

Complete Streets Grantee Announcements

■ Show us your Hard Work!

As you're working, please send us photos of your projects. We want to showcase Michigan's efforts on Complete Streets and would love to include your photos on our website, presentations and reports as we move forward.

Healthy Community Resources

Check out the *Putting Smart Growth to Work in Rural Communities Report* [here!](#)

ICMA has released a new report, "Putting Smart Growth to Work in Rural Communities," which focuses on how to adapt smart growth strategies to rural communities. Funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Sustainable Communities, the report examines the challenges rural communities

face, including rapid growth at metropolitan edges, declining rural populations, and the loss of working lands. It highlights smart growth strategies that can help guide rural growth while preserving the unique rural character of existing communities.

The report focuses on three central goals:

- 1) Support the rural landscape by creating an economic climate that enhances the viability of working lands and conserves natural lands
- 2) Help existing places to thrive by taking care of assets and investments such as downtowns, Main Streets, existing infrastructure, and places that the community values
- 3) Create great new places by building vibrant, enduring neighborhoods and communities that people, especially young people, don't want to leave.

Featuring case studies from across the country, the report highlights how local governments, states, and non-profits have successfully implemented smart growth strategies to support rural lands, revitalize existing communities, and create great new places for residents and visitors.

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Learn more about implementing Safe Routes to School in Low-Income Communities

The Safe Routes to School National Partnership has issued "Implementing Safe Routes to School in Low-Income Schools and Communities: A Resource Guide for Volunteers and Professionals." This new publication focuses on the challenges and circumstances unique to low-income communities and highlights a number of Safe Routes to School promising practices from around the country. Our goal is to provide parents, nonprofit leaders, school personnel and local government officials with creative and effective solutions to make it safer for more children to walk and bicycle to and from school in low-income communities.

The publication and additional information is available for download at:
www.saferoutespartnership.org/lowincomeguide.

Upcoming Training Opportunities

Advocacy Bootcamp and Farm Bill 101

Monday, August 9th, 8:30 am- 12:30pm and 1:00- 4:00pm

Register via Email august9@mnaonline.org

When registering, please indicate if you will attend the morning or afternoon sessions, or the entire day.

The Detroit Food and Fitness Collaborative and
The Michigan Nonprofit Association

Focus Hope
1355 Oakman Boulevard
Detroit, Michigan 48238

Advocacy Bootcamp (8:30- 12:00)

This half-day intensive session will have you ready to advocate for your cause in no time! You will learn the basics of nonprofit advocacy, including why it's important and what is legal. We will also provide an overview of various advocacy tools and strategies – including how to develop your messaging and advocacy plan. We will also have time to break into groups to begin to develop your own advocacy plan. And if that's not enough, we will also learn tips from a nonprofit leader in advocacy efforts!



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Farm Bill 101 (1:00 - 4:00)

For everyone working for a more equitable food system, there will be an afternoon session on the Farm Bill and its impact on urban areas. This session will take a deep dive into the legislation and why it's important to know how the Farm Bill affects our food system from production to consumption. Participants will also begin to outline action steps leading up to the bill's reauthorization in 2012.

Let's Walk to School! Reducing Liability Concerns and Getting Kids Active through Safe Routes to School

Wednesday, August 11th, 1:00-2:30 pm ET

[Register Here](#)

NPLAN Free Webinar

In 1969, approximately 50% of children walked or bicycled to school, including almost 90% of children living within one mile of school. Today, fewer than 15% of school children walk or bicycle to school. Walking or biking to school can be a convenient way for kids (and parents!) to be more active every day. [Safe Routes to School \(SRTS\)](#) programs and policies make it easier and safer for children and their families to walk or bike to school by sponsoring walk-to-school days and organizing "walking school buses" in which adult volunteers supervise children as they walk to school as a group.

However, despite the many benefits of SRTS – reversing childhood obesity trends, reducing traffic congestion, improving air quality, enhancing neighborhood safety – some schools have been reluctant to support SRTS programs due to concerns about being sued if an injury or problem arises. But such fears are largely unwarranted. By acting responsibly and understanding liability issues, schools, nonprofits, and parent groups can help students reap the health and academic benefits of SRTS programs while minimizing any risks.

In this webinar, participants will learn about the basics of liability in the context of SRTS and how school districts, nonprofit organizations, and others can reduce their liability in SRTS programs. Presenters will put liability concerns in perspective, explain how SRTS programs can leave schools with a lower risk of liability than existed prior to the program, and provide practical advice on best practices for implementing SRTS programs and policies. The webinar will also highlight two new resources from NPLAN: a fact sheet on liability in SRTS programs and a fact sheet on liability protections for volunteers (both coming



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soon!). If you are a SRTS coordinator, school or district official, or an active transportation enthusiast, then this webinar is for you!

The webinar will be recorded and archived along with the rest of the NPLAN webinars, which you can access [here](#).

Transportation Data Workshop

Thursday August 12th, 9-11:30 a.m.

[Register Here](#)

SEMCOG Offices
Ambassador Room
535 Griswold St., Ste. 300
Detroit, MI 48226

At this SEMCOG University workshop, local government officials, planners, and engineers responsible for transportation planning efforts, will explore the various transportation databases available on SEMCOG's Web site. Participants will learn details about how to navigate through the databases to generate data reports for their communities and counties. Data sets include information on traffic counts and crashes, roads and intersections, transportation projects, regional transportation needs and priorities, Community Profiles, and extensive map catalog.

Developing a Pedestrian Safety Action Plan

Wednesday and Thursday, August 18th-19th, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

[Register Here](#)

SEMCOG University Workshop
Madison Heights Fire Department Training Room
31313 Brush (Madison Heights Civic Center)
Madison Heights, MI 48071

A Pedestrian Safety Action Plan is a plan developed by community stakeholders that is intended to improve pedestrian safety in the community and help state and local officials know where to begin to address safety issues. It is also intended to assist agencies in further enhancing their existing pedestrian safety programs and activities, including identifying safety problems and selecting optimal solutions. A Pedestrian Safety Action Plan contains engineering, education, and enforcement solutions.

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At this SEMCOG University workshop, attendees will learn:

- That pedestrian belongs in all design, operations, and safety considerations.
- That human behavioral issues relate to pedestrian and driver safety.
- The role that land use planning, street and site design, education, and enforcement play in pedestrian safety.
- How to make a commitment to safety.
- How to involve stakeholders to create publicly supported and trusted policies, programs, and projects.
- How to collect and analyze data that identifies safety deficiencies and priorities for improvement.
- Commonly used and effective pedestrian crash countermeasures and how to implement effective pedestrian safety solutions.
- About untapped funding sources to support pedestrian safety initiatives.

Access Past SEMCOG University Trainings [here](#)

MDOT Walkable Trainings 2010 Schedule			
<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Local Contact</u>	<u>MDOT Rep</u>
Monday Aug. 16	Harbor Springs AM	Danna Widmar 231-838-1374	Deb Alfonso
Monday Aug. 16	Elk Rapids	Bob Peterson 231-264-9274	Deb Alfonso
Tues. Aug. 17	Clare	Lori Schuh 989-386-9190	Deb Alfonso
Wed. Aug. 18	Big Rapids AM	Connie Koepke 231-796-7640	to be determined
Wed. Aug. 18	Fremont PM	Michele Ribant 231-924-2101	to be determined
Thur. Aug. 19	Grand Haven	Joy Gaasch 616-846-3165	Cindy Krupp
Thur. Aug. 19	Spring Lake	Joy Gaasch 616-846-3165	Cindy Krupp
Friday Aug. 20	Walker	Frank Wash 616-791-6850	Cindy Krupp



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Sat. Aug. 21	Allegan	Robert Hillard 269-686-1113	Deb Alfonso
Mon. Aug. 23	Detroit AM	Raquel Wilson 313-456-3299	Cindy Krupp
Mon. Aug. 23	Tecumseh PM	Shelley Lim 517-423-5602	Cindy Krupp
Tues. Aug. 24	Jonesville	Adam Smith 517-849-2104	Josh Debruyn
Wed. Aug. 25	Delta Township	Dennis Williams 517-323-8540	Josh Debruyn
Thur. Aug. 26	Saginaw AM	Dave Bell 989-797-6803	Josh Debruyn
Thur. Aug. 26	Burton PM	Ellen Ellenburg 989-516-9614	Josh Debruyn
Fri. Aug. 27	Frankenmuth AM	Sheila Stamiris 989-652-3430 ext 120	Cindy Krupp

ProWalk/ProBike 2010

September 13-17, 2010

The National Center for Bicycling & Walking
Chattanooga, Tennessee

Information and Registration [here](#)

Planning Michigan 2010

October 20-23, 2010

Michigan Association of Planning's Annual Conference
Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center
Register [Here](#)

Featured speakers:

Kurt Metzger, director, Data Driven Detroit

Steve Tobocman, managing partner, New Solutions Group, LLC, and former state representative

Toni Griffin, Urban Planning and Design for the American City

John Austin, Brookings Institution, Co-Director, Great Lakes Economic Initiative

Phillip Cooley, Slows Bar B Q & O'Connor Development



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Mitchell Silver, AICP, PP, APA President-Elect, planning director, City of Raleigh

John Talmage, president, Social Compact

Come and explore Detroit's Eastern Market, Dequindre Cut, and Midtown, to name just a few of the mobile workshops planned.

Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center (PBIC) Trainings

Trainings Listed [Here](#)

Webinars Listed [Here](#)

Got a Question? Contact the Healthy Communities Team

Lisa Grost	Healthy Communities Team Lead	grostl@michigan.gov
Diane Golzynski	Lead Nutrition Consultant	golzynskid@michigan.gov
Jim Harrington	BHC & SRTS Consultant	harringtonj3@michigan.gov
Christina Harvey	BHC Consultant	harveyc3@michigan.gov
Holly Madill	Complete Streets Coordinator	madillh@michigan.gov
Vicki Ott	Administrative Assistant	ottv@michigan.gov
Deb Williams	MNN Project Coordinator	williamsd4@michigan.gov