



**Webinar**

# How Public Libraries are Advancing Safe Routes Advocacy, Funding, and Programming

Thursday, February 6, 2025  
2 p.m.–3 p.m. ET

# Say hello in the chat!

- Name
- Location
- What do you love about your local library?
- Share examples of collaborations between libraries and Safe Routes programs.





# Today's Host

**Kori Johnson – Senior Manager, Program and Engagement**

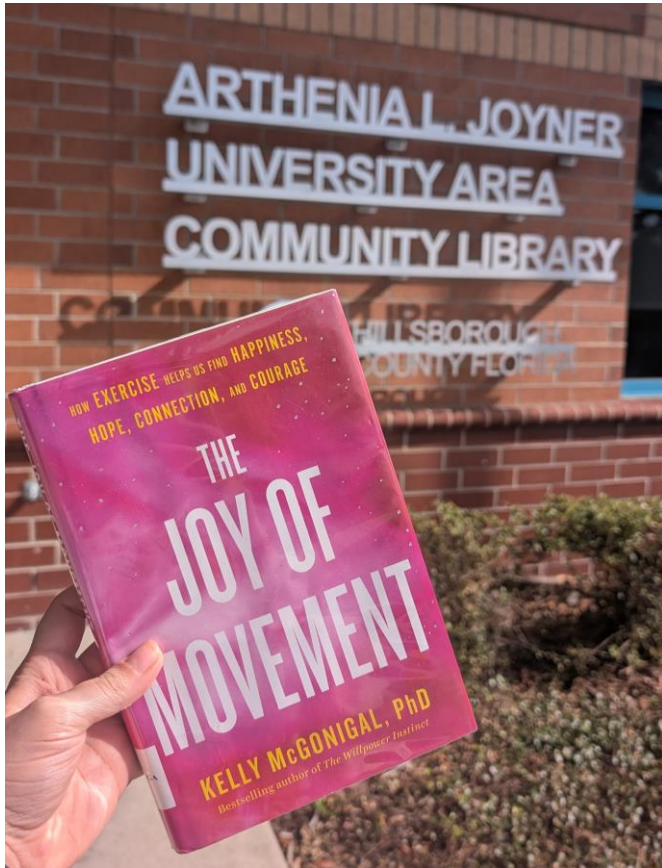
**Location: Baltimore, Maryland**

**Book lover and library enthusiast!**



SAFE ROUTES PARTNERSHIP

# Safe Routes Partnership



The mission of the Safe Routes Partnership is to advance safe walking and rolling to and from schools and in everyday life, improving the health and well-being of people of all races, income levels, and abilities, and building healthy, thriving communities for everyone.



SAFE ROUTES PARTNERSHIP



# Reminders

Webinar is being recorded

Resources linked in the slide deck

Recording and slides posted after the webinar

Questions in the Q&A box, general comments in the Chat box



SAFE ROUTES PARTNERSHIP

# We're Here to Help!



## [Safe Routes Learning Center Workshops and Trainings Catalog](#)

- Customizable workshops, trainings, and presentations
- Provided by the Partnership's technical assistance team
- Virtual and in-person
- Email [consulting@saferoutespartnership.org](mailto:consulting@saferoutespartnership.org)

# Workshops, Trainings, and Technical Assistance

- Safe Routes to School
- Active Transportation Planning, Policies, and Programming
- Community Engagement
- State Network Support
- Design Your Own





**Safe Routes to School** is a movement and a program to make school travel – including walking, biking, rolling, and scooting – safe convenient, and fun for children of all genders, races, and abilities.



# The Story of Safe Routes to Libraries



- Libraries have been doing this work for a long time!
- 2019 – Safe Routes to Parks project with Central Arkansas Library System (Little Rock, AR)
- 2022 – Librarians presented at Safe Routes to School Virtual Summit
- 2022-2024 – Researched libraries and transportation projects, explored funding opportunities

# Safe Routes to Libraries Today

- 2024 – Awarded a Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) planning grant
- Lead Agency - Urban Libraries Council (ULC)
- 2025 - Create a Safe Routes to Libraries framework to increase safety, accessibility, and physical activity around public libraries



# Why Safe Routes to Libraries?

- Libraries are essential destinations
- Libraries serve a wide user base
- Libraries are already doing this work!
  - Bike repairs
  - Bike lending services
  - Bike, pedestrian, and transit education
  - Infrastructure projects
  - StoryWalk® installations
  - Walking school bus programs
  - Partnerships with transportation and public health agencies



# Let's Grow the Movement!



## Big Goals

- Raise awareness
- Develop resources
- Increase funding
- Connect with new partners
- Collect data
- Build excitement and enthusiasm

\*New\* [Safe Routes to Libraries Webpage](#)

# Today's Speakers

Michael Kelley, Policy Director, BikeWalkKC



Jamie Placht, Health and Wellbeing Specialist,  
Kansas City Public Library



Kim Crow Sheaner, Director, Donald W. Reynolds  
Library System Serving Baxter County, Arkansas



# Partnering with Libraries

## Learn about setting up a Walking School Bus

with Anne Dalphin from Portland's Reiche Community School,  
coordinator of their Walking School Bus program



**Tuesday, January 28, 6pm**  
(there will be a kids' activity for any tag-alongs)



48 Gorham Road, Scarborough, ME 04074  
T (207) 883-4723 | F (207) 883-9728  
[www.scarboroughlibrary.org](http://www.scarboroughlibrary.org)



Host a Safe Routes information session at the library.

- Walking school bus
- Bike and pedestrian safety
- Walk and Roll to School Day
- Infrastructure planning



SAFE ROUTES PARTNERSHIP

# Partnering with Libraries

## Get to know library staff.

- Branch manager
- Community engagement and outreach
- Children's librarian
- Public health and social work specialists
- Facilities management



# Partnering with Libraries

**Engage library staff early and often.**

- Active transportation planning
- Infrastructure projects
- Demonstration projects
- Community events
- Grants and funding proposals





# Partnering with Safe Routes Programs



**Learn about the Safe Routes movement.**

- [Introduction to Safe Routes to School](#)
- [Introduction to Safe Routes to Parks](#)
- [Introduction to Safe Routes to Healthy Foods](#)

# Partnering with Safe Routes Programs

**Research Safe Routes programs and plans in your own community.**

- Safe Routes to School Action Plan
- Bicycle or Pedestrian Masterplan
- [Vision Zero](#) Action Plan
- [Complete Streets](#) Plan



# Partnering with Safe Routes Programs



**Connect with local agency staff and community organizations.**

- Transportation Department
- Public Works Department
- Planning Department
- Public Health Department
- School District
- Transportation Advocacy Organizations

# Stay Connected



## Questions?

Email [kori@saferoutespartnership.org](mailto:kori@saferoutespartnership.org)

## Join the Safe Routes to School Google Group!

Email [christina@saferoutespartnership.org](mailto:christina@saferoutespartnership.org)

- Provide the email address you want to use to sign up

**Take our post-webinar survey – only 30 seconds!**