

# AMERICANS SUPPORT BICYCLING AND WALKING FOR MANY REASONS:



for economics, health, safety, accessibility and more. For these reasons, the following national organizations support federal investments in bicycling and walking.



**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of REALTORS®**

The timely provision of safe, convenient and efficient transportation infrastructure enhances the quality of communities, supports property values, and mitigates the effects of traffic congestion that accompany growth. REALTORS® support improving mobility in communities so that all citizens have access to transportation means best suited to their needs.



“With nearly one in three young Americans too overweight to serve in the military, we need to create a culture of health in which the healthy choice is the easy choice. A critical component is walkable communities where people live, work & play, including safe routes to school for children.” -*Harry Sieben, Jr., Brigadier General, U.S. Air Force (Retired)*



The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network strongly supports ded-

icating funding for the Transportation Alternatives Program. Physical inactivity increases the risk for cancer and other chronic diseases, and between one fourth to one third of all cancer cases are due to physical inactivity, poor diet, and excess weight. Research shows that people in communities that are designed for active transport are more physically active than people in communities that are not.



**American Heart Association** | **American Stroke Association®**

All Americans should have access to transportation options that are safe, accessible, and promote physical activity such as biking and walking. Supporting these goals when designing transportation infrastructure is critical to creating more livable and active communities, and improving public health.



**Transportation for America**

Local communities across the country are eager to invest in these kinds of projects that can help improve safety for people on foot or bike, provide other options for getting around, and help attract and retain a younger workforce. The TAP program is helping these efforts by giving increased decision-making authority and control to local governments in cities, small towns and rural areas alike to fund transportation projects that get the most bang for the taxpayer buck.



Today, half of adults and nearly 72% of high school students in the United States do not meet the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations for physical activity, and American adults walk less than adults in any other industrialized country. Trust for America's Health, a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to saving lives by protecting the health of every community and working to make disease prevention, supports federal funding for biking and walking to help make it easier for more Americans to choose to walk, bike and be more physically active.



Preventable injury is the number one killer of our kids, and they are most at risk in and around roads and cars. Safe Routes to

School is a proven strategy for reducing child deaths. Safe Kids Worldwide and its more than 400 coalitions advocates believe that it is vital that Congress continue to fund Safe Routes in the Transportation Alternatives Program.



**United Spinal Association**

United Spinal Association's members rely on wheelchair accessible active transportation networks to connect to public transit, work, school, play, and to participate fully in society. Barrier free sidewalks and trails are essential safe, and reliable, transportation modes for the disability community.



The Trust for Public Land is a national leader in rail to trail conversions and strongly supports developing, enhancing, and connecting biking and walking corridors to provide people with better transportation options, healthy recreation opportunities, and to bring them closer to nature.



It is difficult to imagine a truly comprehensive active transportation network that is not touched by a park and recreation agency, and in many cases parks and recreation agencies are the primary providers of active transportation-related services. Through active transportation, parks and recreation agencies provide valuable benefits to communities by providing an engine for economic development, increasing health and wellbeing, supporting conservation and providing benefits to all citizens regardless of socioeconomic status.



The American Society of Landscape Architects represents landscape architects in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Landscape architects are the design professionals who plan and design active transportation projects like bicycle and pedestrian paths and lanes, streetscapes, recreational trails, scenic byways, and others. Using expert planning and design, landscape architects ensure that communities have safe, accessible transportation options that meet their unique needs.



## LAKESHORE

Lakeshore Foundation works to create health equity for people with disability. Communities that support bicycling and walking support universal design and therefore improved access for people with disability. All people should have the right to access resources that promote optimal health through active transportation.



The American Public Health Association is committed to making active transportation a realistic, affordable and convenient option for all transportation users. Increased opportunities for biking and walking will improve health by increasing physical activity and reducing air pollution associated with motor vehicle emissions. Active transportation is a critical component to achieving APHA's goal of creating a healthier nation in one generation.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHRONIC DISEASE DIRECTORS  
Promoting Health. Preventing Disease.

One of the many public health issues that NACDD cares about is making states and communities more walkable. We understand that this is not just a public health problem, but also one that involves our friends in transportation, planning, education, economic development, housing, transit, parks and recreation, and advocacy groups of many kinds.



The National Complete Streets Coalition believes that community streets must allow people to safely, comfortably, and conveniently access destinations, regardless of how they travel. Active transportation choices are vital to this vision, providing not only choice but also health, economic, and quality of life benefits to residents of all ages, abilities, incomes, races, and ethnicities.



The Directors of Health Promotion and Education (DHPE) is a professional association composed of health promotion and health equity practitioners and leaders who focus on population-based strategies for improving public health at the local, state and national levels. DHPE helps to make healthy communities happen by supporting health in all policies including those associated with active transportation, environments and systems.

**Please support the Transportation Alternatives Program in the next Transportation bill.**

