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BIKING, WALKING & TRAIL FUNDING: BEST PRACTICES FOR 2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS AND BEYOND

DEC. 7, 2022 WEBINAR

ALUM CREEK GREENWAY TRAIL | PHOTO BY TRAILLINK USER MADCOWPRO1980

Today's Panelists:

Palmer McIntyre



Yumeno Young



\$10 billion from states for trails & active transportation

- Over past 7 years, RTC has supported state partners in at least 30 states
- Safe walking & biking infrastructure
- Prioritizing equitable active transportation
- Capital appropriations for connectivity
- Significant increases in state-administered, federal TA funding
- 2022: Dedicated state investments from federal ARPA funding



WI State Capitol, by Phil Roeder

Case studies

- New York – *building a destination trail spearheaded by Governor*
- California – *substantial, consolidated investment*



NY State Senate, by Joroen van Luin



CA Coastal Trail, by Steve Jurvetson

Case Studies

- Indiana – *Visionary Trails System*
 - Launched Trails Caucus 3/5/20
 - Invested \$60M ARPA in Next Level Trails Program (+\$90M)
 - Maintenance & Agency Capacity



- Wisconsin – *Equitable Development*
 - Reconnecting Community via 30th Street Corridor Project
 - Resolving “Match Challenge”
 - Badger Trails Partnership

Successful Tactics

- Pre-session legislative agenda & bill tracking
- Educate legislators
- Pre-session governor's budget
- Legislative trails (or bike, outdoor rec, etc.) caucus
- Diverse, multi-regional coalitions
- Lobby/"Advocacy" Days and press conferences at Capitol/State House
- Bring legislative staff sample bill text
- On-trail events and engagements
- Statewide trail plans & economic impact studies
- Year of the Trail designation
- Grassroots Advocacy: leverage membership, targeted emails, action alerts, paid targeted online ads
- Commission a poll/survey
- State-specific economic, etc. data



Minnesota rally, by Tony Webster

Funding Sources and Policies

- Stand-alone bill (see Active Transportation Policy Hub <https://rtc.li/policyhub> for bill text examples)
- Earmark bill (where allowed) or budget “rider”
- Governor’s budget or other executive goals (State of the State)
- In-house agency action or fund agency staffing positions
- Ballot/bond measure
- Transportation: gas tax (where permitted), state active transportation funds, climate
- Natural resources: trail-specific, parks, outdoor recreation, climate, land & water conservation, tourism

Questions?



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