

TO: REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
FROM: EMILY HULTQUIST, PRINCIPAL PLANNER AND POLICY ANALYST
**SUBJECT: A PRESENTATION ON LESSONS LEARNED FROM CRCOG PARTICIPATION IN
THE STEP IT UP! WALKABILITY ACTION INSTITUTE**
DATE: MAY 11, 2016

At the May 19, 2016 Regional Planning Commission Meeting, RPC members will hear a presentation from Emily Hultquist, Principal Planner and Policy Analyst at CRCOG on lessons learned from CRCOG participation in the Step it Up! Walkability Action Institute.

A CRCOG-led team was selected by the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors to participate in this unique training opportunity. The Walkability Action Institute provided an opportunity for the regional team to explore best practices to increase communities' walkability, and to further regional bike and pedestrian planning and implementation. An interdisciplinary team of public health professionals, a CRCOG staff representative, transportation representative and elected official from the Capitol Region attended the Institute which will took place April 26 – 28 in Atlanta, GA. The team was joined by nine other MPO-led teams from across the country.

Activities at the Institute included learning from experts in the field of active transportation planning as well as successful MPO regions, participating in walkability audits with leaders in the field such as Mark Fenton, a nationally acclaimed walkability expert, and developing the basis for a team action plan to encourage more walking and complete streets in our regions. The team members will be working on a mutually-agreed upon work plan of follow-up activities over the next six months.

This presentation will explain the Institute in greater detail, highlight some of the key themes discussed that are relevant to municipal planning and development and describe the next steps that the CRCOG-led team will take in the coming months.

If you have any questions in advance of the meeting, please feel free to contact me at 860-522-2217 ext. 219 or ehultquist@crcog.org.