



## SC Livable Communities Alliance

The South Carolina Livable Communities Alliance supports the planning, designing, operation, and maintenance of public highways in a manner that provides safe, convenient and comfortable travel and access for users of all ages and abilities regardless of their mode of transportation. The Alliance believes that all South Carolinians deserve to live in safe, healthy communities. Complete streets or Multimodal streets make communities and neighborhoods more livable, by ensuring all road users of all ages and abilities —people walking, bicycling, driving, and catching a bus – can travel safely. Providing a modern multimodal network of streets and highways benefits the state economically and improves the quality of life for our citizens. The mere existence of sidewalks, bike paths, and increased access to transit has positive effects on safety, physical activity levels, and access to economic opportunities. There has been a national and global trend toward increased bicycle and pedestrian activity, and we see the same increase in demand in South Carolina.

As of 2014, SC ranks 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> in the country in the fatality rate per 10K commuters for people walking and bicycling, respectively. Studies show that improving infrastructure design, in coordination with repaving opportunities as systems age, is the most effective method of increasing **safety** and decreasing fatality rates of people walking and bicycling. As of 2016, two of every three adults (67%) in South Carolina are overweight or obese. South Carolina ranks 12<sup>th</sup> in the nation for adult obesity and 8<sup>th</sup> in obesity among high school students. By 2018, approximately \$8.6 billion are projected for obesity-related health spending in the state. Increased **physical activity** is associated with lower rates of obesity and chronic illnesses, such as diabetes and heart disease.

Access to complete streets in neighborhoods also supports environmental **sustainability**, and is linked to **economic benefits** for communities, such as increased property values. Other economic benefits of multimodal streets include personal transportation cost savings, a greater number of construction jobs relative to traditional highway projects, and added value and level of service for more road users. In communities across South Carolina, many people with disabilities (or decreased abilities) rely on pedestrian infrastructure to get to work on foot, on wheels, or using accessible public transit.

Specifically, the South Carolina Livable Communities Alliance supports a Multimodal policy that:

- seamlessly integrates state roads with local streets, with national multimodal design standards,
- coordinates tightly between state, regional and local planning and elected bodies,
- ensures your mode of transportation is just as safe as all the others,
- honors rural and urban interests,
- invests in long-term state priorities
- moves our state towards a higher quality of life,
- integrates with Federal Highway Administration required safety performance measures,
- improves SCDOT processes and street designs, and restores trust and transparency,
- supports people of all abilities having full access to their chosen mode of transportation

Join us in creating safe, healthy communities. We are in full support of a state policy that enables streets that are safer, healthier, and more accessible for users of all ages and abilities, regardless of their mode of transportation.



Sincerely,

## SCLCA Steering Committee Members



Amy Johnson Ely, Executive Director  
Palmetto Cycling Coalition



Real Possibilities

Jim Love, Advocacy Director  
AARP South Carolina



SOUTH CAROLINA

Robbie Kopp, Director of Advocacy and  
Community Access, ABLE South Carolina



American Heart Association | American Stroke Association

life is why™

Yarley Steedly, SC Director, Government  
Relations, American Heart Association,  
American Stroke Association, Mid-Atlantic  
Affiliate



COASTAL  
CONSERVATION  
LEAGUE

Kate Schaefer, South Coast Director,  
Coastal Conservation League



Amy Splittgerber, Executive Director  
South Carolina Alliance of YMCA's



Phil Ford, Manager for Policy, Advocacy &  
Community Support,  
Eat Smart Move More SC



Jevetra Gardner  
Project Manager



Omar Muhammad, Executive Director,  
Lowcountry Alliance for Model Communities



## Additional Supporting Organizations

### **State**

National Safety Council – Southeastern Chapter  
Mission Readiness  
AAA Carolinas  
Women’s Rights and Empowerment Network (WREN)  
SC Recreation & Parks Association  
East Coast Greenway Association, Regional  
Coordinator for SC  
Palmetto Clean Fuels Coalition  
SC Chapter, American Planning Association  
Family Connection of SC  
Transportation Association of South Carolina (TASC)  
The Arc of South Carolina

### **Local**

Partners for Active Living, *Spartanburg*  
Charleston Moves  
Bike Walk Greenville  
Midlands Transit Riders Association, *Columbia*  
Cola Town Bike Collective, *Columbia*  
Upstate Forever, *Greenville & Spartanburg*  
Sustainable Midlands, *Columbia*  
Hilton Head Island Bicycle Advisory Committee  
Metanoia, *Charleston*  
National Action Network, *Columbia*  
Best Friends of Lowcountry Transit, *Charleston*  
Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority (The  
COMET), *Columbia area*  
Charleston Trident Urban League, *Charleston*  
Lourie Scholars, *Columbia*  
Touch the Future Inc, *Anderson*  
Upstate Transportation Coalition, *Greenville*  
Columbia Development Corporation, *Columbia*  
Vista Neighborhood Association, *Columbia*

## Supporting Businesses and Hospitals

### **State**

Bicycle Corporation of America, *Manning HQ*  
Generator Power Solutions, *Columbia HQ*

### **Local**

Grand Strand Health, *Myrtle Beach*  
Medical University of South Carolina, *Charleston*  
McBurney Integrative Neurology, LLC, *Greenville*  
Spartanburg Regional Hospital, *Spartanburg*  
Bon Secours St. Francis Health System, *Greenville*  
Palmetto Health, *Midlands Region*  
Soda City, *Columbia*  
Loci, LLC  
ALTA Planning, *Greenville*  
Yaffe Mobility Consulting, *Rock Hill*



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