At the Intersection of Disability Justice, Pedestrian Safety, and Health

Yochai Eisenberg, Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois Chicago
Judy Shanley, Easterseals
Anna Zivarts, Disability Rights Washington
Brent Chamberlain, Landscape Architecture & Environmental Planning, Utah State University
Keith Christensen, Landscape Architecture & Environmental Planning, Utah State University
Minoo Abrishami, Utah State University
Jon E. Froehlich, Allen School of Computer Science, University of Washington

Cities are interested in creating more livable, vibrant communities where all people feel safe walking and wheeling. However, current planning, policies, and funding have led to a patchwork of pedestrian infrastructure accessibility, hindering the opportunity to walk and wheel safely. Panelists will address the reasons behind this inaccessibility and explain the urgency to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). New approaches will be discussed to integrate the objectives of the ADA with those of public health, safety, and environmental planning. An interactive activity will showcase open-data tools for mapping, analyzing, and visualizing the conditions of pedestrian and transit infrastructure. Attendees will create an action plan for using these tools to integrate multiple community objectives and improve walking and wheeling for all people.

Sponsored by Standing Committee on Accessible Transportation and Mobility; Standing Committee on Transportation and Public Health; and Standing Committee on Pedestrians

Date/time: Sunday, January 7, 2024, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM, Convention Center
Website: https://annualmeeting.mytrb.org/Workshop/Details/20769

Introduction

Pedestrian Path Accessibility, Regulations, Enforcement – The Climate Is Right!!!
Judy L. Shanley, National Director, Transportation & Mobility, Easterseals Director
Yochai Eisenberg, Assistant Professor, UIC, Department of Disability and Human Development

This workshop introduction will summarize current policy, coordination and litigation landscapes and how they set the context for disability, safety and health.

Section 1: Integrating Accessibility Planning With Health Planning, Safety Planning, Environmental Planning

The Link Between Non-Driving, Safety, and Health
Anna Zivarts, Director, Disability Mobility Initiative Disability Rights Washington

This presentation will share stories of non-drivers and will explore the questions of who are non-drivers? Demographics

and population measurements? How does being a non-driver impact access to community, public health? Why is pedestrian access so critical to non-drivers?

Inclusive, Accessible Design Can Contributes to Culture of Sustainability
Brent Chamberlain, Associate Professor, Landscape Architecture & Environmental Planning, USU

This presentation will explore the relationship between accessible design and land development, infrastructural economic realities, responsible and ethical planning, and climate goals and accessible culture.

Title: Link to Community Participation and Employment Outcomes
Keith Christensen, Professor, Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning, Utah State University

This presentation will highlight recent work linking community mobility access with key outcomes, such as community participation and employment.

Section 2: Interactive Tools for Planning Accessible Cities

AI + Community Contributions to Map and Assess Transit Accessibility
Jon E. Froehlich, Proefessor, Allen School of Computer Science, University of Washington

While modern navigation applications provide a suite of information about transit options and pedestrian routes, they lack data about accessibility. In this workshop section, we will highlight our work in Universal Pathways in combining artificial intelligence with remote crowdsourcing to scalably collect information on transit and sidewalk accessibility. We will interactively use one tool, called Project Sidewalk (https://projectsidewalk.org), and discuss tradeoffs in data quality, speed, cost, and the role of AI.

Visualization Tools for Community Planners
Minoo Abrishami, PhD Student, Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning, USU

This presentation will share approaches for community planners to visualize pedestrian accessibility data