Case Study

Walkable Washington

The Walkable Washington program grew out of the Feet First Cities Program. It showcases exceptional pedestrian-oriented improvements, community groups and outreach programs; maintains a statewide network for key contacts and stakeholders including an annual symposium; and provides assistance with Safe Routes to School, walking audits and other educational activities and programs.

Know Your Island Walks
San Juan Island, WA

Description and purpose
Since 2010, the San Juan Island Know Your Island Walk series has helped residents of the island to explore their history, parks, trails and public infrastructure. Walks run on the last Saturday of the month, January through October. The goal of the program has been to encourage residents of San Juan Island to get out and explore publicly accessible lands on foot. Each walk lasts approximately 2-3 hours and features a guest leader from the community who talks about the history, character and environment of the featured location. The walks are free to attend and open to all ages and abilities.

As an ongoing goal, the San Juan Island Trails Committee strives to make it safer and easier to traverse the Island without the use of a car by creating interconnected networks of non-motorized trails between popular resources and destinations.
Costs and funding
The San Juan Island Trails Committee is primarily a volunteer organization which receives the majority of its funding through the local parks department, Island Recreation.

Community involvement
The monthly walks are open to all and take place on land that is publicly held and typically accessible to all. The SJI Trails Committee also holds regular meetings, trail maintenance days and events throughout the year.

Benefits and results
The Know Your Island walks have become a popular monthly feature among the visitors and residents of San Juan Island. Guest leaders have ranged from enthusiastic volunteers, to historians, to public officials, such as the Directors of Public Works for both San Juan County and the Town of Friday Harbor. The walks provide not only opportunities to exercise and to experience the beauty of San Juan, but also to create long-lasting and vital connections between members of the San Juan Island community.

Project Contacts
San Juan Island Trails Committee
info@sanjuanislandtrails.org
(360)378-4953

Resources
San Juan Island Trail Committee
http://sanjuanislandtrails.org/
2014 Know Your Island Walks
http://sanjuanislandtrails.org/whats_happening/know-your-island-walks-2014/