

How To Facilitate a Streets Alive 'Walkshop' and Co-design Workshop



Facilitating a Streets Alive 'walkshop' can be a really helpful way of better understanding the challenges and opportunities of a place in relation to road safety. Not only does it require a community to talk about road safety issues, but it provides rich data that can't be provided from looking at speed data or sitting in a stuffy community facility.

A Streets Alive 'walkshop' challenges community and their perception of what the road safety issues are in the area. It also allows the community to better communicate what's working well and what needs to be improved.

Below is a general guide to organising a 'walkshop' to identify road safety issues and ideas for a follow-up co-design session.

1. Start the walk toward one end of the area you want to identify the road safety issue, usually moving towards the most used shared space at the middle of the walk.

- a. Do have a few pre-planned stops that are approx. 50-100m from each other. Allow enough flexibility for community to redirect the trail, if there's a space they feel is important to discuss
- b. The general walk should be approx. 30-45 minutes and cover an area of about 400m from where the most centric road safety issue is, near where combined users are in the space most often. Leave plenty of time for discussion
- c. When promoting the event, encourage participants to bring a hat, sunscreen, walking shoes and water.
- d. The facilitator should either take notes, or use a recording device to capture insights throughout the walk.

2. Facilitating the Walk – Things to look out for

- a. Start the walk with an acknowledgement of country and discuss the purpose: To identify the road safety issues.
- b. Points of discussion at each stop (generally do four stops along the street):
 - i. Who are the most frequent users of the space?
 1. Consider vehicles, pedestrians, bikers, etc.
 - ii. What is the experience like for each of those users?
 - iii. What are the risks in each space for each user group?
 - iv. What are the opportunities in each space?
 - v. What's working well?

(Note: You may use the [Streets Alive Evaluation Toolkit](#) as a point of reference).

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3. **Co-design Workshop Discussion (best to hold at least 2, they can be directly following the 'walkshop' or at another time/day) The [Collaborative Design Guide](#) is a great resource for best practices.**
- a. In the workshop, engage in a discussion with the community and local government.
 - b. Share what road safety issues were identified as a result of the walkshop.
 - c. You can split people into groups and have them brainstorm solutions once you have shared the road safety issues identified. You can also project the road safety issues identified, or print them out and have them visible at each working group table. Provide plenty of butcher paper, markers, sticky notes, so that you can easily record the insights and solutions that were generated.
 - d. Some of the questions may include:
 - i. Share any ideas discussed at the walkshop that you had not considered previously.
 - ii. What are some low-cost, high-impact traffic calming solutions to address the risks of the users ?
 - iii. What are some of the most effective ways we can calm traffic, while at the same time educating the user on road safety?
 - iv. What are solutions that consider the 'system' the user is in, and how we can mitigate risk by improving that system. EG: If a child runs into the street, what safety nets are in place that will prevent them from getting hurt? (Signage, art with slow-down messaging, speed humps, bollards, etc).