Towards a walking world

safe & efficient transportation system

Website connectivity

Traffic calming measures

City streets

Places

Cultural diversity

Visibility

Vision Zero

Vision Zero policies

Pedestrian and health campaigns

Road share

Pop-up and temporary initiatives

Redundant spaces reallocation

Economic incentives

Infrastructure re-use

Innovative public spaces

Pavement streets

Footpath parks

Street design and furniture

Public art

DIY opportunities

Street trees

Pedestrian and health campaigns

Integration with public transport

Productive streets

Playful interaction and sound

Infrastructure re-use

Cycling

Pedestrian networks

Wayfinding systems

Healthy city

Parking

ACCESSIBILITY

Wayfinding systems

Walkable connectivity

Design can remove barriers between physical space and people. Tactile cues, such as safety, navigation and visibility – light installations can effectively be used to welcome people in dark public spaces. Capitalising on creative solutions can also engage the local community. Arup developed a wayfinding system as part of the Footpath Parks initiative. The signage systems were designed to be visually appealing and functional, borrowing design elements from the rest of the streetscape. They also communicate the benefits of walking to local residents and visitors.

Pedestrian and health campaigns

What does it mean to be energetic? When people set out to walk, they often do it for fitness, health, weight loss or just to get some fresh air. Yet walking is also an activity that has been found to have a positive impact on mental health. In many cities, pedestrian and health campaigns are a way to encourage people to walk. They can involve public events, awareness campaigns, or even changes to the city infrastructure. For example, urban planners may introduce walkable connectivity, where streets are designed to encourage people to walk. This includes creating pedestrian-friendly streets, reducing traffic volumes, and adding greenery or seating areas. By doing so, the city becomes more inviting and accessible for those who wish to walk. This can also improve air quality and reduce noise pollution. In addition, pedestrian and health campaigns can help reduce the number of accidents involving pedestrians. By increasing awareness and promoting safe walking practices, cities can create a safer and more inviting environment for everyone.

Integration with public transport

The public realm and outdoors are more accessible and comfortable in a walkable city. Many urban areas are being designed to accommodate walking and cycling. In some cases, this is achieved by reallocating space from other modes of transportation, such as cars and buses. For example, some cities have introduced bus rapid transit systems that operate in designated lanes. These lanes are separated from other traffic and provide a much faster and more efficient way to travel. Other cities have introduced bike lanes or pedestrian-friendly streets, which reduce the need for people to use cars. By making walking and cycling more convenient, cities can encourage people to use these modes of transportation instead of cars. This can help reduce traffic congestion, improve air quality, and promote a healthier lifestyle. In addition, walkable cities can provide a more enjoyable experience for people who want to explore the city on foot. By creating a pedestrian-friendly environment, cities can attract more tourists and visitors, who may choose to stay longer or return in the future. This can help boost the local economy and create a more vibrant and dynamic urban landscape.