



## 2022 NC BikeWalk Transportation Summit Preliminary Agenda

(October 27–29 with Pre-Summit Webinar and Workshops)

**Summit Biographies can be found following the Agenda**

### Pre-Summit Webinar (Virtual)

#### MONDAY, 10/24

4pm–5:30 pm *Strategies for Expanding Human-Powered Transportation in our Communities:*

##### *A National Perspective*

Panelists will provide a national perspective on how citizens have successfully created more fully walkable, bikeable, accessible communities.

**Mike McGinn**, Executive Director of America Walks

**Bill Nesper**, Executive Director of League of American Bicyclists

**Rebecca Delphia**, Livable Communities, National AARP

**Peter Johnke**, Chair of National Council on Independent Living (NCIL) National Transportation committee

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### Pre-Summit Workshops (In-Person)

#### THURSDAY, 10/27

8am–6 pm *Traffic Bicycling for Transportation Professionals* Instructor: Steven Goodridge

A day-long in-depth [transportation bicycling workshop](#) highly recommended for transportation professionals and law enforcement. There will be both classroom portions and on-bike portions.

*Steven Goodridge is a board member with BikeWalk NC who has been involved in bicycling education and*

*advocacy in North Carolina for over 20 years. Steven developed the Bicyclist Safety and Law Enforcement in-service training program used by multiple police departments across the state, and teaches the Traffic Bicycling for Transportation Professionals course at the annual NC Bike/Walk Summit. Steven is a certified League Cycling Instructor through the League of American Bicyclists and a certified Cycling Savvy Instructor through the American Bicycling Education Association.*

- 1:30–3:00 pm **Friendly Driver Program** Instructor: Trish Farnham, BikeWalk NC Programs Manager, LCI
- This is a data driven curriculum designed to educate motorists on driving practices that impact people who bike and pedestrians. The session includes an overview and discussion of how to avoid common crashes and reviews how to most appropriately navigate vulnerable road users infrastructure, such as bike lanes, side use paths and crosswalks.
- 3:15–4:45 pm **Building Community Engagement with a Walk: Walk Audit** Leader: TBA, and Dionne Evans, Greenville Multi-Modal Transportation Commission
- Attendees will be able to participate in both the NC Friendly Driver Program Session and the Walk Audit. A Walk Audit is an active workshop. Participants will "observe and evaluate" the walkability of a nearby location and document the findings.
- 5:00–8:00 pm **Kickoff social at Pitt Street Brewery, dinner on your own**
- Pitt Street Brewery has generously offered to donate a percentage of their profits to BikeWalk NC. We will have Transportation Trivia for prizes! There will be a shuttle available to take attendees to and from the brewery!

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## SUMMIT AGENDA

(note, this agenda is not final, there may be a few tweaks still to come)

### FRIDAY, 10/28

*Activity for those interested: In-person yoga class with Liza Hardy-Braz, with a focus on poses that are beneficial to bicyclists, walkers, and runners.*

- 8:30-9:00 am **Welcoming Remarks**
- Greenville Mayor **PJ Connelly**
  - Pitt County Sheriff **Paula Dance**
  - BikeWalk NC Board President **Ted Silver**
  - BikeWalk NC Director **Terry Lansdell**
- 9:15-10:00 am **Opening Keynote: Don't Worry About Missing Out**
- Speaker: **David Zipper**

Flashy, expensive transportation technologies like Hyperloop and autonomous vehicles seldom live up to their hype. Why, then, do so many public officials keep focusing on them — and how can we shift attention toward the ‘mundane’ mobility solutions we actually need?

*David Zipper is a contributing writer at Bloomberg CityLab, and has also been published in The Washington Post, The Atlantic, and Slate. David focuses on topics including the future of autonomous vehicles, America’s struggle to reduce roadway deaths, and the emerging uses of transportation data*

**10:30-11:15 am Session: The State of the State: Active Transportation and Traffic Safety State Policy Updates**

Speakers:

**Julie White**, Deputy Secretary for Multimodal Transportation, NCDOT

**Mark Ezzell**, Director, North Carolina Governor's Highway Safety Program

**11:15 -1:45 pm: Lunch and Related Programming**

**Lunch Keynote: Addressing the Hypocrisy of Distracted Driving: A Discussion of Effective Strategies**

**12:00–1:00 pm Speaker: Joel D. Feldman**

Distracted driving continues to persist, despite efforts to decrease this dangerous driving behavior. “Raising awareness about the dangers of distracted driving” has not worked. Everyone who is reading this session description, despite working in traffic safety professions, has likely driven distracted. The distracted driving epidemic is a story of hypocrisy. Reducing distracted driving will require addressing that hypocrisy and using novel educational approaches. This session will present findings from focus groups, ongoing research and the experience of speaking with many thousands of teens about distracted driving, and will discuss most effective strategies for making distracted driving socially unacceptable. *Joel D. Feldman lost his daughter Casey in a crash caused by a distracted driver in 2009. Following her death, Mr. Feldman created EndDD.org, “End Distracted Driving,” and has developed science-based distracted driving presentations, as well as other resources, used by businesses, schools and community groups in educational initiatives.*

**1:00–1:45 pm Option: Active Session: We’re No Longer Number 1, Come See Why: A Walking Tour with Greenville’s Award-Winning Traffic Safety Task Force**

Facilitators: **Ellen Walston**, ECU Health and **Sgt. Mike Ross**, Greenville Police Department

The award-winning Greenville Traffic Safety Task Force has received well-deserved national recognition for its collaborative, focused commitment to improve traffic safety in the Greenville region. Task Force representatives Ellen Walston and Sergeant Mike Ross will host a walking conversation to a nearby traffic safety installation, discussing the Task Force’s work and approach. The tour will leave from ECHI, occur during the extended lunch break and walk to nearby safety installations, returning in time for the Summit’s 2pm session.

**1:00–1:45 pm Option: “Let’s Do Lunch” Table Talks**

**Safe Routes to School Discussion table**, with NCDOT’s SRTS staff on hand to answer questions. *Other discussion topics may be added.* **Ed Johnson** (NCDOT) and **Sarah O’Brien** (UNC-HSRC)

The Summit is all about collaboration and there is a lot of wisdom and experience among the Summit’s

attendees. Various groups related to the Summit's content will host lunchtime tables to talk with others who are interested in the particular topic. Table Talk content to be announced.

**2:00-3:00 pm**    **Session: Anatomy of a Crash**

What really happens in the aftermath of a crash? This session will dig deep into what occurs when a vulnerable road user is hit by a motor vehicle operator. The experience will be seen through the lens of a crash survivor and a motorist, as well as the health care and legal perspectives.

Panelists:

**Steven Hardy-Braz**, Psychologist, Safe Roads advocate

**Tasha Hairston-Springs**, Owner, Texting is Risky Business

**Ann Groninger**, BikeLaw NC

**Dr. Nathaniel Poulin**, Dept. of Surgery, ECU

**3:30-4:30 pm**    **Session: Small Cities, Big Impact: What Smaller Cities can Teach Us about Pedestrian Access**

A panel of planning staff from smaller cities in NC discuss how their municipalities have overcome their design challenges, built upon their assets and leveraged their circumstances to improve pedestrian access in their communities. Each municipality on the panel has been recognized for its commitment to promoting walkability and pedestrian access.

Panelists:

Mt. Airy: **Darren Lewis**

Leland: **Barnes Sutton**

Archdale: **Jason Miller**

Elizabeth City: **Kellen Long and Karan Patel**

## **SATURDAY, 10/29**

*Informal Activity for those interested: Informal Walk/Run/Roll. Route and start time TBA.*

**8:30-9:15 am**    **Option: Active Session: Walk with a Doc** Facilitator: **Dr. Aundrea Oliver**

Dr. Aundrea Oliver of ECU Health and Brody School of Medicine will lead a [Walk with a Doc](#) session and facilitate a discussion with participants about the benefits of walking and how the built environment results in inequitable access to this basic activity.

**9:30-9:45 am**    **Welcome: Dr. Shannon Longshore**, Dept. of Surgery, Brody School of Medicine, ECU

**9:45-10:30 am**    **Saturday Opening Keynote: The Daily Act of Loving Where You Live**

Speaker: **Melody Warnick**

Big city or small town, if you want your community to thrive, you have to help the people who live there to fall in love with it. Melody Warnick, author of *This Is Where You Belong: Finding Home Wherever*



*You Are* and *If You Could Live Anywhere*, will explain the science behind the concept of place attachment—and why improving active transportation options and complete streets help residents want to put down roots. Using data and stories from North Carolina and beyond, Warnick will share a few simple strategies that can boost place attachment, well-being, economic growth, and talent attraction and retention in your town.

*Melody Warnick is the author of This Is Where You Belong: Finding Home Wherever You Are, an exploration of the ground-breaking concept of place attachment and a practical guide to loving the place where you live.*

**10:45-11:45 am Session: Where the Trail Meets the Road: Using Greenways and Multi-Use Paths to Advance Multi-Modal Connectivity**

NC has declared 2023 the Year of the Trail. Greenways and multi-use paths are increasingly popular recreational and public health resources, but don't always create viable, multi-modal commuting alternatives in local communities. This session will feature examples of these paths facilitating true commuter connectivity, discuss design and safety considerations, and share insights gained and lessons learned through their development.

Panelists:

**City of Raleigh:** Fontaine Burruss

**City of Wilmington:** Abby Lorenzo

**East Coast Greenway:** Andrew Meeker

**12:00 -12:45 pm Lunchtime Keynote: The Power of Two**

Speaker: *GirlTrek's Faye Paige Edwards*

The GirlTrek Movement has grown from two individuals to a movement empowering more than a million Black Women nationwide. GirlTrek is the Harriet Tubmans of their families and communities, walking to end inactivity, isolation, and injustice. GirlTrek recognizes safe pedestrian access as intrinsic to its mission and as such, works to improve the walkability and built environments of 50 high-need communities. As a member of GirlTrek's national organizing team, Faye Paige Edwards will discuss GirlTrek's best practices for advancing social change through local community engagement strategies.

**1:00-1:15 pm Session: Overview of Traffic Gardens**

Orientation to the Traffic Garden concept.

**1:15-1:30 pm Closing remarks**

We will end the program at the Heart Institute before heading over to the dedication of the Hillcrest Park Traffic Garden.

**Travel to Winterville for Dedication of the Hillcrest Park Traffic Garden**

Hillcrest Park, Winterville NC at 2418 Cameron Street in Winterville, NC

(about a 15 minute drive from ECHI)

2:15 pm

***Option: Active Session: Dedication of the Hillcrest Park Traffic Garden***

Speakers: Winterville Mayor **Ricky Hines** and BikeWalk NC Executive Director **Terry Lansdell**

In partnership with [BikeWalk NC](#), [AARP](#) and other community organizations, the Town of Winterville will dedicate the Hillcrest Park Traffic Garden, the first of its kind in eastern North Carolina. The Traffic Garden will provide a dedicated space for people to practice bicycling and pedestrian safety skills in a protected environment. Summit participants are encouraged to attend the dedication at the close of the Summit.

2:45 pm

***Option: Activity for Those Who are Interested: Post-Summit Ride***

Following the Traffic Garden dedication, local cyclists will host an hour or hour and a half bike ride in the outskirts of Greenville, followed by fellowship at Local Oak Brewery in Winterville.

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## BIOGRAPHIES

### Keynotes



**David Zipper (Friday AM Keynote)**

David Zipper is a Visiting Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School's Taubman Center for State and Local Government, where he examines the interplay between urban policy and new mobility technologies. David's perspective on urban development is rooted in his experience working within city hall as well as being a venture capitalist, policy researcher, and startup advocate. He has consulted with numerous startups and public officials about regulatory strategy.

A Contributing Writer at Bloomberg CityLab, David's writing about urban innovation has also been published in The Washington Post, The Atlantic, and Slate. His 2018 article in Fast Company was the first to apply the "walled garden" framework to urban mobility. David focuses on topics including the future of autonomous vehicles, America's struggle to reduce roadway deaths, and the emerging uses of transportation data.

From 2013 to 2017 David was the Managing Director for Smart Cities and Mobility at 1776, a global entrepreneurial hub with over 1,300 member startups. He previously served as the Director of Business Development and Strategy under two mayors in

Washington DC and as Executive Director of NYC Business Solutions in New York City under Mayor Bloomberg.

David holds an MBA with Highest Honors from Harvard Business School, an M.Phil in Land Economy (Urban Planning) from Cambridge University, and a BA with High Honors from Swarthmore College. He has been selected as a Truman Scholar, a Gates Scholar, and a Baker Scholar.

David can be found on Twitter at @davidzipper and reached through his website, [www.davidzipper.com](http://www.davidzipper.com).



### **Joel Feldman (Friday Lunch Plenary)**

Following the death of his daughter Casey by a distracted driver in 2009, Mr. Feldman created EndDD.org , “End Distracted Driving,” and has developed science-based distracted driving presentations, as well as other resources, used by businesses, schools and community groups in educational initiatives. Mr. Feldman coordinates a network of speakers who have presented to more than 500,000 students across the U.S. and in Canada, all without cost to schools.

Mr. Feldman has personally given nearly 1000 distracted driving presentations to more than 200,000 teens and adults since 2012, and has been the keynote speaker at a number of legal, medical, traffic safety and business conferences. Current projects include developing distracted driving programs for elementary and middle school students, working on programs to help keep first responders safe from distracted driving and evaluation of distracted driving initiatives to maximize their effectiveness.

He is a member of the NTSB’s National Distracted Driving Coalition and chairs the youth education subcommittee and is coordinating a study with Harvard that will be one of the most comprehensive teen distracted driving projects ever undertaken.

Mr. Feldman is a shareholder in the Philadelphia law firm of Anapol Weiss and after Casey’s death obtained his masters in counseling from Villanova University.

Mr. Feldman can be reached at [info@EndDD.org](mailto:info@EndDD.org)





### **Melody Warnick (Saturday AM Keynote)**

Melody Warnick is the author of *This Is Where You Belong: Finding Home Wherever You Are*, an exploration of the ground-breaking concept of place attachment and a practical guide to loving the place where you live.

As part of her placemaking studies, Melody examines the contributions of walkability in establishing truly connected communities. Melody has analyzed walkability efforts made in Raleigh, NC, Blacksburg, VA and explored the effect of *Walk Scores* and *Open Streets* concepts on a community's viability.

Her second book, *If You Could Live Anywhere: The Surprising Power of Place in a Work-from-Anywhere World*, describes how location-independent people choose where to live and how communities can attract and retain them. Melody's books have been featured in the *New York Times*, *Time* magazine, *Fast Company*, *Psychology Today*, and others. She's also written for such publications as the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times*, *Slate*, *Reader's Digest*, *The Guardian*, *Good Housekeeping*, and *Woman's Day*. A regular speaker about how residents can thrive in their communities, Melody lives with her family in Blacksburg, Virginia. You can find out more and subscribe to her newsletter about place at her website, [melodywarnick.com](http://melodywarnick.com).



### **Faye Paige Edwards, GirlTrek (Saturday noon Keynote)**

Faye Paige Edwards has been an organizer for GirlTrek since 2012. She recently joined the GirlTrek National Team to lead the Allies and Black Civic Organizations Special Impact Team. GirlTrek has surpassed the 1 million mark and is now the largest health movement for Black women in the world. In her new role, she will support the implementation of GirlTrek's expanded vision to mobilize a mass movement to increase the life expectancy of 700 million Black women worldwide by 10 years in 10 years.

Ms. Edwards was an inaugural member of America Walks Walking College Fellows and has served as a Walking College Mentor. She has also facilitated collaborations with Trailnet - St Louis Missouri's bike/walk advocacy organization.

Her education includes a BA, MA, and MBA from the Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan. She is a certified Community Health Worker, NCBH Adult Mental Health First Aid Instructor, FAA Remote Pilot, and USA Drone Soccer Instructor.

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## Biographies in Alphabetic Order



### **Fontaine Burruss (Where the Trail Meets the Road)**

Fontaine is the Bicycle + Pedestrian Program Manager for the City of Raleigh and holds a master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Colorado – Denver. She joined the City of Raleigh in 2017 and has spent the last five years working to improve bicycling and walking throughout Raleigh, including the launch of the City's Bikeshare program Cardinal Bikeshare and the development of the City's Complete Streets Implementation program. Before joining the City, Fontaine worked as a Transportation Demand Management Planner in Denver, Colorado where she focused on improving transportation options for service industry workers in the Cherry Creek neighborhood. When she is not at work, you can find Fontaine biking to one of Raleigh's many parks or at the beach with her husband and two kids.



### **P.J. Connelly (Friday Welcome)**

P.J. Connelly has been the Mayor of the City of Greenville since 2017. Prior to serving as Mayor, P. J. served on the City of Greenville's Planning and Zoning Commission before being elected to serve on the Greenville City Council representing District 5.

P.J. came to Greenville to play baseball at East Carolina University, graduated with a finance degree, played professional baseball with the Angels, and returned back to Greenville to start his own real estate business. He is married to Jaclyn and has two beautiful daughters, Mary Kate and Caroline.



### **Sheriff Paula Dance (Friday Welcome)**

Sheriff Paula Dance is the Sheriff of Pitt County. Sheriff Dance served about 4 years with the Martin County Sheriff's Office and in 1994 she transitioned her career to Pitt County and began working with the Pitt County Sheriff's Office. After serving as a patrol deputy for four years, she was promoted to Sgt. of the Domestic Violence Unit. Shortly thereafter, she was promoted to the Investigations Unit as a Major Crimes Investigator. She was further promoted in 2010 to Lt. of Investigations and was subsequently

promoted to Captain in 2011. Her last promotion was to the rank of Major in 2013 making her the third in command with the Sheriff's Office. Under her command she played an intricate role in ensuring our Office continued to advance and thrive. There is no doubt that Sheriff Dance has played a hand in contributing to the enduring legacy of the Sheriff's Office and its commitment to be an exemplary agency, one that is recognized for its achievements and leadership from all over the Country.



**Rebecca Delphia (Pre Summit National Panel)**

Rebecca Delphia, an Advisor with AARP's Livable Communities initiative, partners with local leaders, policy makers and citizen activists nationwide to make communities more livable for people of all ages. She leads the development of nationwide trainings, technical assistance programs and partnerships to support AARP's 53 State Offices to achieve their livable communities goals.

Rebecca comes to AARP's livable communities initiative after serving as associate state director for community outreach with AARP Pennsylvania. Prior to working for AARP, Rebecca held an appointment as the first-ever chief service officer in the Pittsburgh Mayor's Office. In that role, she developed and implemented high-impact, volunteer-fueled initiatives that tackled pressing city needs with a focus on the revitalization of Pittsburgh's 90 neighborhoods.

Rebecca holds both a bachelor's degree and master's of social work degree from New York University's Silver School of Social Work, where she was a scholar in the Catherine B. Reynolds Program in Social Entrepreneurship. Rebecca and her family are proud to call Pittsburgh their home.



**Dionne Evans (Walk Audit)**

Dionne Evans is a fitness professional in Greenville, NC and serves on the City of Greenville's Multi-Modal Transportation Commission. She is an avid cyclist and runner, including being a three-time Boston Marathon Qualifier. Dionne is committed to making Greenville a safer and more accessible city for non-motorized transit. She has a Bachelor of Science in Exercise and Sports Science from East Carolina University.



### **Mark Ezzell (NC Governor's Highway Safety Program Policy Updates)**

Mark Ezzell was appointed as Director of the NC Governor's Highway Safety Program (NC GHSP) in 2017 by Governor Roy Cooper. In this role, Ezzell leads a group of dedicated professionals working to reduce traffic deaths and injuries in North Carolina. NC GHSP does this by funding over 100 local and state traffic safety initiatives and helping coordinate program and policy efforts that will lead to safety transportation options for everyone.

Mark has spent the past twenty years leading public health and public safety funding efforts. Previously, he served as Executive Director of the Addiction Professionals of North Carolina (APNC), the statewide association of substance use disorder treatment and prevention professionals. He also led tobacco-free schools & college efforts for the NC Health & Wellness Trust Fund, a statewide public health foundation, and has directed external relations for the NC Governor's Crime Commission. Mark has a long history of civic engagement. He has previously served as chair of the Board of Elections in Wake County, the most populous county in North Carolina, and has also served as chair of the NC Council on Developmental Disabilities.



### **Trish Farnham (NC Friendly Driver Program)**

Trish Farnham is BikeWalk NC's first program manager, joining the staff in 2021. Trish developed and has taught BikeWalk NC's Bicycle Friendly Driver program and its other educational programs. Trish is a lifelong pedestrian and self-described, unapologetic "basket bike" cyclist. A long-time disability rights advocate, Trish spent the previous twelve years working on healthcare and long-term care policy at the NC Department of Health and Human Services. Throughout her life, Trish has directly witnessed the transformative impact physical activity and accessibility can have on the collective health and well-being of a community.

Trish has an MPA from Georgia State University and a BA in Geography and American Studies from Miami University.



**Steven Goodridge (Transportation Bicycling)**

Steven Goodridge is a board member with BikeWalk NC who has been involved in bicycling education and advocacy in North Carolina for over 20 years. Steven developed the Bicyclist Safety and Law Enforcement in-service training program used by multiple police departments across the state, and teaches the Traffic Bicycling for Transportation Professionals course at the annual NC Bike/Walk Summit. Steven is a certified League Cycling Instructor through the League of American Bicyclists and a certified Cycling Savvy Instructor through the American Bicycling Education Association. Steven earned his Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from North Carolina State University and his BS in Electrical Engineering from the University of New Hampshire.



**Ann Groninger (Anatomy of a Crash)**

As a North Carolina attorney since 1995 she has been representing cyclists around the state for over 12 years. She speaks to groups to educate cyclists about their legal rights and has been involved in local advocacy groups to promote cycling and improve cycling safety. Ann lives and works near Center City Charlotte. Ann is a competitive cyclist and off-road bicyclist too. Ann earned her JD from Tulane University Law School and a Bachelors of Science in Engineering Arts from Michigan State University.



**Steven Hardy Braz (Anatomy of a Crash)**

Steven is a passionate cyclist and advocate for safer, more accessible and equitable streets for all vulnerable road users, greenways, and trails.

Trained as a school psychologist and sign language interpreter, Steven strives to use those skills on the BWNC board, and while advocating at the local, county, state, and national level for greater awareness, accessibility, and safety for cyclists and pedestrians of all types, ages, and abilities. He has served on numerous and varied committees and groups striving for safer roads for rides with his



friends, family, and friends not-yet-met. He has ridden across the U.S. in a self-supported fashion and has biked, hiked, run, strolled, and rolled in several other countries with an observing eye to build more inclusive and just communities through physical and emotional connections with the world and each other.



**Peter Johnke (Pre Summit National Panel)**

Peter is the Deputy Director of the Vermont Center for Independent Living, and Chair of the Transportation Advocacy Committee of the National Council for Independent Living. He's been part of the Independent Living Movement for over 30 years. Peter has low vision and is hard of hearing and refers to himself as a 'carless' traveler, so he is a big advocate of biking and walking and uses an e-bike. He's involved with many national, state and local organizations advocating for accessible transportation for people with disabilities.



**Ed Johnson (Safe Routes to School Discussion)**

Ed is the Safe Routes to School Coordinator for NCDOT. He has worked several years in the related fields of landscape architecture, transportation engineering and grants administration. While working in these different but related fields, he has had the opportunity to contribute to many different projects and experiences. These include the design and construction of various transportation facilities as well as the design, construction and management of local and regional greenways, open spaces and parks. Ed is a graduate of Florida A&M University and has a Master's degree in Landscape Architecture from the NC State University College of Design. He is a registered Landscape Architect in NC also an active member of the American Society of Landscape Architects in the NC Chapter.



**Terry Lansdell (BikeWalk NC Executive Director)**

Terry has served as BikeWalk NC's Executive Director since June, 2018 and is a certified cycling instructor through the League of American Bicyclists. Terry comes to BikeWalk NC from Clean Air Carolina where he held several positions, most recently that of Public Policy Manager. In addition to his work with Clean Air Carolina, Terry has extensive experience with non-profits, including work with both Trips for Kids and the Safe Routes to School National Partnership. Terry's work to advance sustainability is well known and was recognized by Sustain Charlotte in 2015 when he received their Outstanding Leader Award. Terry is also an accomplished distance cyclist who has competed in four solo Race Across America events (RAAM), the Race Across the West on a fixed gear bicycle and holds the UMCA state record for North Carolina.



**Darren Lewis (Small Cities, Big Impact)**

Darren Lewis is the Assistant City Manager for Mount Airy, North Carolina. Prior to being the Assistant City Manager, Darren previously served as the Parks and Recreation Director for the City of Mount Airy. Darren has worked in the recreation field for over thirty years. Mount Airy is a vibrant rural community of approximately 10,000 residents in the foothills of North Carolina and Darren feels fortunate to serve a community that others like to live, work, play, stay and shop! Darren's professional goal as Assistant City Manager is to make Mount Airy a more walkable and livable community for people of all ages and abilities. Darren also serves as the United Fund Chairman for Surry County with the challenge of raising \$500,000 for the 2022-2023 campaign year supporting 24 different non-profits in our community. Darren and his wife Rebecca have three children and live in Mount Airy. He enjoys running and spending time with family and friends.



**Kellen Long (Small Cities, Big Impact)**

Kellen Long has served as Elizabeth City's Community Development Director since June, 2021. Kellen earned her bachelors in Urban and Regional Planning from East Carolina University in December of 2017. Prior to serving as the

Community Development Director, Kellen served as a planner within the Community Development Department. Before starting her career with Elizabeth City, Kellen previously served as a Safe Routes to School grant coordinator for the northeastern North Carolina Region (region 9) as well as an Active Living Intervention Lead during her time in college, which was an independent study through East Carolina University and Albemarle Regional Health Services. During this time Kellen produced an analysis of all the comprehensive municipal plans within a 17 county region in northeastern North Carolina. This report was used as a study to evaluate how our built environment affects our region's public health.

Elizabeth City has been recognized as one of the most walkable cities in North Carolina and was recently awarded a federal *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* grant to support vulnerable road user infrastructure.



**Dr. Shannon Longshore (Saturday Welcome)**

Dr. Longshore is the interim division chief of pediatric surgery, medical director of pediatric trauma, and medical director of injury prevention at ECU Health. Dr. Longshore is originally from Sweetwater, Tennessee but now considers Greenville, North Carolina home. She attended medical school at the University of Tennessee and completed her surgical residency at UC Davis. She was a research fellow on short gut syndrome at Washington University and completed a pediatric surgical fellowship at Loma Linda, California.



**Abby Lorenzo (Where the Trail Meets the Road)**

Abby Lorenzo is the Deputy Director of the Wilmington Metropolitan Planning Organization (WMPO). Abby will speak on the local and regional efforts to establish and expand the Gary Shell Cross City Trail in Wilmington, NC. This 15 mile (and growing) multi-use path provides dedicated bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure throughout Wilmington, creating viable multi-modal connectivity between essential community resources. Abby has a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Vermont and a Masters of Public Administration from the University of North Carolina-Wilmington.



### **Mike McGinn (Pre-Summit National Panel)**

Mike McGinn is the Executive Director of America Walks, a leading national nonprofit that advances safe, equitable, accessible, and enjoyable places to walk and move by giving people and communities the resources to effectively advocate for change.

Mike got his start in local politics as a neighborhood activist pushing for walkability. From there he founded a non-profit focused on sustainable and equitable growth, and then became mayor of Seattle. He has always worked to add new voices to City decision-making and has gained deep insights into how influence is gained and wielded to make change.

Just before joining America Walks, Mike worked to help Feet First, Washington State's walking advocacy organization, expand their sphere of influence across Washington state. He has worked on numerous public education, legislative, ballot measure and election campaigns – which has given him an abiding faith in the power of organizing and volunteers to create change. His many years of advocating for sustainable cities and environmental justice give him perspective to expand America Walks partnerships.



### **Andrew Meeker (Where the Trail Meets the Road)**

Based in Durham, North Carolina, Andrew Meeker is the East Coast Greenway Alliance's first full-time North Carolina Coordinator. In this role, Andrew carries state-wide responsibilities for all aspects of Greenway development, advocacy and state committee and volunteer engagement. Andrew supports communities along the route in North Carolina, which has been designated an official State Trail, as they plan, build and maintain sections of the Greenway.

Proficient in Geographic Information Systems, Andrew most recently worked as a map designer for Terrabilt Wayfinding Systems, while also serving as campaign manager for Durham City Council candidate AJ Williams. Since 2019, he also has worked with NCGrowth, the North Carolina Climate Justice Collective and Sunrise Movement.

Andrew holds a bachelor's degree in geography and environmental studies from Macalester College and earned his master's degree in city and regional planning from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

### **Jason Miller (Small Cities, Big Impact)**

Jason Miller, AICP has served as the Planning Director for the City of Archdale since 2016. Prior to being promoted to Planning Director, he served as the City's Planning Officer for over ten years. Jason has a specific interest in public policy that promotes Aging in Community principles and strategies. An advocate of AARP's Livable Communities Initiative and Public Policy Institute, he assisted Archdale in becoming the 325th community to enroll in the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities in 2019. Jason worked with Benchmark Planning to incorporate AARP's livability factors into the City's first Comprehensive Plan, which was adopted in December of 2020. Jason studied Urban and Economic Development, completing his M.A. and Ph.D. in Geography from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.





**Bill Nesper (Pre Summit National Panel)**

Bill Nesper is the Executive Director of the National League of American Bicyclists. A national leader in bicycle programming, planning, and policy, Bill has supported local and state advocacy, led workshops for local communities across the country, and contributed to bicycling policy and planning guidance at all levels. As Executive Director, Bill has a passion for supporting the incredible League staff, building stronger partnerships, and making the League more effective at building a Bicycle Friendly America for Everyone. He holds a BA in History from the University of Florida and an MA from George Mason University.

**Sarah O'Brien (Safe Routes to School Lunch Discussion)**

Bio to come



**Aundrea Oliver, MD (Walk with A Doc)**

Dr. Oliver is an Assistant Professor at ECU's [Brody School of Medicine](#) and specializes in thoracic and foregut surgery. She brings both her personal and professional experience to inform clinical approaches for addressing social determinants of health. Dr. Oliver will lead a [Walk with a Doc](#) session and will facilitate a discussion with participants about the benefits of walking and how a person's environment influences the option to walk. Dr. Oliver received a Bachelor's degree in Biological Anthropology from Harvard University and is a graduate of Boston University School of Medicine. She completed her residency at Brigham and Women's Hospital, followed by two thoracic fellowships at Vanderbilt University and ECU/Vidant Medical Center.



**Karan Patel (Small Cities, Big Impact)**

Karan Patel has been a Community Planner with Elizabeth City since November of 2020. Prior to beginning his career in Elizabeth City, Karan served as a Planner for the City of Norfolk. Karan has a Masters in City/Urban, Community and Regional Planning from Texas A&M University and a Bachelor's in Architecture from Vadodara Design Academy.

Elizabeth City has been recognized as one of the most walkable cities in North Carolina and was recently awarded a federal *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* grant to support vulnerable road user infrastructure.



**Dr. Nathaniel Poulin (Anatomy of a Crash)**

Dr. Poulin is a Clinical Assistant Professor of Acute Care Surgery at ECU's Brody School of Medicine and specializes in Trauma and Surgical Critical Care. Dr. Poulin is a graduate of the Chicago Medical School. He completed his residency in General Surgery at the Eastern Virginia Medical School, followed by a fellowship in Surgical Critical Care at the University of Maryland.



**Sgt. Mike Ross (Greenville Traffic Safety Task Force Tour)**

Sgt. Mike Ross is a lifelong Greenville resident and has served in the Greenville Police Department since 1998. In 2017, he became Sergeant of the GPD's Traffic Safety Unit. Prior to this, Sgt. Ross served in the GPD Field Operations Bureau as a Patrol Officer and Traffic Safety Officer and in the Criminal Investigations Bureau as a Sergeant of the Special Victims and Gangs Units. Sergeant Ross also represents the Greenville Police Department on the nationally recognized Greenville Traffic Safety Task Force.



**Ted Silver (Friday Welcome)**

Ted is chair of the Banner Elk Bike/Ped Committee and Program Coordinator for the country's only academic bicycling minor degree at Lees-McRae College. A Licensed Certified Instructor (LCI), he doesn't like to sit on the sidelines – he's been actively involved in bike advocacy as a member of bike clubs and organizations ranging from the Randonneurs USA (member number 341) to president of the largest bike club in Miami, Florida. He also served as Chairman of the Miami-Dade County Bike/Ped Advisory Committee (advising the Miami-Dade MPO) for almost 10 years before retiring from law and moving from the flat topography of Florida to the mountains of North Carolina; he road rides as often as he can. With his legal background, and cycling knowledge and experience, he hopes to help accomplish the mission and goals of BikeWalk NC for safe and sustainable cycling and walking.



### **Tasha Hairston Springs (Anatomy of a Crash)**

Tasha Hairston Springs is a survivor of traffic violence. In 2018 she founded Texting Is Risky Business, LLC located in Winston-Salem, NC, with the mission of eradicating all mobile device use in vehicles in order to help keep our families, fleets and communities safe from this form of distracted driving.

On October 17, 2012, Tasha was involved in a distracted driving crash when she responded to a text message to her daughter. In the crash, Tasha was disfigured and is now permanently disabled. She also hurt two other people in a separate vehicle.

Tasha is now an impact speaker with StreetSafe US and a supporter of Vision Zero and Hands Free NC. Tasha is also an author and a transformational coach. She created the M.A.D method (Mindfully Aware Drivers), a 21- day distracted driving prevention program designed to break the bad habit of driving distracted. Tasha works with other safety professionals to create a culture of safety for motorists, cyclists, fleet organizations, and institutions of higher learning. Tasha will be graduating in November of 2022 with a degree from Southern New Hampshire University with a Psychology with a concentration in Child and Adolescent Development. She plans on attending Clemson University to obtain her Masters of Transportation Safety Administration (MTSA) in the fall of 2023.



### **Barnes Sutton, AICP, CFM, CSM (Small Cities, Big Impact)**

Barnes Sutton is a Community Development Planner for the Town of Leland where he plans, coordinates and manages advanced urban and municipal planning projects including neighborhood and commercial corridor revitalization efforts, as well as implementing short and long-range strategies related to land use and livability and transportation networks. Barnes has previously served the Town of Navassa and Pender County. In 2021, Barnes was a recipient of the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce's *40 Under 40 Award*. Barnes has a Master's in Public Administration, a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, and a Bachelor of Arts in Public and International Affairs, all from the University of North Carolina-Wilmington.



**Ellen Walston (Greenville Traffic Safety Task Force Tour)**

Ellen has been the injury prevention program coordinator for the Eastern Carolina Injury Prevention Program at Vidant Medical Center in Greenville, North Carolina since 2006. Ellen is the coalition coordinator for Safe Kids Pitt County. She has presented at the Lifesavers Highway Safety conference, the Safe States conference, the Governor's Highway Safety Traffic Safety Expo, the North Carolina Bike Walk Summit, Safe Kids Worldwide PREVCON conference, and Safe Kids North Carolina conference. Ellen has written and managed over 2 million dollars in external funds for community child safety grants. Ellen has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Salem College and a Master of Social Work degree from Florida State University.



**Julie White (NCDOT Policy Updates)**

Julie White is the N.C. Department of Transportation's Deputy Secretary for Multimodal Transportation. In this role, Julie oversees the Rail, Aviation, Ferry, and Integrated Mobility Divisions, including over 800 employees and over \$500 million a year in state and federal funds. Julie serves on the American Public Transportation Association Board of Directors and as the chair of the Southeast Rail Corridor Commission. She has over two decades of public service in state and local government. She earned a Master of Public Administration from N.C. State University and a Bachelor of Arts from Michigan State University.