



2018 VT WALK BIKE SUMMIT: ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

KEYNOTE

RUSS ROCA, Co-owner | [The Path Less Pedaled](#)

Russ and his wife Laura's adventure began in 2009 when they sold everything they owned to travel by bike. They spent three years pedaling across the US and New Zealand, connecting with beautiful landscapes and kind-hearted people – all while sharing stories from our travels, with the goal of inspiring others to also travel by bike. Along the way, they began to see how bicycle travel can bring economic development to rural areas – and they began to connect with community members and rural tourism advocates to develop and grow the concept of bicycle tourism.

SPEAKERS

ANDREW BENTLEY, Assistant Professor | [Green Mountain College](#)

Andrew G. Bentley, Ph.D., is Assistant Professor of Adventure Education at Green Mountain College. He provides distinctive field-based and service-learning courses across the fields of adventure education, parks, recreation, and leisure. His teaching is informed by professional experience as an Outward Bound field instructor, a federal river ranger, and a multi-day whitewater river guide. Dr. Bentley serves as a board member of Slate Valley Trails, a Poultney, Vermont chapter of the Vermont Mountain Bike Association and is chairperson of the SVT's Trail Committee.

DANIEL BIGGS, RLA, Team Leader/ Sr. Landscape Architect | [WSE Inc](#)

Dan is a Registered Landscape Architect with more than 13 years of multi-disciplinary experience in all phases of landscape architecture design and environmental planning projects. His background includes leading multi-disciplinary teams on master planning, mixed-use and commercial site design, parks and recreational facilities, multi-use trails, campus improvements, and multi-modal transportation projects. Dan is also a certified arborist and irrigation designer.

JESSE BOUDART, Project Engineer | [Toole Design](#)

Jesse Boudart is a transportation engineer who works for Toole Design Group, which specializes in active transportation planning/design. He has spent considerable effort supporting bicycle traffic signal improvements for the cities of Portland, Boston, and beyond. He has also worked on multimodal traffic analysis issues in New England, helping communities think differently about how people should be moved throughout a city or region.

Outside of work Jesse has been bicycle touring for the last eight years. Lately, he has been doing more “bikepacking” tours, which typically involve off-road adventures. He generally likes to mix raw camping with glamping.

JONATHAN BRADDICK, Project Manager | [Team Better Block](#)

As project manager, Jonathan handles public outreach, sets the schedule and keeps the project moving forward. He is skilled in communications, data management and can swing a hammer with the best of them. His background in IT, bicycle advocacy and general get it done attitude prepared him for this position. He has been recognized as 20 of the metro area’s most interesting characters in 2015 by the Dallas Observer. A local Oak Cliff advocate for better bicycle infrastructure, Jonathan was one of the original Better Block’s community volunteers that helped put the design/build concept to work. He’s worked to get more bicycle infrastructure implemented on Dallas’ aging roadways, presiding as the first Dallas Bicycle Coalition president and board member of Bike Friendly Oak Cliff. He’s the business owner of Oak Cliff Cargo Bicycles and founder of the Bicycle Brewery Tour.

SOMMER BUCOSSI, Planning Coordinator | [Vermont Agency of Transportation](#)

Sommer Roefaro Bucossi joined Vermont Agency of Transportation in 2013 as a Planning Coordinator after earning a M.S. in Civil Engineering at Montana State University. Working in the Policy, Planning, and Research Bureau of VTrans allows her the enjoyment of working on the full breadth of transportation topics and issues. She is passionate about the impact transportation and land use has on one’s quality of life and feels fortunate to work as a transportation professional. Sommer is an avid bicyclist both on and off-road, and most grateful for her 3 year old daughter’s laughter.

KATIE CATANIA, Student | [Green Mountain College](#)

Katie Catania served in the US Army, is a volunteer with the Town of Poultney, Vermont, Fire Department, and is an undergraduate student at Green Mountain College. She completed the course Essentials of Mountain Biking with Dr. Bentley and participated in three service-projects that promoted sustainability in Rutland County, Vermont.

JASON CHAREST, Senior Transportation Planning Engineer | [Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission](#)

Jason Charest, P.E. is a Senior Transportation Planning Engineer with the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC). Jason’s experience encompasses a wide range of topics in the transportation planning and traffic engineering fields including: scoping and corridor studies, traffic microsimulation, road safety audits, travel demand modeling, and traffic impact studies. Jason holds Bachelor’s degrees in Civil Engineering and Liberal Arts from the University of Vermont and Saint Michael’s College respectively.

MIKE CHARRON, Civil Rights Specialist | [Vermont Center for Independent Living](#)

Mike is the Civil Rights/ Community Access Specialist at the Vermont Center for Independent Living, since 2010. He has a degree in Behavioral Sciences/Psychology, and in June of 2012 became the first nationally certified ADA Coordinator in the country. He works with people who have disabilities to assist in promoting equal access under the ADA laws, and in assisting state and local governments and municipalities in meeting the compliance requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act regulations.

DAVE COHEN, Founder | [VBike](#)

Dave has over 30 years of experience promoting biking for everyday transportation. Among numerous transportation projects in the San Francisco Bay Area, Dave founded Pedal Express in Berkeley, CA, a bicycle delivery service utilizing a fleet of cargo bikes. Pedal Express gained national recognition for its innovative business model and creative partnerships. In 2015, he founded VBike (www.vbikesolutions.org), an advocacy group dedicated to promoting new bicycle technologies and designs to shift Vermont's bike culture towards a far more transportation-oriented future. Dave works as an integrative psychotherapist in Brattleboro, VT (www.davecohencounseling.com), specializing in mindfulness, body-centered modalities and drawing on wisdom from the field of ecopsychology.

EAMMON COUGHLIN, Senior Transportation Planner | [Berkshire Regional Planning Commission](#)

Eammon Coughlin is a native Vermonter who now resides in the Berkshires of Western Massachusetts, a region not unlike much of the Green Mountain State. Eammon is a Senior Transportation Planner at Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) in Pittsfield, Ma. He has worked directly with over 10 communities to implement Complete Streets Prioritization plans in the Berkshires. Eammon is a graduate of UVM and Cornell who works to increase options for nonmotorized transportation to improve quality of life, public health, strengthen local economies, and build resilient communities.

DAN CURRIER, Transportation Planner | [Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission](#)

Daniel lives in Montpelier, VT and has worked for the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission for the past 13 years. Dan leads the Commission's Transportation Program and provides support to the GIS department and water quality programs. His main responsibilities including regional transportation planning and municipal road stormwater master planning.

EVAN DETRICK, Director of Transportation Planning | [VHB](#)

Evan is a Civil Engineer with over 30 years of experience supporting federal, state, and municipal projects. He has completed the planning and design of projects, including a variety of sidewalks, pathways, and trails; roadway reconstruction; property and topographic surveys; bridge; and stormwater improvement projects. Evan was the project manager for the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail and for the final design and

construction phase services on Phase 2 of the Burlington Bike Path Rehabilitation; and has managed the development of significant path projects in St. Johnsbury, Montpelier, and Barre City.

JESSE DEVLIN, Highway Safety & Design Program Manager | [Vermont Agency of Transportation](#)

Jesse Devlin, P.E. works as the Program Manager of the Highway, Safety & Design Section at the Vermont Agency of Transportation. He earned his B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Vermont in 2003 and his professional engineer license in 2008. In his fifteen years with the Agency of Transportation he has worked as an engineer and project manager within the Roadway Design and Traffic Design groups which has allowed him to work on a wide range of transportation projects.

STEPHEN DEVOE, EMS Occupant Protection and Naloxone Distribution Coordinator | [Vermont Department of Health](#)

Steve coordinates multiple programs focusing on emergency medical services (EMS) and injury prevention at the Vermont Department of Health. He oversees the day-to-day responsibilities of both the Naloxone Distribution and EMS Occupant Protection programs, as well as supervises the Pedestrian Safety Program, that includes data collection, analysis, report writing, and communication with programmatic partner organizations. Mr. DeVoe has over 15 years' experience working in clinical healthcare as a mental health counselor and emergency medical technician. He holds a Master of Public Health degree and a Master of Science in Mental Health Counseling from the University of Vermont.

ADAM FRANCO, Chair | [Walk-Bike Council of Addison County](#)

Adam Franco is a year-round bicycle commuter from Middlebury and the chair of the newly-formed Walk-Bike Council of Addison County. A software developer by trade, Adam is fascinated by how infrastructure design affects the behaviors of people in our communities and how we choose to get around.

MARY ANN GOULETTE, Town Manager | [Town of West Rutland](#)

Mary Ann has worked as Town Manager in West Rutland for the last nine years. In the last two years, she has received nearly \$1,000,000 in grants towards sidewalk improvements. Currently, she is working with Rutland Town to design and construct a multi-use path along Business Route 4 to connect with Rutland City's Creek Path. Previously, she worked 5 years as the executive director for the Downtown Rutland Partnership specializing in business development, special events and marketing. She is currently a Board of Director with the Rutland Chamber of Commerce, Rutland Economic Development Corp. and Vermont League Cities and Towns. She received her Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Business Administration at St. Michael's College. She is married and has two sons, ages 15 and 17.

GREG GOYETTE, Senior Associate | [Stantec](#)

Greg Goyette, P.E. is a Senior Associate in Transportation with Stantec in South Burlington. Greg has helped several communities throughout Vermont to improve walking and biking through thoughtful planning and design of infrastructure. Greg holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Clarkson University.

PHIL HAMMERSLOUGH | [Local Motion](#)

Phil Hammerslough and Stu Lindsay attended an Alliance for Biking and Walking workshop “Winning Campaigns” in the spring of 2011, designed to help members of the local cycling community create and improve local policies and infrastructure to make their cities more bike and walk friendly. Although they had different reasons for attending, they quickly decided to collaborate on a mission to create a system offering secure bicycle parking at the Farmer’s Market as well as festivals and events.

For their first trial season of volunteer efforts in 2012, they parked approximately 150 cycles with skepticism from local officials that there was an actual need for the service. The service transitioned into a Local Motion service in 2014. As it has matured over the years, it has been embraced by the same officials and the community to the point where it is now considered mandatory for events occurring on Burlington Parks and Recreation property.

LAURA JACOBY, Executive Director | [Old Spokes Home](#)

Laura Jacoby has a Master of Education degree with a specialization in organizational development and learning. Having recently returned to Vermont after a stint in the Middle East developing staff and organizational capacity for local nonprofits, she is now working with the team at Old Spokes Home to build their youth mechanics training program.

JON KAPLAN, Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Manager | [Vermont Agency of Transportation](#)

Jon Kaplan has been the Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Manager at the VT Agency of Transportation (VTrans) since 2009 and has worked in the program since 2000. He was the Vermont Safe Routes to School Coordinator for 2 years during the formative period of that program. Jon is involved with project funding and development, policy, internal and external coordination, development and dissemination of safety material, and encouragement of bicycling and walking in Vermont. Jon has particular expertise in designing pedestrian facilities for accessibility (ADA compliance) and in the planning and design of Complete Streets. He is a registered civil engineer who has been involved primarily with bicycle and pedestrian facility planning and design since 1993. His experience includes working in both the private and public sector, including transportation project planning and design work, traffic studies and general transportation planning work at one of Vermont’s Regional Planning Commissions. Jon graduated with a B.S. in Civil Engineering and is a registered Professional Engineer in

Vermont. He is a member of the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals and the Institute of Transportation Engineers.

KRISTINE KEENEY, Community Planner | [Mad River Valley Planning District](#)

Kristine Keeney is a Community Planner at the Mad River Valley Planning District. In her current position she focuses on transportation and affordable housing in rural Vermont. Kristine previously worked as the Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator for the City of Portland, Maine's Planning & Urban Development Department. She has experience in multi-modal infrastructure project management and transportation demand management. She has worked on many bicycle and pedestrian related planning initiatives including bike corrals and racks, bike sharing, abandoned bicycles, sidewalk materials, complete street design, and strategic transportation planning. Kristine holds a Master's of Urban Planning from Tufts University.

TINA M. LEE, Civil Rights Specialist, Vermont and Massachusetts Division | [Federal Highway Administration](#)

Tina Lee was the first recipient of Federal Highway Administration's Diversity & Inclusion Award in December of 2017. She joined Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in 2011 as a Civil Rights Specialist. She is currently responsible for oversight of Civil Rights compliance for the state transportation agencies in Vermont and Massachusetts. Prior to joining FHWA, Tina worked for New York State DOT in New York City. She provided guidance and training to NYC stakeholders responsible for the locally let projects which includes the reconstruction of the World Trade Center. Tina has over 31 years of federal service. Her proudest achievements include serving as the IRS resident expert for investigating Sexual Harassments complaints for over 20,000 employees and serving as the President of the Association for the Improvement of Minorities in the IRS (AIM-IRS) Manhattan-Brooklyn Chapter. Tina is a self-proclaimed transportation geek, writer and film maker. She is currently the Chairperson of the Mentoring and Student Engagement subcommittee for the International Women's Issues in Transportation Committee and a member of New York Women in Film & Television. More importantly, Tina is the proud parent of 4 children (3 adults and one teenager).

STU LINDSAY, Valet Bike Parking Coordinator | [Local Motion](#)

While enjoying a bicycle trip through the Netherlands in 2010, Stu discovered the benefits of the Dutch Fietsenstalling or Secure Bike Parking System available throughout Holland and was inspired to implement a similar system in Burlington. Subsequent visits to the Netherlands and Belgium have only reinforced his vision that this should be a service offered in many of Vermont's communities.

NICOLE LOSCH, Senior Transportation Planning Engineer | [City of Burlington](#)

Nicole Losch, PTP, is a Senior Transportation Planning Engineer with the City of Burlington Department of Public Works. Nicole has worked diligently to implement several low-cost bicycling improvements on the City's streets including the North Avenue Pilot Project, the Flynn Avenue advisory bike lanes, and the Union Street protected bike lane. Nicole

holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Geography and Natural Resources Planning from Humboldt State University in Northern California.

GWEN MILLER, Town Planner | [Town of Lenox, MA](#)

Gwen Miller, AICP is the Town Planner (and Land Use Director) in Lenox, Massachusetts. In Lenox, Gwen provides support to a number of land use boards and works closely with Town departments such as the Department of Public Works to implement Complete Street practices into infrastructure projects. After obtaining a Master's in Regional Planning from the UMass-Amherst Landscape Architecture & Regional Planning Program, Gwen worked on a variety of planning efforts at the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission. Gwen became interested in urban and regional planning as an Americorps VISTA on Syracuse's Northside, where she saw first-hand the value of planning and community development every day after graduating from UVM's Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources. She finds the planning field to be an exciting opportunity to improve quality of life today while plotting the course for a sustainable long-term future in the beautiful Berkshires where she grew up. Gwen enjoys exploring the Berkshires on skis, bike and by foot, and loves canoeing the lakes of Vermont with her partner and looking for loons.

PEGGY O'NEILL-VIVANCO, Workforce Outreach Coordinator | [University of Vermont](#)

Peggy O'Neill-Vivanco is workforce outreach coordinator at UVM's Transportation Research Center, working on FHWA grants that explore and develop career pathways in environmental transportation discipline, including shared mobility. She is also the co-coordinator of the Vermont Clean Cities Coalition. She holds an MA from New York University. She is a year-round bike commuter, and advocate for safe bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure for all users.

DREW POLLAK-BRUCE, Associate Planner | [SE Group](#)

Drew is an Associate Planner with SE Group who manages trails and active transportation projects throughout the US, often focusing on the confluence of recreation, transportation, and economics. Drew has led active transportation workshops throughout the US and spoken at numerous state and national conferences, including the Walk-Bike New York Conference, the Creating Healthy Places Conference, the Vermont Conference on Recreation, the Colorado APA Conference, and many others. Drew holds a Master of Regional Planning from Cornell University, is a Certified Park and Recreation Professional, and sits on the board of the Burlington Chapter of Young Professionals in Transportation.

CAROLYN RADISCH, Urban Design Planner | [Greenman-Pedersen Inc.](#)

Carolyn Radisch, AICP is a Senior Transportation Planner at Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. (GPI) and specializes in the intersection of transportation planning and urban design. She has had the opportunity to work with many of Vermont's downtown communities to improve walking, bicycling, transit and related economic development options.

MEGAN RIGONI, Pedestrian Safety Coordinator | [Vermont Department of Health](#)

Megan is the Pedestrian Safety Coordinator at the Vermont Department of Health. She started this position in March. Prior to her work in pedestrian safety she worked on suicide prevention and children's health. Megan earned both a Bachelor of Science degree in Dietetics, Nutrition and Food Science and a Master of Public Health degree at The University of Vermont. You can often find Megan walking with her two dogs or biking around town.

ROSS SAXTON, Business Partnerships Manager | [Local Motion](#)

A native Vermonter, Ross works to get more people commuting on bikes, improve our roads for cycling, and engage businesses to improve the bikability of Vermont communities. Ross is also focused on increasing e-bike usage across Vermont as an affordable and reliable way to travel that helps the state achieve carbon emission reduction goals. In addition to his work around bikes, Ross has worked with local and national organizations to ban oil trains, improve water quality and fisheries, and motivate Americans to become active with climate change solutions.

JANICE STARKEY

Janice Starkey worked in public and private accounting for 8 years and stayed at home for 13. While at home she helped non-profits and became involved in community projects, most recently, a sidewalk extension along the busiest road in Hanover.

KELLY STODDARD-POOR, Associate State Director | [AARP](#)

Kelly joined the AARP Vermont team in 2013 as the Associate State Director. Kelly's background is in public policy and community organizing with a strong commitment to social justice. She leads the livable community work for AARP VT - establishing a vision and action steps for Vermont communities to meet the needs of its aging population. Prior to AARP Kelly spent eight years at the American Cancer Society where she was the Director of Health and Advocacy Initiatives. She managed the state's cancer control program and advocacy campaigns to reduce tobacco use, increase screening rates and enhance access to health care. She earned her undergraduate degree in anthropology at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, and completed a master's degree in sustainable development at the School for International Training in VT. She lives in Montpelier, VT.

TOM STUESSY, Executive Director | [Vermont Mountain Bike Association](#)

As the Executive Director of the Vermont Mountain Bike Association, Tom works with VMBA chapters, public land managers and businesses to strengthen Vermont's outdoor opportunities and economy in a manner that supports a broad spectrum of thoughtful outcomes.

CLAIRE TEBBS, Planner | [Addison County Regional Planning Commission](#)

In partnership with Local Motion, Claire Tebbs assisted in the creation of the Walk-Bike Council of Addison County and continues to facilitate the group's forward momentum.

She is a Senior Planner at Addison County Regional Planning Commission and is passionate about expanding capacity for safe walking and biking in Addison County and throughout Vermont.

RJ THOMPSON, Executive Director | [Vermont Hut Association](#)

RJ Thompson is the executive director of the Vermont Huts Association, a nonprofit based in Stowe. A long-time skier, mountain biker, and trail runner, RJ loves sharing his passion for the outdoors with anyone who is willing to join him. He holds a B.S. in Business Administration from the University of Vermont and an M.S. in Environmental Studies from Green Mountain College. With experience in backcountry event planning, RJ also serves on the Green Mountain Club's Camps and Trail Management Committees. When RJ is inside, you can find him dancing to random folk songs with his wife, Olivia.

JASON VAN DRIESCHE, Deputy Director | [Local Motion](#)

Having served as Local Motion's interim Executive Director during 2017 while we conducted a search for a permanent ED, Jason joined Local Motion as Education and Safety Manager in 2009, was our Director of Advocacy & Education from 2012-2015, and our Deputy Director from 2015-2016. Jason oversees Local Motion's advocacy work and technical assistance services, supporting local advocates and local governments that want to make their communities better places to walk and bike. Jason is also responsible for building and expanding Local Motion's highly successful BikeSmart program, the Safe Streets Project, Local Motion's bike commuter workshops, and other initiatives designed to make biking and walking safer and easier. He lives in Burlington's South End, where he bikes and walks to work year-round.

CECILE WALSH, Student | [Green Mountain College](#)

Cecile Walsh is a senior Adventure Education major and Wilderness and Outdoor Therapy minor at Green Mountain College. She has 21 years of experience as an equestrian and alpine skier and teaches both of these arts in an effort to share her passion for the sports, to help others develop a connection to the outdoors, and as an alternative way of learning. Cecile is president of GMC's Equestrian Club, a student leader of the college's recreational outing program - GreenMAP, and a Vermont Adaptive intern at Pico Mountain.

RICHARD WATTS, Assistant Research Professor | [University of Vermont](#)

Richard is currently the Director of the Center for Research on Vermont and the founding co-chair of Sustainable Transportation Vermont. For five years Richard worked as a public outreach consultant to the Vermont Agency of Transportation. And has also served as the Research Director at the Transportation Research Center at the University of Vermont. His research focuses on the relationships between public communications and policy outcomes, examining the role of strategic communications in public policy related to energy, transportation and public health.

GREG WESTERN, Executive Director | [Cross Vermont Trail Association](#)

Greg Western is the Executive Director of the Cross Vermont Trail Association. CVTA works with local communities to promote, improve and extend local trails with the ultimate goal of an interconnected network of four season, multi-use trails for recreation, healthy activity, appreciation of nature, and alternative transportation - connecting neighborhoods, schools and wild natural areas - across Vermont! We also work to promote run on sentences.

ERICA WYGONIK, Director | [RSG Inc.](#)

Erica Wygonik, PhD, PE is a transportation engineer with RSG, based here in White River Junction, Vermont, where she plans for all modes of transportation using advanced mapping and modeling. She is also a former member of the Hanover Bicycle - Pedestrian Committee (HBPC). Erica worked with her neighbors and the HBPC to build town support to get a sidewalk extended.

MARY YATES, Founding Member | [Walk-Bike Council of Addison County](#)

Mary Yates has led adult bicycle tours both near and far for 30 years but is now championing for the Safe Routes to School program at Bristol Elementary School – hoping to promote cycling & walking as viable transportation alternatives. You’ll see her & her daughter June biking between home and school as part of the Walk-n-Roll to School Wednesdays in May.

TOM YENNERELL, Town Manager | [Town of Springfield](#)

Tom Yennerell has served as Town Manager of Springfield, VT since 2014 and has been a Town Manager for 20 years. He has managed four different towns in three different states and has been involved numerous bicycle and pedestrian projects. He is an avid bicyclist, hiker, skier.

BETHANY YON, Public Health Specialist | [Vermont Department of Health](#)

Bethany Yon is a Public Health Specialist in Addison County focusing on Chronic Disease Prevention with the Vermont Department of Health. Most of her work focuses on supporting community partners (coalitions, municipalities, workplaces, schools and hospitals) with their efforts to make Vermont one of the best places to live, work, and play. She serves on the Council’s “Culture Shift & Marketing” and “Municipal & Agency Outreach” working groups.