



NEWS

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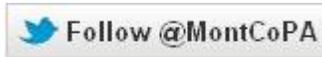
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Montco Invites Public to Hear National Experts Speak on Walkability

Norristown, PA (October 20, 2015) – Montgomery County invites the public to a free seminar to hear all about the county’s initiative to make communities safer and more attractive for walking. *Walk Montco* will take place on Monday, October 26, 2015 from 10:00am to 12:30pm at The Ambler Theater, 108 East Butler Avenue, Ambler. National experts will headline the event by speaking on how walkability is being successfully achieved in communities across the country.

The two nationally recognized speakers are Scott Bricker, Executive Director, America Walks, and Chris Zimmerman, Vice President for Economic Development, Smart Growth America. Scott has been instrumental in advocating for a new and very invigorated national walking movement and has over 18 years of experience helping communities implement active transportation programs. He co-developed the national *Every Body Walk!* collaborative and co-chaired the first National Walking Summit. Chris, a former county board member from Arlington County, Virginia, has been an advocate for traffic calming and neighborhood conservation, transportation infrastructure, and public safety for more than 20 years.

“As a physician I know just how important it is to get regular exercise,” said Val Arkoosh, MD, MPH, Interim Medical Director of the Montgomery County Health Department and Vice Chair of the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners, who will be featured at this event. “Making communities more walkable enhances the quality of life for all residents and here in Montgomery County we are committed to creating connected communities that promote healthy lifestyles.”

The county will also give a presentation on *Walk Montco*, which will highlight the successes and challenges in making Montgomery County a more walkable place and will offer strategic ways to

improve walkability in communities. Participants will have an opportunity to share their thoughts on the *Walk Montco* initiative.

Partnering agencies for this event include the Montgomery County Planning Commission (MCPC), the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC), the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA), the Greater Valley Forge Transportation Management Association (GVFTMA), and The Partnership TMA (PTMA).

Information and online registration are available at www.montcopa.org/WalkMontco. Check-in and a continental breakfast will begin at 9:00am. This event is AICP CM Requested for professional planners.

Walk Montco is being provided as part of [Planning Smarter Montco 2015](#) a Montgomery County initiative offering planning education and outreach, and corresponds to the Connected Communities theme in *Montco 2040: A Shared Vision*, Montgomery County's new, nationally awarded comprehensive plan. This plan is available at www.montcopa.org/Montco2040. For more information, please contact Anne Leavitt-Gruberger at 610-278-3727 or via email at aleavitt@montcopa.org.