanism Build Out Session...it will be time to enjoy it! Come explore what the team built, get ideas for your own tactical urbanism event, and have fun! We are inviting the entire Rome Community to enjoy our creation with food trucks, music, and street games!

WALKshop #1 Trails Tour led by TRED

TRED is a local advocacy organization for trails in Rome, GA. They will be leading a walking tour of the incredible trails system that connects with downtown Rome and the surrounding neighborhoods. Check out TRED's website here: <http://tredromefloyd.org/>

WALKshop #2/#3 Downtown Rome: New Infill Condo and Hotel Development + Historic Architecture Tour

Downtown Rome is full of great historic architecture as well as contextually sensitive new infill development! Join a Steamboat Captain/River Historian and other historical experts from the Rome Area History Museum for a tour around downtown! Plus: The main developer of a recent downtown infill condo development and the rehabilitation of the Hawthorne Suites Hotel will discuss the development process and choices that they made to fit into the existing environment.

Friday

Title	Description	Presenter	
Applying Tactical Urbanism Principles To Walkable Design: Outdoor WALK-shop+ Indoor Workshop	In this interactive field session, we will visit a location in downtown Rome, GA and make observations on how walkability could be improved through better design. Back in the classroom, we will explore ways to apply engineering solutions to improve pedestrian safety and walkability on existing streets, with an emphasis on low-cost retrofits and tactical urbanism/temporary/demonstration projects.	Jonathan DiGioia, P.E. Project Engineer, Transportation	AECOM
Good Urbanism 101: Ten Lessons For Designing And Preserving Walkable Places (Part 1 & Part 2)	Ten Lessons on Designing Cities - focused on how places can be designed, retrofitted, or preserved for walkability. The Ten Lessons combine to provide participants with a way to understand and question design and planning proposals by developers, architects, planners, public works officials and others.	Richard Dagenhart, Emeritus Professor	School of Architecture, Georgia Tech and the Georgia Conservancy
Walk There! Decatur	Learn about the <i>Walk There! Decatur</i> signage campaign. Each sign is site specific and shows how far and how long it will take to walk to each destination. The signage also includes QR codes to map the walk, as well as a map on the back side of each sign. The presentation will explain the rationale as well as the process for developing the signage.	Cheryl Burnette, Assistant. Director	Decatur Active Living
Walking In Tifton: Overcoming Perceptions Of Distance	Tifton, GA is a small town with a compact, thriving central business district. In a pedestrian connectivity planning effort, a major challenge was to overcome the perception that a 1-3 minute walk from parking space to final destination is too lengthy or otherwise infeasible. Strategies employed to address this problem will be discussed, attacking the problem from several different angles.	Ariel Godwin, AICP, Senior Planner	Southern Georgia Regional Commission
Building A Proactive Next Generation	Interactive session examining pedestrian education for children of all ages - looking at hands on 'rules of the road' to STEM projects for older students in assessing infrastructure. Attendees will participate in the class from a student's perspective as well as brainstorm ideas and best practices for engaging youth and parents in understanding the challenges of today.	Patti Pittman, School Outreach Coordinator, North Georgia Region	Safe Routes to School

Safe Routes To Success In Savannah	Discussion of Safe Routes and Walking School Bus programs that was initiated in the Savannah school district. This program began in the Cann Park neighborhood as a result of an uptick of criminal activity around three schools. After implementing the programs, there was evidence to suggest that criminal activity targeting students was reduced. The success of the program in this neighborhood lead to creating similar programs in three other neighborhoods.	Ron Priest, Police Captain/Director of Operations; Sgt. Delvin Guilford, Operations Sergeant; Chief Terry Enoch, Chief of Police	Savannah-Chatham County Public School System
What The (Pedestrian) FACT?	Using data analyzed through the Georgia Pedestrian Safety Action Plan, this will feature game/quiz style revelations and discussion of the biggest issues in pedestrian safety. Get ready for some serious myth-busting. Participants will walk away with a solid understanding of the biggest safety challenges for pedestrians and the specific factors contributing to pedestrian-vehicle crashes in Georgia.	Kemberli Sargent, Program Manager	PEDS
Aligning Pedestrian Design And Pedestrian Safety	<p>Presentation will discuss two areas to leverage: technology and field studies of pedestrian behavior. A number of new technology products are now available that provide a way to measure the conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles.</p> <p>Further, field studies of pedestrian behavior show pedestrian compliance rates with crosswalks and pedestrian signals have proven to be a key indicator that can be used to make safety-based decisions. In particular, these are useful for communicating where to invest resources to improve pedestrian facilities.</p>	Marc Start, PE, PTOE, Senior ITS/Traffic Engineer	AECOM

Open Streets: Catalyzing Long-Term Transformation Of Our Streets	Open Streets/Streets Alive events are a movement to activate people, strengthen businesses, and inspire public spaces by temporarily closing streets to cars and opening them to people to walk, bike, skate, and play. They are free, regularly occurring programs, and offer communities the opportunity to experience their city streets in a whole new way. Learn how organizations in three cities (Macon, Atlanta, Chattanooga) are engaging diverse stakeholders and leveraging budgets, partnering with the local government to support their vision for better streets! Learn how to get an event started in your own community!	Rachel Hollar, Executive Director, Bike Walk Macon; Jim Johnson, founder and president of BikeTours.com; Heather Luyk, Events Coordinator, Atlanta Bicycle Coalition	
Walking is Amplifying Georgia Tourism	As the tourism industry transitions, so must our thought process about developing new products. Walking and walkability are a big part of tourism. Walkable, 'quaint' communities can have a long term draw for visitors who view the city as a great place to walk around and visit shops. Walking tours are frequently offered with a focus on history, architecture, and event haunted walks! This presentation will detail how focusing on walking in tourism development can stimulate economic development and create a foundation for other tourism goals.	Cindy Eidson, Director Tourism Product Development; Tracie Sanchez, Product Development Manager	Georgia Department of Economic Development
Zoning For Walkability In Sandy Springs	The City of Sandy Springs recently adopted a new development code, explicitly supporting the creation of the new downtown district and the transformation of Perimeter Center into a multimodal neighborhood. The presentation will explore the implications of the new code by focusing on three building types that are common throughout Georgia and discuss specific code examples of developments built under the old and the new code, and explain their impact on walkability. Also, learn how residents and development community reacted to the changes, and discuss implementation issues after the first year of using the code.	Paul Leonhardt, AICP Planner II	City of Sandy Springs

The many benefits of a well-designed streetscape project	If you were to ask 10 different people what a streetscape is you would typically get 10 different answers. This presentation will help to clarify what a streetscape project is and the many benefits a well-designed streetscape project can have on a city. It will also discuss common pitfalls designers tend to overlook that can have a negative impact on pedestrian safety. The presentation will highlight the many benefits a well-designed streetscape can have on a city and will provide examples of how these projects can help transform a place into a safe and energized public realm.	Mickey O'Brien, PLA, LEED AP, Landscape Architecture/Urban Design Director	AECOM
Accessibility and Safety for Pedestrians who have Disabilities: Sensory, Cognitive and Physical	People with all types of disabilities often rely on non-motorized means of transportation for their daily interactions with their community. Not only are the unintentional challenges, but sometimes these challenges require different solutions for different disabilities. Our three panelists will discuss these access and safety issues from the perspective of someone who is blind, someone who uses a wheelchair, and someone with hidden or other disabilities.	Maia Santamaria, Executive Director; Christina Holtzclaw, Assistant Director; Jill Baldwin, IL Project Coordinator; Christopher Holcomb, Independent Living Coordinator	Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living
Outdoor Experiential WALK-shop: Moving around with Walkers, Wheelchairs, & Low vision.	Take a walk or roll in someone else's shoes. This outdoor session will take participants to the streets to experience what it is like to use a wheelchair, walker, and to have low vision as a pedestrian. Learn as much about accessible design from 10 minutes on the street as you would in years in the classroom!	Sally Flocks, CEO	PEDS
I got FUNDED and you can too! Innovative funding for pedestrian infrastructure: Athens-Clark County + Gwinnett Village CID	In 2017, Athens Clarke County was awarded multiple MMSAG grants. Funds are being applied to construction costs of 4 new sidewalk gap projects along major corridors in Athens.). Will discuss our decision to leverage external funding to give equal funding opportunities to State and Local roads. Will highlight the application process for one of these projects. Finally, will discuss realized need to create an expedited critical path timeline in order to meet grant deadlines (and the challenges that arise when you try to expedite local government processes!)	Stephen Bailey, Program Development Coordinator; Matt Gore, Project Manager	Athens- Clarke County Unified Government Gwinnett Village CID

Session will discuss mechanisms by which the CID funds its pedestrian infrastructure projects. Will include details on some of the grants the CID has used to fund projects; its cooperation with local governments, both the nature of the cooperation (e.g. which project phase is paid for/managed by which entity) and the funding approaches; and other funding arrangements (such as self-funding). Each funding type will include information on why it's unique to the CID, and, for partnership-based funding, why the CID is an attractive partner for various organizations. Examples of each funding approach will be provided.

Health Impact Assessment Workshop	This presentation will be a workshop style crash course on Health Impact Assessments. Explanation of what an HIA is, what to do if you think your project or partnership calls for one, discuss the process for creating and HIA, and show examples of how HIAs have been successfully utilized for transportation projects in Georgia and other places.	Michelle Rushing, Policy Impact Specialist	Georgia Health Policy Center
Pedestrians & Trail 101	Trail development can be a great match for increased pedestrian connectivity and access. Learn the basics of trails and see examples of how communities have successfully integrated trails and pedestrian destinations.	Aaron Steele, President	Tailored Trails
Lunch Plenary: Buford Highway Transformation	Buford Highway is a national poster child for suburban sprawl. This 7-lane state highway runs through urbanizing and diversifying communities who desire to transform the corridor to provide a different and better way of life. The Buford Highway LCI Plan establishes a strategy for short-term and long-term transformation from today's car-oriented infrastructure to a pedestrian-oriented future rooted in a celebration of the multi-cultural diversity of the Buford Highway community. City Planner Aaron Fortner with Canvas Planning Group will present an overview of the Buford Highway planning process as well as the big ideas that are reshaping this suburban sprawl corridor into a modern urban boulevard.	Aaron Fortner, Founder & Principal	Canvas Planning Group