



# Community Event Guide for Walkability & Active Transportation



## Salina Mobility Working Group Members

The Salina Mobility Working Group is a collaborative effort dedicated to enhancing transportation options and accessibility within the Salina community. Comprising local stakeholders, agencies, and advocates, the group works to identify and implement strategies that support active transportation, public transit, and walkable spaces. Through projects like promoting bike-sharing, organizing community events, and advancing mobility initiatives, the Salina Mobility Working Group strives to create a more connected, equitable, and sustainable community for all residents. Together, we are paving the way for a future where everyone can move safely and efficiently. The Members are:

**Michelle Coats**, North Central Kansas  
Mobility Manager

**April Rickman**, Salina Downtown

**Barb Young**, North Salina Community  
Development

**Brian Underwood**, Lakewood Discovery  
Center

**Bridget Weiser**, Kansas Wesleyan University

**Chris Lehecka**, Salina YMCA

**Dan Stack**, Schwab Eaton

**Daniel Craig**, LiveWell Saline County

**Gretchen Boyum**, Central Kansas Mental  
Health

**Jane Anderson**, Friends of the River  
Foundation

**Jeff Hammond**, City of Salina Parks and  
Recreation

**Jeff Stone**, AARP

**Jim Teutsch**, City of Salina

**Jonathan Thompson**, Kaw Valley  
Engineering

**Lauren Driscoll**, City of Salina

**Meagan Rico**, Saline County Health  
Department

**Michelle Martin**, City of Salina

**Renee Duxler**, Salina Chamber of  
Commerce

**Rosie Walter**, Salina Senior Center

**Tiffany Benien**, Visit Salina

**Trell Grinter**, OCK Transportation

**Lisa Newman**, K-State Research & Extension

**Sheryl Brown**, Salina Biking Advocacy Group

### Mission:

Our mission is to connect all Salinans to destinations of choice for health, recreation, and daily living.

### Vision:

Salina will be a collaborative, spirited community full of thriving neighborhoods, with people walking, biking, and using all types of active transportation to enjoy their favorite amenities, while connecting, building health, comfort, and happiness.

## Creating Vibrant and Engaging Community Events for Walkability and Active Transportation

Promoting walkability and active transportation is essential for fostering healthier, more connected communities. Whether you're organizing a walking tour through historic neighborhoods, a lively bike parade, or a hands-on workshop about creating walkable spaces, each event is an opportunity to inspire residents to embrace active lifestyles. This guide offers detailed descriptions, best practices, and planning resources for a variety of events, empowering you to bring your vision to life. From engaging workshops to fitness challenges, let this resource be your starting point to encourage movement, connection, and sustainability in your community.

Remember to involve local businesses, community organizations, and city officials to maximize impact and support for your events promoting walkability and active transportation.

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### 1. Walking Tours

**Definition:** Guided walks through neighborhoods, parks, or historical areas, emphasizing pedestrian-friendly features and safe crossings. Highlight pedestrian friendly features, safe crossings, points of interest.

#### Best Practices:

- Collaborate with local historians, parks departments, or community leaders.
- Map routes that are accessible and highlight unique features like landmarks or greenways.
- Provide a digital or printed map of the route.

#### Planning Checklist:

- Define tour themes (e.g., history, nature, architecture).
- Promote via community boards, social media, and local news.
- Prepare handouts or QR codes for additional information.



## Local Resources or Examples:

- Walk Salina website – [www.walksalina.com](http://www.walksalina.com)
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## 2. Bike Rides, Parades, or Rodeos

**Definition:** Events focused on bike safety, rules of the road, and showcasing bike-friendly routes. Participants can learn safe biking practices, rules of the road, and explore bike-friendly routes.

### Best Practices:

- Partner with local bike shops or safety organizations.
- Offer free helmet fittings or bike checks.
- Include a police or safety escort for routes.



### Planning Checklist:

- Define the ride's difficulty level and route length.
  - Secure permits for road use if needed.
  - Provide safety demonstrations or short workshops.
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## 3. Street Festivals or Block Parties

**Definition:** Street closures to celebrate active transportation with fun activities and vendors. Include activities like walking challenges, bike decorating stations, and healthy food vendors.

### Best Practices:

- Collaborate with local businesses for sponsorships.
- Feature music, food trucks, and interactive activities like walking challenges or bike decorating.





- Promote eco-friendly practices (e.g., recycling stations, no single-use plastics).

**Planning Checklist:**

- Coordinate with city officials for street closures.
- Set up activity zones (e.g., walking/biking challenge areas).
- Hire entertainers or organize performances.

**Local Resources or Examples:**

- Open Streets ICT - <https://www.wichita.gov/1680/Open-Streets-ICT>
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## 4. Trail Clean-Up Events

**Definition:** Community clean-ups along walking or biking trails to promote active transportation and community stewardship.

**Best Practices:**

- Provide supplies like gloves, trash bags, and grabbers.
- Combine clean-up with fitness (e.g., walking scavenger hunt).
- Recognize participants with small giveaways.

**Planning Checklist:**

- Partner with parks departments or conservation groups.
- Promote the event with before-and-after visuals of the trail.
- Assign volunteers to specific trail sections.

**Local Resources or Examples:**

- Friends of the River Foundation - <https://smokyhillriver.org/>
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## 5. Public Art Walks

**Definition:** Guided walks showcasing murals, sculptures, or other art installations. Encourage participants to walk or bike between locations.

**Best Practices:**

- Partner with local artists or art councils.
- Offer live performances or art demonstrations.
- Include photo challenges to increase engagement.



**Planning Checklist:**

- Create a map of art locations.
- Prepare trivia or fun facts about the art.
- Provide seating or rest stops near art displays.

**Local Resources or Examples:**

- Boom Salina Street Art & Mural Festival - <https://www.boomsalina.art/>

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## 6. Walk/Bike to School Days

**Definition:** Initiatives encouraging children to walk or bike to school. Set up designated meeting points or walking school buses to increase participation and safety.

**Best Practices:**

- Set up safe meeting points for group travel.
- Work with schools to offer incentives like stickers or certificates.
- Provide crossing guards or volunteer escorts for safety.



**Planning Checklist:**

- Promote through school newsletters and PTOs.

- Mark safe routes with signage.
- Distribute safety tips to parents and students.

### Local Resources or Examples:

- Kansas Safe Routes to School - <https://saferoutes.ksdot.gov/>

## 7. Workshops and Seminars

**Definition:** Educational sessions on topics like urban planning, bike safety, or walkability advocacy.

### Best Practices:

- Invite guest speakers from relevant fields.
- Use visuals like maps, diagrams, or videos.
- Offer virtual options for broader participation.



### Planning Checklist:

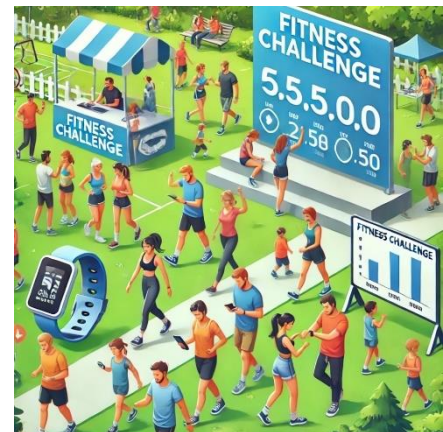
- Book a venue with AV capabilities.
- Prepare handouts or digital resources.
- Collect participant feedback for future events.

## 8. Fitness Challenges

**Definition:** Community-wide challenges like tracking steps, bike miles, or scavenger hunt activities.

### Best Practices:

- Use apps or tracking tools for easy participation.
- Set achievable milestones with prizes.
- Encourage friendly competition through leaderboards.



### Planning Checklist:

- Set up registration (online or in-person).
  - Promote via social media and local groups.
  - Offer kickoff and wrap-up events.
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## 9. Community Races or Fun Runs

**Definition:** Events that include walking, running, or biking for all ages and fitness levels.

### Best Practices:

- Include a variety of categories (e.g., family, competitive).
- Provide water stations and first aid along the route.
- Offer medals or certificates for participants.



### Planning Checklist:

- Map out safe and accessible routes.
- Partner with local businesses for sponsorship.
- Set up pre-registration and day-of check-in stations.

### Local Resources or Examples:

- Crossroads Marathon - <https://www.runsalinacrossroads.com>
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## 10. Pop-Up Parks or Play Streets

**Definition:** Temporary transformations of urban spaces into activity hubs.

### Best Practices:

- Include interactive elements like games, yoga, or mini-parks.





- Work with local artists to create murals or street art.
- Focus on reimagining public spaces for pedestrians.

**Planning Checklist:**

- Secure temporary use permits.
- Organize setup and teardown crews.
- Promote the event as a vision for pedestrian-friendly spaces.