

- **WORKSHOP A: Complete Stations Assessments: A Road Map to a Better Train Station in Your Neighborhood** | Moderator: Marissa Dolin – Active Transportation Alliance

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Transit riders often become accustomed to the routine of their commute and resign themselves to navigating outdated or inadequate infrastructure. These inadequacies also act as a barrier for many people who continue to choose driving instead of biking, walking and transit. Active Transportation Alliance has created a new community organizing tool to help communities evaluate their local transit stations and advocate for improved passenger amenities and access to the station by all modes of transportation. The assessment gives transit riders a tool to improve their transit experience and helps make it easier to choose walking or biking to transit while leaving the car at home.

This new assessment applies place-making ideas to public transit infrastructure, thereby encouraging more transit travel. Active Transportation Alliance partners with individuals and community organizations to conduct Complete Stations Assessments of local train stations. The audience is typically a group of engaged residents (5-30 people) with interest in improving transit in their neighborhood. Through our assessment, residents rethink their train stations and suggest improvements, which are then used to inspire community lead advocacy and get the attention of important stakeholders.

This station assessment tool has been successful in engaging over 50 community members in outreach activities designing better train stations. To date, we have conducted five station assessments on train lines operated by three different agencies. Of the five, three have been presented by the advocates to local public officials and one has prompted a municipality to seek funding for improvements. Workshop participants will use the UIC-Halsted stop on the Blue Line to conduct an assessment on an operating CTA station. Please note this is not a mobile workshop and will take place at the conference site.

