



Welcome to the Get To B Bike Walk Summit

The Get to B Mississippi Bike Walk Summit is a collaborative effort between Bike Walk Mississippi, the statewide bicycle and pedestrian advocacy nonprofit and Gulf Regional Planning Commission, the Mississippi Gulf Coast Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

We are honored to have you as our guest at the 3rd annual gathering of transportation professionals, law enforcement, active living advocates, policy makers, and municipality leaders from across our state to share strategies, success stories and best practices to create more walkable, bike-able and livable communities throughout Mississippi.

We hope this Summit helps connect you to the people, resources and information you will need to begin to put in place pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, programs and policies that can directly increase safety, connectivity and access that we believe will lead to increased economic development and quality of life in your community.

Connect to statewide resources for becoming more bicycle and pedestrian friendly at: www.bikewalkmississippi.org

Learn more about Gulf Regional Planning Commission and the many MPO programs at: www.grpc.com

CO-HOSTED BY:



BIKE WALK
MISSISSIPPI



Gulf Regional
Planning Commission

PLANNING TEAM:

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Geneva Dummer, Heritage Trails Partnership

Lindsey Netherland, MDOT

Leslie Robertson, City of D'Iberville

VENDORS:

Tanglefoot Trail

Gulf Coast Design Center

Heritage Trails Partnership

Gulf Coast Bicycle Club

City of Biloxi Historical Society

Pickering Firm

PermaTrak Boardwalk Systems

MS Department of Health

MDOT/FHWA - Civil Rights

Bike Walk Mississippi

STUDENT VOLUNTEERS FROM:



LIVE HEALTHY BLUE



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Thank you to the Mississippi Department of Transportation for your continued support of regional and statewide efforts to improve safety, accessibility and connectivity in our communities and for your assistance and support of the 2016 Bike Walk Summit!

Catering Provided By:



**THANK YOU TO OUR
PLANNING PARTNERS!**

Mississippi Job Corp
for your help to provide wonderful
volunteers to assist with the Summit!



Thank you to the **D'Iberville Chic-fil-a**
for feeding our many volunteers and for your support
of community programs across the Gulf Coast!

Thank you to
Heritage Trails Partnership
for your continued advocacy for increased
infrastructure and safety for bicyclists and
pedestrians across the Gulf Coast and for your
support to make the Summit a success!



Thank you to the City of Biloxi for your continued support of GRPC and the Get to B professional development safety series. Thank you for your continuous efforts to make your city more accessible for all road users.



Heritage Trails Partnership
of the Mississippi Gulf Coast

CONTINUING EDUCATION

THANK YOU TO OUR EDUCATION PARTNERS!

TRAFFIC SKILLS 101:

***All attendees are eligible for:
Professional Development Hour (PDH) Certificates
through the: Mississippi Department of Transportation &
Gulf Regional Planning Commission**

Other credits offered thanks to our Education Partners:

- **Certified Municipal Official (CMO) credits are offered through the Mississippi Municipal League**
(Must sign-in at Summit registration booth)
- **Law Enforcement Professional Credits are offered through the Board of Standards, sponsored by the Biloxi Police Department** *(Self-report)*
- **Planning Professionals can earn CM credits through the Mississippi/Alabama Chapter of the American Planning Association** *(Pending, Self-report)*

***SIGN YOUR NAME AT REGISTRATION BOOTH TO INDICATE ATTENDANCE**

Traffic Skills 101(TS 101), developed by the League of American Bicyclists is the premier bicycle skills training course in the country and also serves as the pre-requisite to becoming a League Certified Instructor (LCI).

As part of the Summit, the on-bike part of the course will be offered on August 11th at the cost of \$40 per participant.

Participants will each receive:

- Four Hours of "On-Bike" Traffic Skills Class
- Smart Cycling manual from the League of American Bicyclists
- Certification of completion from Bike Walk Mississippi
- Pre-requisite for LCI (League Certified Instructor) Training

The TS101 course will be administered by Jim Foster, a League Certified Instructor (LCI) and assisted by Jeff Loftus of Gulf Regional Planning Commission. **All participants must sign up at the registration booth by noon on 8/10. Class space is limited and will be filled first come, first served. ALL participants are required to complete the classroom section online before the class begins.**

Please bring a bicycle and helmet with you to the class.

**I'M SOMEONE'S FATHER
I'M SOMEONE'S MOTHER.
WE ARE SOMEONE'S FAMILY.**



WE RIDE BIKES.

**EVERYONE IS SOMEONE'S EVERYTHING.
WWW.CHANGLANESTOPASS.COM**

Bike Walk Mississippi serves as the statewide bicycle and pedestrian nonprofit advocacy group in Mississippi.

We offer workshops, trainings and consulting services to municipalities, groups and organizations across Mississippi.

Some of our most popular workshops include:

- Bicycle Friendly Community applications
- Advocacy & Safety Campaign Trainings
- Walkability Audits & Livability Assessments
- Planning a Cyclovia, Open Streets or Play Streets Events
- Traffic Safety 101 On-bike Classes and more!

**Learn more at www.bikewalkmississippi.org
and sign up for a workshop today!**



**BIKE WALK
MISSISSIPPI**



**Mississippi Gulf Coast
Metropolitan Planning Organization**
Gulf Regional Planning Commission

Gulf Regional Planning Commission has been the designated metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the Mississippi Gulf Coast since 1972. As the MPO, we work closely with the 15 political jurisdictions of the region (Hancock, Harrison and Jackson Counties and the cities of Waveland, Bay St. Louis, Diamondhead, Pass Christian, Long Beach, Gulfport, D'Iberville, Biloxi, Ocean Springs, Gautier, Moss Point and Pascagoula.) Through a comprehensive planning process, the MPO allocates available federal transportation dollars to improvement projects supporting the Coast's long-range transportation goals.

Although GRPC is a multi-disciplinary planning agency, coordinating the MPO process is a key role that it plays for the Mississippi Coastal region. Under the MPO umbrella, GRPC staff manage several key improvements programs, including the Get To B safety program.

Launched in 2014, the Get To B program was designed to save lives on our roadways. The primary objective is to discover and implement measures to reduce the occurrence of and severity of injuries that result from crashes that do occur.

We are saving lives through two core program initiatives:

1. **Infrastructure improvements:** Using a combined data-driven and systemic analysis approach, we are identifying locations with high crash occurrence and crash risk, developing improvement strategies that will mitigate those risks, and working closely with local jurisdictions to get those projects constructed quickly.
2. **Get To B Safety Series:** This consists of on-going professional development workshops provided at no or low costs. The intent is to promote awareness of best practices, trends and resources pertaining to roadway safety to elected officials, planning and engineering staff, advocates, consultants and the general public toward maximizing safety for all users on and around our streets.



This year's Bike Walk Summit is the part of the Safety Series and is being partially funded through the Get To B program.

This involvement demonstrates our commitment to improve safety for all road users, supports the MPO's complete streets policy and addresses long-range goals of improved access and connectivity for our region.

Thank you for being here to learn, share and contribute to the conversation, keeping in mind that roads are for people, not just cars.

SUMMIT SESSIONS:

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9TH

1:15pm - 2:00:

Keynote Address: Mayor John Robert Smith, Transportation for America

"Multi-modal transportation investments, are they worth it?"

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi Ballroom A

Mayor John Robert Smith will discuss his experience as an elected official in Mississippi and at the national level through his work with Transportation for America. Drawing from Smart Growth America's report, "Core Values: Why American Companies are Moving Downtown", Smith will discuss some of the common themes that emerged when discussing with companies what they looked for when choosing a new location including walkability and access to a range of transportation options. With a focus on the opportunities that exist for a return on investment for bicycling and walking infrastructure, Mayor Smith will also discuss how elected officials in Mississippi can utilize federal funds for biking, walking and livability and policy choices including increased performance measures and complete Streets.

2:15pm - 4:00: SPECIAL SESSION FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS

Elected Officials Roundtable

Ballroom C

Elected Officials and their representatives are invited to join together for a round-table discussion to discuss ideas, struggles and success stories with national leaders surrounding the issues of what elected leaders can do to make their communities more pedestrian and bicycle friendly. This session will include highlights from the USDOT's National Mayor's Challenge for Safer People, Safer Streets as well as how communities can utilize funding through the FAST Act and Transportation Alternative Programs and other ways to fund local projects. The session will focus on ways that these projects can increase economic development opportunities and issues that communities are facing to make these projects a reality in Mississippi and across the nation.

*We ask that only elected officials and/or their representatives attend this round-table discussion.

Additional sessions on 8/10 will also cover the FAST Act, Economic Development & Funding.

2:15pm - 3:30: Afternoon Sessions

Accommodating Pedestrians: Work Zones & Road Diets

Presenter: Jessica Rich, Federal Highways Administration

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi Ballroom A

This session will look at two key situations where bicyclists and pedestrians can be better accommodated with little additional investment of resources. The first part of the session will discuss elements and case studies for applying road diet techniques to existing infrastructure. Attendees will understand the elements of a road diet and learn about how they have been installed in various communities to meet local need. The second half of the session will focus on the MUTCD requirements for temporarily accommodating bike/ped traffic in work zones. Specifically, participants will learn when the requirements apply, what the rules actually require the city, consultants and contractors to do, who the governing bodies are and how to design your work plans to meet compliance regulations.

"It takes a Village": Moving from "buy-in" to "engagement"

Presenter: Naomi Doerner, Principal Planner and Equity Strategist, Assembly
Ballroom B

This session will address the critical balance of designing alternative transportation infrastructure and the issues that arise on both sides when it comes to getting public buy-in for these local biking, walking and transit projects. Speaker Naomi Doerner, during her time as both a transportation planner and advocate has focused her career on cultivating and empowering community leaders to advocate for equitable active transportation. She will discuss tactics and provide examples of projects that have engaged local users in the planning process while addressing the multi-modal needs of a city and its residents, resulting in more equitable and accessible public spaces for all types of users. This session will help you learn how to increase productive dialog and move from simply obtaining project buy-in to a new sense of engagement and support for your public projects.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9TH

3:45pm - 5:00: Afternoon Sessions

Creating Bicycle and Pedestrian Plans

Presenter: Wade Walker, Alta Planning + Design
Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi Ballroom A

This session by Wade Walker of Alta Planning + Design, one of the nation's leaders in bicycle and pedestrian design will focus on the ins and outs of creating local and regional bicycle and pedestrian plans. By using a multidisciplinary design approach, often working closely with planners, landscape architects, and urban designers, Walker will focus on these plans as a way to creating active communities. For the past 20 years, he has worked in the realm of complete streets and context sensitive solutions, focusing on the restoration of livability to streets, smart growth, and walkability, often working in an intense collaborative charrette setting. Walker will also address his work across the nation and in Mississippi, where he has led the transportation and mobility elements of recent comprehensive plans for the cities of Brandon, Oxford, and Starkville as well as transportation planning efforts in both Hattiesburg and Hernando.

Meeting your match: Fundraising & solutions for leveraging funds

Presenter: Brigid O'Keane
Ballroom B

Many communities in Mississippi have the desire to create more inclusive communities for bicyclists and pedestrians but often lack funds needed to see these projects to completion. The obligation rate for many bike/ped projects in Mississippi is low, often due to lack of resources or inability to meet the standard 20% local match required for many projects. This session will focus on the many different facets of leveraging funds for local projects and strategies which can be useful for successful fundraising. Speaker Brigid O'Keane has helped coach over 200 bicycle and pedestrian related organizations on fundraising related issues and has facilitated workshops across the U.S. for advocates, agency staff, and elected officials in over 40 communities to increase public funding for active transportation projects. This session will help you grow your community or organizational capacity for bicycle and pedestrian related projects.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10TH

9:00am - 12:00pm:

Bridging the Gap: Access, Equity and Opportunity

The Bridging the Gap session focuses on improving awareness and consideration of traditionally underserved populations throughout the community planning process. Through interactive discussion and hands-on activities, attendees will learn for themselves how critical transportation is to an individual's quality of life. This unique "walk in their shoes" session will be geared toward transportation issues and will enable attendees to take on the roles of people facing challenges such as job loss, child care and other issues faced by those with limited resources. By allowing participants to explore the needs of children, the elderly, the disabled and other vulnerable populations, attendees will be exposed to and/or reminded of our responsibility to develop and implement projects with the needs of all community members in mind.

12:00pm- 1:00pm: Lunch & Learn

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi presents: Cycle Kids Ballroom B

Learn about Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi's support of Cycle Kids, an eight-week program for 4th & 5th grade students, which uses the power of riding a bicycle to teach children the importance of physical activity and healthy habits, while helping build cardiovascular fitness and core strength. Find out about their efforts at Highland Elementary in Ridgeland, MS and efforts to riding more Cycle Kids programs to schools across the state.

1:00pm - 2:00pm

Keynote Address: Barbara McCann, U.S. Department of Transportation

"Safer People, Safer Streets: Federal strategies to build safe and inclusive transportation systems"

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi Ballroom A

Keynote Speaker, Barbara McCann has an exceptional history working with government agencies, non-profits, and researchers as well as authoring numerous reports and articles on transportation, health, and land use and currently serves as the Director of the Office of Safety, Energy and Environment at the US Department of Transportation. McCann has been instrumental in supporting the U.S. Secretary of Transportation's "Mayor's Challenge for Safer People, Safer Streets" and will share with audiences success stories and strategies municipalities can use in their communities. McCann will address issues of safety, equity and common barriers faced by many to create multimodal and inclusive networks and will address the U.S. DOT's increased focus on bicycle and pedestrian issues as part of the overall Transportation system.

Bicycles as a Tool for Economic Development in low-density or rural communities

Presenters: Brent Buice, Georgia Bikes
Don Locke, Tanglefoot Trail

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi Ballroom A

This session will look at the power of bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure to revitalize low density and rural communities. You'll hear from Brent Buice, Executive Director of Georgia Bikes discuss the positive impacts that these investments have made in the state of Georgia. Rockmart, GA, was in steep economic decline prior to the construction of the Silver Comet. The addition of this 61.5 mile long non-motorized, multi-use trail has revived towns along the route by drawing nearly 2 million users per year for a regional economic impact of \$50 million. Don Locke, Trail Manager for the Tanglefoot Trail, which runs from the City of Houston to New Albany will discuss the economic impact that investment in the Trail has brought to the rural towns of North Mississippi including 10 new businesses built along the Trail since its creation.

Innovative Engineering and Design Strategies

Presenter: Darren Flusche, Toole Design Group
Ballroom B

This session will feature innovative engineering, planning and design strategies from across the nation. Presented by Darren Flusche, Senior Planner at Toole Design Group and former Policy Director at the League of American Bicyclists, this session will strike a balance by both highlighting some of the most innovative practices in engineering, planning and design and focusing on examples that are most applicable to communities across Mississippi. Flusche has worked with advocates, transportation agency staff and elected officials in more than 40 cities in 26 states on transportation planning and policy issues and will share with attendees technical knowledge and inspirational ideas for planning your next local innovation.

3:35 - 5:00pm

Navigating the FAST Act

Presenter: Caron Whitaker, League of American Bicyclists
Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi Ballroom A

Over the past year, Congress passed the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act, or FAST Act, a five year bill that includes the formerly named Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), which is the most prominent funding source for bicycle and pedestrian related activities both in Mississippi and across the nation. Those familiar with TE or TAP projects in the past will benefit from national guidance for new language and pertinent changes in the FAST Act including a change of name and location for bicycle and pedestrian related funding opportunities in the new Transportation bill. Attend this session to learn about the League of American Bicyclist's advocacy efforts related to the FAST Act and the efforts of the USDOT and other federal agency initiatives to improve bicycling and walking and to learn the ins and outs regarding uses of these federal dollars to fund pedestrian and bicycle related programs and infrastructure and discover some of the long term changes that will effect states, local governments and transportation stakeholders.

Become a Bike Friendly or Walk Friendly Community

Presenters: Melody Moody-Thortis, Bike Walk Mississippi,
Kristen Brookshire, Pedestrian & Bicycle Information Center
Ballroom B

The Bicycle Friendly Community program was developed by the League of American Bicyclists and serves as a tool for communities across the U.S. to assess and apply for "Bicycle Friendly Community" certification. Supported by the League, Bike Walk Mississippi successfully launched the Bicycle Friendly Mississippi campaign and has since worked with dozens of communities in Mississippi to develop action plans to increase their bicycle friendly status. The Walk Friendly Communities program was developed to encourage towns and cities across the U.S. to establish or recommit to a high priority for supporting safer walking environments. Specifically, this program recognizes communities that are working to improve a wide range of conditions related to walking, including safety, mobility, access, and comfort.

Walkability for Everyone:

Adding voices to the conversation

Panelists: Cynthia Thompson, Girl Trek MS,
Ivory Craig, AARP MS, Naomi Doerner, Assembly
Ballroom C

Moderated by national equity strategist, Naomi Doerner, participants will learn ways they can engage people from all "walks" of life into the walking movement. This panel session will feature success stories & practical examples from the Mississippi Chapter of *GirlTrek*, the national movement responsible for getting over 65,000 black women walking across the nation, stories from Mississippi AARP & its efforts to engage seniors in advocating for walkability & livability improvements. Participants will learn tools & programs that can recruit & engage women, seniors and communities of color into the walking movement.

Complete Streets Case Studies

Panelists: Wade Walker, Alta Planning, Brent Buice,
Georgia Bikes, Darren Flusche, Toole Design Group
Ballroom C

Complete Streets is a national design concept to plan, design, build and operate roadways that safely meet the needs of all types of users including pedestrians, bicyclists, those with accessibility needs, transit users and motorists. In this session, experts from the worlds of planning, engineering and advocacy will all come together to collectively share success stories and case studies from across the U.S. Panelists will share ideas on how to plan and implement cost efficient Complete Streets projects in ways that benefit all users of the roads in Mississippi. By looking at national best practices and techniques for implementation, this session will explore ways that Complete Streets can be accomplished by considering the needs of the users, traffic counts, types of thoroughfare and by utilizing thoughtful and alternative design options.

Law Enforcement and Bicycle Safety in Mississippi Sponsored by the City of Biloxi Police Department

Panelists:

Charlie Thomas, Bike Law Louisiana
Officer Rob Simmons, Chattanooga Police Department
Trooper Chase Elkins, Mississippi Highway Patrol
Ballroom C

This panel, moderated by Bike Walk Mississippi will give special attention to the need to increased bicycle safety and the statewide "Change Lanes to Pass" Bicycle Safety Campaign launched in 2016. In order to properly address the needs of vulnerable users of Mississippi roads, especially those specifically concerning bicyclists, this special session aims to facilitate a powerful discussion with law enforcement officers, legal specialists and advocates surrounding the need to increase the dialog, relationships and enforcement surrounding bicycle use on Mississippi's roads. Panelists represent different levels of the law when it comes to the interaction of bicycles and vehicle use in Mississippi including Officer Rob Simmons of the Chattanooga Police Department, Charlie Thomas of Bike Law Louisiana and Trooper Chase Elkins of the Mississippi Highway Patrol. This panel will be followed by a participant Q&A session.

School Zone Safety & Accessibility: Planning & Assessment Tools

Panelists:

Cookie Leffler, Safe Routes to Schools Coordinator, MDOT
Chigozie Udemgba, Safe Routes Manager, MS Department of Health
Travis Wampler, Civil Engineering, MDOT
Ballroom B

This interactive session will resonate with planners, engineers, advocates, school personnel and anyone who has ever wanted to live in place where they can easily walk from point A to point B. In Mississippi, "Getting to B" is much easier said than done. This session will focus on Walk Audits as a tool to assess the walkability and livability of a neighborhood, school zone or other 1/2 mile - 1 mile radius. This session will include two parts. The first part will focus on classroom instruction and discussion around healthy design principles, gathering stakeholders, education and practical planning for policy, design and advocacy interventions related to walkability. The second part will include an interactive walk around the Biloxi Civic Center to give attendees the opportunity to participate hands-on in a walkability audit. This audit will focus on the Civic Center as a "school" and will include assessments of infrastructure failures, underutilized community assets, barriers to walkability and low-hanging fruit. Finally, participants will gather together to discuss what they found on their walk and collectively create solutions for increased walkability. This is a unique session with tangible benefits that each participant will be able to apply in their community.

Summit Ends, Mobile Sessions Begin

Traffic Skills 101 (Pre-registered participants only)

**League Certified Instructor, Jim Foster
Ballroom C**

Following the Summit, those who have pre-registered will participate in the "on-bike" training through Traffic Skills 101. Traffic Skills/TS101, developed by the League of American Bicyclists is the premiere bicycle skills training course in the country and serves as a pre-requisite to becoming a League Certified Instructor.

Thank you to our wonderful instructors, Jim Foster and Jeff Loftus!

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS:



Barbara McCann is the Director of the Office of Safety, Energy and Environment at the US Department of Transportation. Her work at the U.S. Department of Transportation has also been instrumental in supporting the U.S. Secretary of Transportation's "Mayor's Challenge for Safer People, Safer Streets" of which Mississippi Mayors have the 2nd highest national participation. Mrs. McCann is the founding Executive Director of the National Complete Streets Coalition, and the author of "Completing Our Streets". Prior to her current position, she served as Director of Information and Research at Smart Growth America where she authored the report Measuring the Health Effects of Sprawl, the first research report documenting the relationship between sprawl and obesity.

Mayor John Robert Smith is a strong advocate of affordable and seamless transportation coupled with urban and rural growth, John Robert Smith is co-chair of Transportation for America and policy advisor for Smart Growth America. He served for 16 years as mayor of Meridian, Mississippi, whose Union Station, his signature project, is recognized as one of the best multi-modal transportation centers in the country. Having served as a mayor of a city with a wealth of late 19th century buildings, he worked with developers to restore those buildings, and is a strong advocate for historic preservation, believing that each community must respect its past and play to its strengths in order to develop and maintain a strong community identity. He helped define Meridian's role as a cultural center with the restoration of the Grand Opera House of Mississippi, the creation of the Riley Education and Performing Arts Center, and the selection of Meridian as the site for the Mississippi Arts and Entertainment Center. Additionally, he secured \$17 million in HUD HOPE VI funding to develop low- and middle-income housing. how elected officials in Mississippi can utilize federal funds for biking, walking and livability and policy choices including increased performance measures and complete Streets.



Caron Whitaker serves as the Vice President for Government Relations at the League of American Bicyclists. Caron's work has been instrumental in her work to advocate for increased local control in the Transportation Alternatives Program through the successful passage of the Cardin-Cochran amendment as part of the Federal Transportation Bill, MAP-21 as well as her continued work on behalf of the League of American Bicyclists to advocate to maintain federal bicycle and pedestrian funding for local communities as part of the 2016's FAST Act Transportation Bill. Prior to joining the League of American Bicyclists in 2012, Caron served as the Campaign Director for America Bikes where she coordinated and implemented America Bikes federal policy agenda. Before that, she worked for the National Wildlife Federation on smart growth, international policy, and community engagement. In addition, Caron served as a Community Land Use Planner for the State of North Carolina Division of Coastal Management, providing technical assistance to local governments and staffing a stakeholders' council responsible for revising state planning regulations. She has a Masters in Environmental Management for Duke University, Nicolas School of the Environment and a Bachelors of Arts from Williams College.



Darren Flusche is a Senior Planner at Toole Design Group (TDG) and is one of the country's leading experts on local, state and federal funding programs and policy that support active transportation projects. With a decade of experience in the transportation and policy fields, Darren has authored reports and other resources on topics ranging from climate action plans to the economic impacts of bicycling and walking investments. Prior to joining TDG, Darren served as Policy Director at the League of American Bicyclists, where he led the Advocacy Advance Program and consulted on the Bicycle Friendly America Program. While at the League, Darren co-led the Advocacy Advance program that helps build public support and technical knowledge - accelerating the growth of bicycling and walking projects across the U.S. Darren's work helped local campaigns secure nearly \$1.3 billion in local, state, and federal funds for bicycling and walking infrastructure between 2011 and 2015. At TDG, Darren works on state and local bicycle and pedestrian plans, federal research projects, national design guidance, practitioner surveys, and active tourism strategies.

G. Wade Walker, P.E. is a Principal and Complete Streets Regional Leader for Alta Planning + Design, East Coast Region. Key projects Wade has been involved in include Virginia's Route 50 Traffic Calming Plan in Virginia; Plan Baton Rouge Downtown Revitalization Strategy; and the Scenic and Historic A1A Master Plan in St. Johns County, Florida. Recent implementation projects include the El Paso Avenue Complete Street Design in Russellville, Arkansas; the HampLine Cycle Track Design and the Wolf River Greenway Design in Memphis, Tennessee; and Protected Bike Lanes Design for Broad Street in Chattanooga, TN. In Mississippi, he has led the transportation and mobility elements of recent comprehensive plans for Brandon, Oxford, and Starkville, and has led transportation planning efforts in Hattiesburg and Hernando. He is a registered professional engineer in six states, including Mississippi, and a member of the Congress for New Urbanism.



Melody Moody Thortis serves as the Executive Director of Bike Walk Mississippi, the only statewide bicycle and pedestrian advocacy nonprofit in Mississippi. Melody holds a Master's degree in International Development and has worked in the nonprofit sector in Mississippi for over 16 years specializing in fundraising, advocacy and nonprofit management. Melody was recognized as an "Innovator using bicycles to change the world" by *Bicycling Magazine* and under her leadership, Bike Walk Mississippi received the coveted "Advocacy Organization of the Year" award from the *Alliance of Biking and Walking* in 2013. She served as a co-founder of the Jackson Bike Advocates, Spokes Community Bike Shop and recently completed a national fellowship with the primary walking advocacy organization, *America Walks*. During her tenure, Mississippi has increased 15 spots as a nationally ranked Bicycle Friendly State, moving from a ranking of #47 to its currently ranking as #32 by the League of American Bicyclists. Find out more about the statewide efforts of Bike Walk Mississippi at www.bikewalkmississippi.org

Stephanie Planchich has served as the Public Involvement and Title VI Coordinator at the Gulf Regional Planning Commission for the past five years. During this time, she helped lead efforts to increase public input during "MULTIPLAN 2040", Mississippi's Statewide Long-Range Transportation plan and in doing so, helped to ensure that traditionally underserved populations were present in the decision-making process. Planchich has spent over 12 years working to advocate for increased equitable access and currently works to ensure that the Mississippi Gulf Coast Metropolitan Planning Organization is in compliance with these issues. Her passion for safety and education can be seen in the creation and implementation of the regional safety program "Get To B", which includes a safety series of professional development workshops that demonstrate best practices and successful development trends. Planchich regularly partners with elected officials, planning staff and community members to increase public participation in community development efforts and is currently working with other organizations along the coast to implement additional equity focused participatory sessions.



Cynthia Thompson is the City Captain of GirlTrek for Jackson, Mississippi. GirlTrek is a groundbreaking grassroots, national nonprofit organization based in Washington, D.C that inspires and supports African American women and girls to live their healthiest, most fulfilled lives - simply by walking. GirlTrek aims to organize one million Black women and girls to walk for healing by 2018. Following the leaders of our past, GirlTrek is an army of street soldiers who walk to heal our bodies, inspire our daughters, and reclaim the streets of our neighborhoods. Cynthia is excited about empowering others to have success in expanding the joy that grows for each woman who develops the habit of walking as part of their self-care. Cynthia believes in the power of women to have a major, positive impact on their lives, their families, and their communities.



Kristen Brookshire is a Research Associate at the University of North Carolina Highway Safety Research Center in Chapel Hill, NC, where she contributes to a variety of projects and programs focused on bicycle and pedestrian safety and mobility. Kristen has been involved in the development guides and reports for a variety of audiences, including a primer for state highway transportation officials and an evaluation of child pedestrian safety curriculum. She has also worked directly with communities to improve pedestrian safety, including an ongoing project to develop a model Safe Routes to School program in Wake County, NC. Through the Federal Highway Administration-sponsored Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center and the Walk Friendly Communities program, Kristen continues to develop resources and provide technical assistance on planning, designing, and developing programs that support a safe and comfortable environment for walking and bicycling. Kristen holds a master's degree in city and regional planning from UNC-Chapel Hill and a bachelor's degree from UC San Diego. She is a member of the American Planning Association and a co-chair of the Transportation Research Board's Joint Subcommittee on Pedestrian and Bicycle University Education.

Brent Buice is the Executive Director of Georgia Bikes, a nonprofit organization working to promote and improve bicycling for transportation and recreation throughout Georgia. Prior to working with Georgia Bikes, Brent served as the Business Manager for the Franklin College of Arts & Sciences at the University of Georgia. He became interested in active transportation issues as a Board member with the Athens-Clarke County advocacy organization, BikeAthens, from 2003-2010. Brent is a certified safe cycling instructor, and he holds a Masters in Nonprofit Organization Management from the University of Georgia. He lives car-free in Savannah's historic district and enjoys taking his daughter Lily to city parks and playgrounds by bicycle.



Cookie Leffler is the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) coordinator for the state of Mississippi and serves as the safety director for the Mississippi Department of Transportation. As SRTS coordinator, Leffler works with communities around the state to plan for and implement SRTS programs in an effort to increase active transportation to school and create safer and more walkable and bikeable communities. Prior to joining MDOT, Leffler served as director of grants and programs for the Mississippi Arts Commission and as a special agent for the U. S. Department of Transportation's Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

Brighid O'Keane has over 12 years of experience in fundraising, operations, and organizational development for both non-profit and for-profit corporations. Most recently, she served as the Interim Executive Director for the Alliance for Biking & Walking, North America's coalition of state and local bicycle and pedestrian advocacy organizations. During her tenure at the Alliance, she also served as Advocacy Director, Deputy Director, and Program Manager of the Advocacy Advance, a partnership with the League of American Bicyclists.



Chigozie Udemgba is the Safe Routes Program Manager and Injury and Violence Prevention State Coordinator at the Office of Preventive Health for the Mississippi Department of Health. Chigozie is also the director of Mississippi's Statewide Walk to School Day efforts and the leader of STARS, a team of teachers throughout the state that assist with bicycle and pedestrian safety programs including bike rodeos, classroom curriculum and on-site trainings. Chigozie is a native of Natchez, MS and completed his Master's degree in Health Promotion and bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Mississippi.

Jessica G. King is a native of New Bern, NC. She is a 2001 graduate of North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro, NC earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering. In December of 2002, Jessica earned a Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering with a concentration in Transportation Studies from the University of Tennessee - Knoxville. Jessica has been working for the Federal Highway Administration since April of 2003 in the Kentucky Division as a trainee in the agency's Professional Development Program. In 2005, Jessica became the Safety Engineer for the Tennessee Division which is where she currently works. Jessica's responsibilities include the Tennessee Strategic Highway Safety Plan and the Highway Safety Improvement Program where she focuses on improving crash data, reducing roadway departures, improving intersection safety, improving work zone safety and improving bicycle and pedestrian safety. Over the past two years, Jessica has been a member of the Every Day Counts Road Diets Team where she has been tasked with nationwide assistance of implementing road diets.





Naomi Doerner is the Principal Consultant at Assembly, where she works with active transportation partners across the country to develop content, programs and advocacy trainings for community leaders. Naomi has worked for over a decade to advance safe, accessible, and affordable transportation options in communities and to develop meaningful participation and leadership opportunities in planning processes for youth, women and people of color. Before leading the efforts at Assembly, Naomi served as Executive Director of Bike Easy, Greater New Orleans' bicycle advocacy organization, as Program Manager for KidsWalk Coalition and as the Advocacy and Membership Manager at the Alliance for Biking and Walking.

Ivory L. Craig has served as the Associate State Director for Community Outreach since 2002. Ivory is responsible for coordinating our Community Service projects, establishing and maintaining partnerships, assisting chapters, and for recruiting, retaining, training, and managing volunteers. She also assists with Advocacy Outreach. Ivory's work in communities includes Active Living and Safety. She also worked with a chapter to install Historical Markers along a upcoming walking trail. Ivory has a B.S. in Psychology from Jackson State University, and a M.Ed. in Guidance and Counseling from Delta State University. Ivory is a Certified Aging in Place Specialist (CAPS). She also serves on the Advisory Council with Atom Alliance, the State Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) Program.



Officer Rob Simmons has been with the Chattanooga Police Department for 13 years, assigned to Bike Patrol for the past 9 years. He is also a IPMBA Certified Police Cyclist Instructor for his department. Officer Simmons helped develop Chattanooga's innovative "BSMART" handlebar-mounted enforcement device which aids in the enforcement of the 3 foot law by measuring the distance of passing vehicles with ultrasonic waves will be one of the panelists at the Summit on August 11th. Officer Simmons also implemented and coordinated the Chattanooga Safe Bicycling Initiative through the Chattanooga Police Department, which has successfully resulted in a dramatic decrease in vehicle/bike crashes citywide in just one year. BSMART is now being sold to law enforcement agencies across the world.

Don Locke is a founding member and Trail Manager of the Tanglefoot Trail, Mississippi's longest Rails-to-Trails conversion that takes cyclists to New Albany, Ecrú, Pontotoc, Algoma, New Houka and Houston, Mississippi. After a several-year process of forming the Three Rivers Planning & Development District, purchasing the trail, and working with the Mississippi Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Association, among others, construction on the Tanglefoot began in 2012 and now boasts whistle stops every 10 miles, with restrooms, picnic areas and security regularly patrols in each county and/or city.



Charlie Thomas is a New Orleans native, bicyclist, and attorney. He serves as the Mississippi delegate for Bike Law, which is a national organization of attorneys who advocate for safer cycling as well as represent people who have bicycling-related legal issues. Charlie is a Certified Instructor with the League of American Bicyclists and also serves as vice-president of the board of Bike Easy in New Orleans as well as serving in a leadership role in the Bicycle Litigation Group of the American Association for Justice. Charlie holds a B.B.A. from Texas A&M University and a J.D./B.C.L. from LSU. Before law school, Charlie raced in the USA Cycling Pro/1/2 classification and now rides for recreation as well as transportation.

Travis Wampler serves the District One Local Public Agency (LPA) Coordinator for the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT). As LPA Coordinator, Travis provides technical guidance to LPAs, finding solutions to obstacles that arise during project development. He has assisted 30 LPAs with over 90 projects, including 12 Safe Routes to School (SRTS) projects, and 22 transportation enhancement projects. The most notable of these ped/bike projects are the Tanglefoot Trail, Tupelo's Elvis Presley Birthplace Trail and the Columbus Riverwalk. Travis completed his Bachelor's degree in civil engineering and his Master's degree in secondary math education from Mississippi State University. He resides in Tupelo with his wife Kerri and 10-year old twins, Hailey and Harrison.



JOIN US!

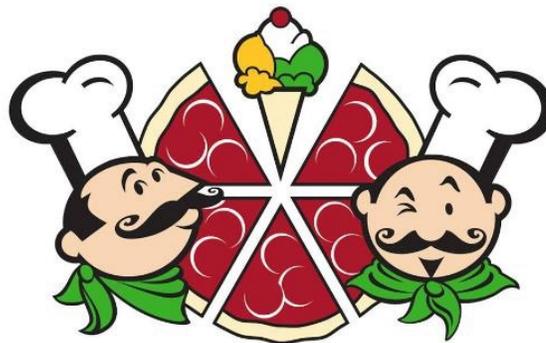
Bike Walk Summit Reception

Wednesday, August 10th

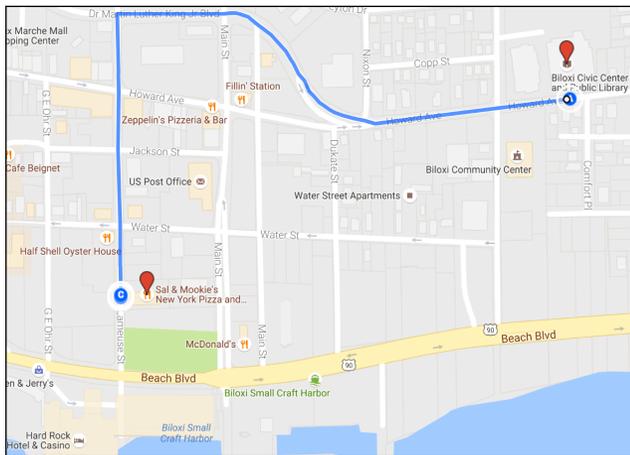
5:30 - 7:30pm

Sal & Mookies Pizza

& Ice Cream Parlor



Sal & Mookie's®
BILOXI



Only a 3 minute drive from the Biloxi Civic Center, Sal & Mookies is a coast favorite for New York style pizza & ice cream. Join us for a buffet of salad, pizza and two complimentary Summit tickets that can be used for a free drink or ice cream! Come enjoy great food and networking opportunities from 5:30 - 7:30pm on Wednesday, August 10th.

From the Biloxi Civic Center (Howard Avenue, Biloxi, MS 39530): Head west on Howard Ave toward Bellman Street, continue onto Dr Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, then turn left onto Lameuse Street. Sal & Mookies will be on the left. (110 Lameuse Street, Biloxi, MS 39530)



BIKE WALK MISSISSIPPI
www.BikeWalkMississippi.org

Sponsored by:
**Bike Walk Mississippi &
Heritage Trails Partnership**



Heritage Trails Partnership
of the Mississippi Gulf Coast

9AM

10AM

11AM

12PM

1PM

2PM

3PM

4PM

5PM

TUESDAY 8/9

BALLROOM A

BALLROOM B

BALLROOM C

DAY-OF
REGISTRATION
OPENS
LUNCH SERVED

OPENING
PLENARY:

Mayor John
Robert Smith
Transportation
for America

Ballroom A

Accommodating Pedestrians:
Work Zones & Road Diets

It takes a Village:
From buy-in to engagement

Elected Officials Roundtable
Funding, Policy & Economic Development

Creating Bicycle &
Pedestrian Plans

Meeting your match:
Leveraging Funds for projects

WEDNESDAY 8/10

BALLROOM A

BALLROOM B

BALLROOM C

Bridging the Gap:
Access, Equity and Opportunity:
Ballroom A

LUNCH
Cycle Kids
Ballroom B

KEYNOTE:

Barbara
McCann
U.S DOT

Ballroom A

Bicycles as a tool for
Economic Development
Rural & Low-Density

Innovative Engineering
& Design Strategies

Walkability for Everyone:
Adding voices to
the Conversation

Navigating the FAST Act:
Funding Bike/Ped Projects

Bike Friendly & Walk
Friendly Communities

Complete Street
Case Studies

THURSDAY 8/11

BALLROOM B

BALLROOM C

School Zone Safety & Accessibility:
Planning & Assessment Tools
Ballroom B

Law Enforcement &
Bicycle Safety
Ballroom C

Traffic Skills 101
On-bike Training

Thank you for coming!



Heritage Trails Partnership
of the Mississippi Gulf Coast



BIKE WALK
MISSISSIPPI



Gulf Regional
Planning Commission