Step It Up!: Action Institute to Increase Walking and Walkability

TPO Board Meeting
June 26, 2019
In 2015, Step it Up! The Surgeon General’s Call to Action to Promote Walking and Walkable Communities was released to increase walking among people across the U.S.

https://youtu.be/z9LJYmc2EAY
Step It Up! Strategic Goals

1. Make Walking a National Priority.
2. Design Communities that make it safe and easy to walk for people of all ages and abilities.
3. Promote programs and policies to support walking where people live, learn, work, and play.
4. Provide information to encourage walking and improve walkability.
5. Fill surveillance, research, and evaluation gaps related to walking and walkability.
Key findings of the 2017 Step It Up! Status Report:

- Physical activity needs to be improved in the U.S.
- The Call to Action received web and media attention
- Activities by federal agencies to promote the Call to Action have continued since its release
- The goals of the Call to Action are being advanced
- States, communities, and organizations are successfully implementing activities that build on the Call to Action.
Walkability Action Institute (WAI)

- Sponsored by the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
- Purpose: prepare interdisciplinary teams from MPO regions (or similar regional entities) to pursue policy, systems, and environmental (PSE) supports for walking and walkability
- Reinforce and support implementation of national public health policy statements, such as Step It Up! The Surgeon General’s Call to Action
Premise of the WAI

Transition from the “WHY” of why improving walkability is important...

...to the “HOW” of how to put walkability changes into motion...
1. Broward County, FL
2. Clackamas County, OR
3. Daytona, FL
4. Greater Philadelphia/Montgomery County, PA
5. Lane County, OR
6. Larimer and Weld Counties, CO
7. Marshall County, IN
8. Maui, HI
9. Northwest, VT
10. Spokane, WA
Walkability

Education, Non-Traditional Partners, Advocacy Groups, Others???

Public Health
- Ethan Johnson, FDOH

Transportation
- Stephan Harris, R2CTPO
- Migdalia Hernandez, Orange City Public Works

Planning
- Valerie Feinberg, Northeast FL Health Planning Council

Elected Officials
- Jeff Allebach, Orange City Council

Parks and Recreation

Economic/Community Development
Conducted Walkability Audits
Discussed Active Transportation
Discussed Community Design
Discussed Implementation Strategies
Initiated Team Action Plan
WAI Deliverable

- Walkability Team Action Plan (currently in development)
- Component of the River to Sea TPO’s Complete Streets Policy and Implementation Plan (currently in development)

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