

WELCOME TO THE VIRTUAL



GEORGIA
WALKS
SUMMIT

October 22-23, 2020

An initiative of



S E S S I O N S



PRESENTATION TITLE	PRESENTATION DESCRIPTION	SPEAKERS	TIME
Keynote Designing Value: How to Design with Equity in Mind	Define and discuss the importance of equity as a “value” in the planning and building of active transportation (i.e., walking and biking) systems and processes and ultimately pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly communities. Highlight historic and contemporary disparities in procedures, processes, and distribution of resources that have led to inequitable access and disparate outcomes for traditionally-marginalized communities. Discuss how these inequities have resulted in disproportionate rates of traffic violence and negative social, political, economic and health impacts for said communities. Learn concrete strategies and actions to remedy past injustices through an in-depth discussion on “12 Strategies for Centering and Prioritizing Equity in Transportation.”	Charles Brown	Thursday, October 22 9:20-10:30am
Breakout 1A- Public Health Success Stories	Car dependency is hazardous to our health. We have made drivers safer in collisions, but at the cost of ignoring its worsening toll on our health. But we have much to be optimistic about. The history of public health is a history of success stories that we can learn from. With sanitation and immunizations, we decimated infectious disease. Through awareness, advocacy, and public policy, we banned dangerous chemicals such as DDT. And through publicity campaigns and changing social norms, we sharply reduced the number of Americans at risk of dying from a disease caused by smoking. Though the goals once looked beyond reach, these efforts were all remarkably successful. If we apply the lessons of these success stories to urban mobility, we can again achieve change that now looks unreachable.	Peter Norton	Thursday, October 22 10:40-11:20am
Breakout 2A- Planning for Safer Pedestrian and Bicycle Infrastructure on State Routes	In recent years, GDOT has received an increasing number of requests from stakeholders for more dedicated infrastructure to serve pedestrians, cyclists, and transit users. GDOT engaged AECOM to conduct a high-level analysis of crash data, traffic volumes, and existing transportation plans to develop a prioritized list of opportunity areas for further planning and potential implementation of multimodal safety projects. Learn about study analysis and results. Discuss how GDOT is using the recommendations to guide future planning and investments for multimodal transportation safety.	Carly Queen; Sam Harris	
Breakout 3A- Tactical and Practical: Implementing Quick-Response Walking Improvements in Your Community	Discuss way to quickly implement low-cost, easy-to-implement solutions for walking at the neighborhood-scale. The panel will discuss how to implement these types of improvements in your community with experienced community leaders, advocates, and planners. Panel topics will cover coalition building, funding sources, design strategies, and implementation strategies.	Jack Cebe; Austin Shelton; Rachel Umana; Daniel Snider; Kemberli Sargent	
Breakout 4A- Assessing Hidden Sidewalk Hazards and Obstacles for People with Mobility Challenges	Hear how Decatur’s Pedestrian Advisory Board undertook a downtown “mobility walk” along a route planned by a board member who uses a wheelchair. Hear how they discovered typical sidewalk obstacles and deficiencies but also found a number of “hidden” hazards that were not safely navigable for wheelchair users. Also learn about barriers to public transportation for the mobility and visually impaired. Discuss accessibility of routes to transit as well as access to transit. Review examples of common barriers and conventional solutions to these obstructions.	Ann Abramowitz; Becky Ramage-Tuttle	
Breakout 1B- The Real and Perceived Relationship Between Social Identities and Mobility	Participate in a candid and interactive discussion on the real and perceived relationship between social identities (e.g., income, disability, race, ethnicity, class, and gender) and mobility. Highlight how this relationship, or lack thereof, influences public outreach and engagement practices, planning, policy and program development in the creation of walkable, bikeable communities. Create strategies and recommendations to better incorporate social identities into active transportation planning practices and research.	Charles Brown	Thursday, October 22 11:30-12:10pm
Breakout 2B- Developing Policy and Understanding Injury Data for Shared Dockless Mobility Devices	Learn about the policies that communities in Georgia are developing on e-scooter use as well as considerations affecting development of policy. Discuss the types and frequencies of e-scooter injuries with data from Grady Memorial Hospital as well as additional needs for data collection. Learn the environmental and behavioral factors that lead to injuries and discuss challenges in data collection.	Jonathan Rupp; Bob Dallas	
Breakout 3B- Sharing the Path: Green Infrastructure and Pedestrian Design	Learn how the increased focus on green infrastructure and sustainability creates an opportunity to marry thoughtful pedestrian design with green infrastructure to create parks, places, and infrastructure that serves many purposes for the common good. Review historical precedents of green infrastructure supporting pedestrian environments, as well as modern case studies and best practice techniques.	Todd Fuller; Chris Mutter	
Breakout 4B- School Road Safety Audits in Action	Discover the process and procedures of doing a School Road Safety Audit (SRSA). Hear about a recent case study conducted in the Columbus area at Wynnnton Arts Academy, the proposed recommendations, changes already implemented and future changes planned as a result of the SRSA.	Chelsea Weldon; Elizabeth Yarnall	



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Columbus Dragonfly Trail Network: Built for Transport, Recreation, and Connectivity	Dragonfly Trail Network provides critical infrastructure to all members of our community. With over 20% of Columbus citizens living in poverty and many without reliable transportation, the Dragonfly Trail Network is designed for transportation as much as recreation, connecting neighborhoods to vital destinations like schools, jobs, grocery stores, entertainment, and transit stations. Learn how civic leaders transformed a costly combined sewer overflow issue into a creative solution, eventually leading to a long-term public-private partnership with the City of Columbus. This presentation will also examine the critical role residents play in equitably building trails that improve access in underserved communities.	Becca Zajac	Thursday, October 22 12:20-12:50pm
Breakout 1C- Cultural and Socioeconomic Influences on Pedestrian Safety	Learn about why there is a pedestrian safety crisis in America, and what we can do to change it. Hear a general overview of the causes of the escalating pedestrian deaths, and why more than 6,000 pedestrians are getting killed every year on American streets. Get a background on the social trends that are putting people at risk, as well as why fundamentally it is a problem of systematic, structural inequality. Also learn how Latinos have been especially impacted and how Latino culture both influences and is impacted by the US built environment. Hear how Latinos must use their imaginations and resources at hand to modify streets designed for cars into comfortable human places.	Angie Schmitt; James Rojas	Thursday, October 22 1:00-1:40pm
Breakout 2C- Pedestrian Exposure & Compliance: Forecasting & Enhancing Safety	Learn about AECOM's newly-developed method to measure pedestrian exposure using pedestrian pushbutton activity. Learn how AECOM can use historical averages of pedestrian activity to predict strategies for pedestrian activity at individual intersections. Discuss opportunities to broadcast information to drivers about pedestrian activity when pedestrians are least visible and expected, such as in dark conditions. Also learn how to measure pedestrian compliance with the crosswalk and use traffic signal operation as an objective approach to determine the potential for pedestrian crashes. Examine how Gwinnett County is working with Miovision & AECOM to measure, plan, and forecast pedestrian safety.	Marc Start; Geoffrey Price; Padraig Landy; Sam Harris	
Breakout 3C- Redeveloping Walkable City Centers and Creating Multi-Use Paths Systems in Suburban Cities	Explore the timeline and the building blocks the City of Alpharetta has put in place to create a more walkable Town Center. Discuss how the City looked at land use, streets, and open space holistically. Get a quick overview of the "Alpharetta Walkability & Pedestrian Safety Study," including pedestrian safety countermeasures recommended at key locations.	Mickey O'Brien; Austin Shelton	
Breakout 4C- Engineering and Roadway Design Principles 101	Explore the principles of traffic engineering and roadway design and how design elements can create barriers to walking. This presentation is for professionals without an engineering background to understand some of the nuances within the engineering industry. Discuss topics such as: signal timing operations, signal design, and traffic studies. There will also be time for pre-submitted audience Q&A about how to best work with traffic engineers.	Chris Puglisi	
Breakout 1D- Trips to Transit in 2020: the Added Accessibility Burden of Pandemic Times	Atlanta's sidewalks and streets pose difficulties for transit users in the best of times. During Covid-19, changes to MARTA bus service have added another layer of hardship. We'll look at the situation from the perspective of people who've lost their routes, as well as for wheelchair users.	Darin Givens; Carden Wyckoff; Bakari Height	Thursday, October 22 1:50pm-2:30pm
Breakout 2D- Engaging Small Rural Communities in Multi-modal Planning	Learn how rural Georgia communities can fulfill their needs for better pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure and networks despite scarce funding and challenges in securing adequate buy-in from community leaders, members and stakeholders. Brainstorm improved methods for community outreach and engagement in an era when the digital divide persists. Discuss how to engage community leaders and introduce stakeholders to the latest and best design practices, and create plans that can be realistically implemented.	Ariel Godwin	
Breakout 3D- Connecting Military Families with Local Communities through Fort Benning's Trail System	Learn how Fort Benning built collaborative relationships with local stakeholders to leverage ideas and find creative funding sources to build a vibrant recreational trail systems and increase connectivity to the regional community. The Benning system contains more than 30 miles of high quality trails and has more than 40 historical points of interest along the way. The system is directly connected to the Columbus Riverwalk and is accessible to everyone.	Kirk Ticknor	
Breakout 4D- Less is more: Retrofitting Infrastructure for Walking and Biking	Discover ideas on how to do more with less when it comes to retrofitting pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure. Hear examples of techniques for improving walking and biking infrastructure where corridors are especially constrained from City of Atlanta.	Jack Cebe; Jaap Tigelaar	



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Keynote Watch Out for the High-Tech Mobility Distraction	Sustainability demands innovation, but we've been sold high-tech novelty instead. For 80 years such techno-futurism has been a dangerous distraction. In urban mobility most high-tech innovation has been committed, ironically, to perpetuating the car dependency we inherited from the twentieth century. High-tech car dependency cannot be equitable, healthful, sustainable, efficient, or affordable. Real urban mobility innovation will require reinventing innovation. We already have everything we need. A complete innovation palette includes high tech, zero tech, and everything between. We can take advantage of users' intelligence instead of striving to engineer it out. We can learn from history instead of disdaining it. We will then find that we can do today, at far less cost, what the techno-futurists have promised to deliver for unlimited cost at an ever-receding future date.	Peter Norton	Friday, October 23 9:00- 10:00am
Breakout 1E- Vision Zero in Atlanta, Portland, and Minneapolis	Atlanta is joining a growing network of cities by adopting Vision Zero and the perspective that all fatal crashes on our roads are preventable. Hear how Atlanta will lead the fight against deadly crashes, including a comprehensive assessment of where and why crashes are happening, how we will redesign roadways with high incident rates, and the impact of safety education campaigns and enforcement. Also hear from representatives of Portland and Minneapolis to learn how they have implemented Vision Zero and what safety-related initiatives they have taken during the pandemic.	Josh Rowan; Michelle Marx; Ethan Fawley	Friday, October 23 10:10am- 10:50am
Breakout 2E- Challenges and Opportunities for Traffic Calming Efforts in Historic Savannah	Hear a case study of traffic calming efforts on two one-way streets in downtown Savannah and how a broad coalition used best practice models to propose design solutions to make the streets safer for people who walk, ride bikes, use wheelchairs, and drive. Despite having the district's councilperson's support, the plan ultimately wasn't adopted by Savannah City Council. Identify tactical errors that may have prevented adoption of the plan, suggest alternative approaches that might have been more successful, and explore potential for future improvements.	John Bennett	
Breakout 3E- Creating an Award Winning African American Heritage Trail	The African American Heritage Trail of Bartow County, which debuted in 2019, has been the recipient of both regional and state-wide awards since its release. Join us to learn how 11 local civic, academic, and non-profit organizations came together to develop a community-wide heritage trail that uses both walking and driving tours to create an inclusive and informative experience for residents and visitors alike.	Missy Phillips; Lillie Read; Alexis Carter-Callahan	
Breakout 4E- Get Your Neighborhood Active with Walk Audits	Walk audits can inspire community leaders and stakeholders, educate participants on healthy design principles and best practices, and provide practical planning for specific policy and environmental improvements. Hear how a neighborhood used a community-led walk and bike audit to examine sidewalk issues that went above and beyond the city's current maintenance schedule. Also hear how high school students involved in Safe Routes to School have worked to lead virtual walk audits in their communities during the pandemic. From these examples, learn how to complete a walk audit in your own neighborhood, armed with example documentation and tips and tricks to complete this successful community engagement tool.	Caila Brown; Mark Fenton	
Breakout 1F- Race, Streets, and the History of Urban Planning	Examine how historical, systemic racism has affected the creation of street infrastructure in America. Hear the different perspectives of four individuals from Atlanta, St. Louis, Detroit, and Boston.	James Tyler; Tiffanie Stanfield; Orlando Bailey; Ambar Johnson	Friday, October 23 11:00am- 11:40am
Breakout 2F- Accessibility & Placemaking in Complex Urban Environments	Learn how MARTA, GDOT, the BeltLine, private landowners and an improving Peachtree Creek watershed create better access. Hear challenges and successes behind designing a new plan to make this messy pinch point an attractive, beloved space for pedestrians, new residents, and even kayakers.	Sally Sears; Aaron Fortner	
Breakout 3F- Strategies for Successful Trail Planning	Hear about Sandy Springs' Trail program and how the City and the Sandy Springs Conservancy funded a stand-alone Trail Master Plan. Learn about the planning process and strategies used to challenge constraints, such as limited availability of land. Discuss their partnerships and how they are contributing to the success of our endeavor and conclude with an update on progress towards implementation of the master plan.	Catherine Mercier-Baggett; Michael Perry	
Breakout 4F- Pedestrians in JEOPARDY!	Welcome to America's favorite answer and question game where every question is about walkability and pedestrian safety... This is Pedestrians in JEOPARDY! Do you think you know how to make places safe, accessible, and inviting for walking? Let's put it to the test in this game-show-style session where participants will team up, face off, and sharpen their walking knowledge!	Jonathan DiGioia; Katelyn DiGioia	