



APRIL 30 – MAY 6, 2018

PRESENTS



“Cities have the capability of providing something for everybody, only because, and only when, they are created by everybody.”

—JANE JACOBS, DEATH AND LIFE OF GREAT AMERICAN CITIES

All walks and events during Jane Week are free and open to the public.

Rain or shine! Dress for the weather! Pre-registration suggested but not required. For Jane Walks, please show up five to ten minutes before scheduled departure time.

## Come out and experience Worcester with the Worcester Urban Planning Partnership!

Jane Week gives Worcester residents and visitors a chance to connect to each other, explore Worcester by foot and participate in interesting discussions on how we can enhance the design and function of our city. The event is named for Jane Jacobs, an urban theorist and activist who championed a community-based approach to city building. Jane Week in Worcester is primarily composed of Jane Walks, volunteer-led walking tours, a pop-up parklet and other forums. Jane Week in Worcester joins an international movement that occurs the first week in May in over 250 cities across the world.

[www.janejacobsinthewoo.org/jane-week-2018](http://www.janejacobsinthewoo.org/jane-week-2018)

[f /janeweekwoo](https://www.facebook.com/janeweekwoo)

## What is the Worcester Urban Planning Partnership (UPP)?

In honor of Jane Jacobs' 100th birthday in May 2016, “Jane Jacobs in the Woo” was founded to initiate a year of conversations and actions to build a more vibrant Worcester. During this year, leaders interested in preservation, walkability, open space, and community development gathered to form a coalition later named the Worcester Urban Planning Partnership (UPP). We believe in Worcester's potential and promise to become one of the most livable cities in New England and beyond. We are working together to create a lively city with active streets, sidewalks and strong neighborhoods. The five essential building blocks include:

- **Preserve Worcester's unique attributes:** We support the creative reuse of our historic properties and advocate the development of locally owned stores and restaurants.
- **Build walkability into our street design:** We want streets for people and bicycles not just for cars! We support Worcester's adoption of a Complete Streets policy providing equitable street use for walkers, cyclists and car drivers. Additionally, we advocate for the strategic design and placement of parking lots and garages.
- **Practice excellence in building design:** We encourage mixed-use, compact development with windows and doors linking buildings to the street. We support the creation of guidelines, regulations and processes that promote high-quality architecture and best practices in urban design in Worcester.
- **Improve the Public Realm:** Well-designed sidewalks, street trees, public art, high-quality parks and green spaces make Worcester vibrant and fun and encourage more people to be on the street, participating in civic life.
- **Welcome Civic Participation in the Development Process:** We advocate for increased opportunities for the public to participate in planning processes and comment on proposed projects. Information on projects before the Conservation Commission, Historical Commission, Planning Board, and Zoning Board of Appeals should be made available electronically for public review. Moreover, public notification by Department of Public Works and Parks of upcoming maintenance or construction work on streets, sidewalks and street tree removals should be made to affected parties well in advance of such work.

Questions or comments? Contact us at [janejacobsinthewoo@gmail.com](mailto:janejacobsinthewoo@gmail.com).

### KEY PARTNERS



## Who was Jane Jacobs?

Jane Jacobs (1916–2006) was an American-born writer and activist best known for her writings about cities. Her first book, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities* (1961), upended the ideas of modernist city planning and building, and offered a new vision of diverse, fine-grained cities made for and by ordinary people. After moving from New York City to Toronto in 1968, she published six more major books about cities, economics, ethics, governance and culture, two of them Canadian bestsellers.



## Ten Big Ideas

1. **Eyes on the Street:** Pedestrian traffic throughout the day, and the watchful eyes that come with it, enhance the safety of city streets.
2. **Social Capital:** The everyday activities and interactions that occur in a neighborhood slowly build up a network of relationships between neighbors. This “social capital” provides a foundation for mutual trust, shared efforts, and resilience in times of trouble.
3. **The Generators of Diversity:** Four factors in city planning and design help make the city diverse, safe, social, convenient, and economically vibrant:
  - a. **Mixed Uses:** A mixture of all kinds of residences, workplaces, and shops brings people out on the street at all times of day.
  - b. **Aged Buildings:** Humdrum, rundown buildings provide cheap space for new businesses and other low- or no-profit enterprises.
  - c. **Small Blocks:** A denser street network means more opportunities for retail and more chances for people to meet their neighbors.
  - d. **Population Density:** Simply put, you need lots of people in a small area to provide enough use for a city's streets, parks, and enterprises.
4. **Form Still Follows Function:** Fashions and technologies come and go, but what always remains relevant are the countless ways that people use the city, how the city works as a whole, and whether or not our urban design and planning reflect and serve those functions.
5. **Local Economies:** Economic growth, whether local, national or global, relies on the ability of urban economies to provide amply and diversely for themselves, rather than relying on imports.
6. **Innovation:** All new work is added to fragments of older work, like the first dressmaker to take up bra-making to improve the fit of her dresses. The greater the diversity of existing work in a local economy, the more opportunities to add new work and recombine old work in new ways.
7. **Make Many Little Plans:** The diversity of a good neighborhood can only be achieved when we allow many different people to pursue their own little plans, individually and collectively.
8. **Gradual Money:** Both diverse little plans and new kinds of work require diverse little sources of money available on an ongoing basis. Unfortunately, both public and private sources often only provide money floods and money droughts instead.
9. **Cities as Organized Complexity:** Cities function like ecosystems. Everything is connected to everything else in intricate, particular ways that cannot be captured well by statistics or formulas. Only close observation and reasoning from the bottom up will do.
10. **Citizen Science:** The people best equipped to understand urban complexity are “ordinary, interested citizens.” Without the assumptions that often come with professional training, everyday users of the city can learn more freely from what they see and experience firsthand.

Written by Nate Storrington for the Jane's Walk Project Office. Contact us at [info@janewalk.org](mailto:info@janewalk.org).

# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## Monday, April 30

### BUCK BUS

**Monday, April 30**

The Worcester Railers, Worcester Regional Transit Authority, and Worcester Regional Research Bureau are proud to present *Buck Bus*, a one-day-only game show riding a bus near you! Throughout the day, select passengers aboard the WRTA will be surprised with the opportunity to win cash and prizes by correctly answering local trivia. Tom “Tuesday” Matthews from the Worcester Railers will host, so ride the bus and bring your thinking caps! Join us as we highlight the critical role of public transit in city life. *Buck Bus* will be videotaped, premiering on May 1st on “Tuesdays with Tom” and aired throughout the week via the Railers social media channels.

### WALK DISTRICT 4 WITH CITY COUNCILOR SARAI RIVERA

**Monday, April 30, 3–4 PM, Meet at University Park, intersection of Main and Gates streets**

Join Councilor Rivera to discover Main South and Piedmont’s vibrant green spaces, explore the rich diversity of walkable streets and take an exclusive look inside the redevelopment of a new affordable housing project.

### PIEDMONT-MAIN SOUTH GROWN: AN URBAN AG TOUR

**Monday, April 30, 4:30–5:30 PM, Meet at 63 Oread Street**

Worcester is at the cutting edge of urban agriculture initiatives with urban orchards, community garden spaces and garden collectives. Come see how we have blended youth jobs, immigrant skills, community and agriculture into the heart of Main South and Piedmont.

*Organized by Worcester Common Ground, Regional Environmental Council and Worcester Tree Initiative*

### POW! WOW! MURALS: GET SCHOOLED!

**Monday, April 30, 5:45 PM, Meet in Elm Park Community School parking lot, 23 North Ashland Street**

Take a walk around Elm Park Community School to view the set of murals placed about the school’s exterior in 2017 and learn about the artists who created them.

*Organized by POW! WOW! Worcester*

## Tuesday, May 1

### CITIZEN JANE: BATTLE FOR THE CITY

**Tuesday, May 1, 5:30 PM Reception, 6:00 PM Film and Discussion, Park View Room, 230 Park Avenue**

This documentary film tells the story of Jane Week’s namesake, Jane Jacobs, journalist, mother, urban theorist and activist, she fought the orthodox city planning of Robert Moses and harnessed people power to save the soul of New York City in the 1960s by focusing on the role that diversity and the built environment play in creating vibrant urban communities. View the film and join an interactive discussion focused on Jacobs’ work and its lessons for Worcester today.

Registration suggested: [info@preservationworcester.org](mailto:info@preservationworcester.org) or 508-754-8760.



*Presented by the American Institute of Architects, Central Massachusetts Chapter and Preservation Worcester*

## Thursday, May 3

### THE MASTER PLAN: CRAFTING A SHARED VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF WORCESTER

**Thursday, May 3, 7:45–9 AM, The Park View Room, 230 Park Avenue**

In 2017, the City of Worcester announced plans to undertake a city-wide master plan, the first in three decades. The plan will consider the needs of both the downtown and the neighborhoods, focusing on land use and opportunities to encourage new investment and vibrancy. A panel of experts in this forum will explore the construct and purpose of a master plan and offer considerations for the City of Worcester as it begins its 18-month initiative.



*Organized by Worcester Regional Research Bureau*

## Friday, May 4

### WALK DISTRICT 1 WITH CITY COUNCILOR SEAN ROSE

**Friday, May 4, 5–6 PM, Meet at the former Barber’s Crossing, 321 West Boylston Street**

Walk with Councilor Rose and appreciate the rich architecture and cultural history of District 1. Experience physical barriers, observe challenges and engage in discussions on ways to transform the area into a vibrant node that is pedestrian, bus, bike and business friendly.

## Saturday, May 5

### BIKE TO QUINSIGAMOND VILLAGE!

**Saturday, May 5, 9–10 AM, Meet at the parking lot at Coes Park, 42 Lakeside Avenue**

Thinking of heading to Quinsigamond Village for our Jane Week celebration? Consider ditching the car and biking over with us for the 4.5 mile jaunt. We’ll begin our ride down Mill Street, a street that we want to see redesigned as a Complete Street and accessible to all users. If you drive to this starting point, please park on the street and not in the parking lot.

*Organized by WalkBike Worcester*

### CELEBRATE QUINSIGAMOND VILLAGE

**Saturday, May 5, 10 AM–2 PM**

Quinsigamond Village is a community that exemplifies Jane Jacobs’ ideals of a living neighborhood. We will focus on the good work done here in a day-long celebration highlighting building preservation, community business improvements and beneficial greenspace planning. Come for an hour or stay as long as you want.

## Saturday, May 5

### WALK DISTRICT 3 WITH CITY COUNCILOR GEORGE RUSSELL

**Saturday, May 5, 10 AM, Meet at the pop-up parklet in front of Quinsigamond Elementary School**

Councilor Russell’s walk will focus on the impact of the Greenwood Street Landfill Task Force on the neighborhood including the creation of the linear park, facade improvement for small businesses and the current rehab of the old firehouse. He will also outline future plans in and around the village.

### POP-UP PARKLET PARTY AT QUINSIGAMOND VILLAGE

**Saturday, May 5, 10 AM–2 PM, Drop-in at the parking lot in front of Quinsigamond Elementary School, 14 Blackstone River Road**

Converting parking spaces into parks makes places lively and people filled. Stop by the pop-up parklet where we will have crafts, story time and other family events throughout the day. Bring a picnic lunch!



*Organized by Action! Worcester*

## Saturday, May 5

### THE NEW BLACKSTONE VALLEY VISITORS CENTER: A SNEAK PREVIEW

**Saturday, May 5, 11 AM –12 PM, Meet at the pop-up parklet in front of Quinsigamond Elementary School**

Planned as a destination recreational facility, the almost completed visitor center has much to offer. Learn about the walking and biking trails that lead through Middle River Park and to Mass Audubon’s Broad Meadow Brook. See and hear how this collaborative project is turning a brownfield into a beautiful 34 acre green space for all to enjoy.

*Jason Benoit, Massachusetts Department of Transportation, Devon Kurtz, Blackstone Heritage Corridor and Jeannette Tozer, Worcester Economic Development Office*

### QUINSIGAMOND VILLAGE: HOW SWEDISH IT IS!

**Saturday, May 5, 12–1 PM, Meet at the pop-up parklet in front of Quinsigamond Elementary School**

Learn about the history of the village as you view examples of its architecture. Find out about how this riverside community grew as Worcester’s wire industry grew, first bringing Irish workers to settle here, later followed by Swedish workers who, by the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, had created a village community where it was possible to conduct just about any activity of daily life in the Swedish language.

*Randy Bloom and Elizabeth Mullaney, Preservation Worcester Docents*

### OLD MEETS NEW: A TOUR OF QUINSIGAMOND COMMUNITY SCHOOL

**Saturday, May 5, 1 PM, Meet at the corner of Falmouth Street in front of Quinsigamond Community School**

Generations of Quinsigamond Village children have attended Quinsigamond School. In the 1980s, after neighbors had called for a new school for years, it was decided to tear down the old school and build a new one. Preservation Worcester and some neighbors hoped there could be a way to preserve the handsome old school building that had so much personal meaning. See the excellent result of the thoughtful process that joined the old and the new. State Representative Dan Donahue will attend and speak.



*Organized by Preservation Worcester*

### PAINT A MURAL!

**Saturday, May 5, 12–5 PM, Drop-in at University Park Playground**

Public art often draws people to public places and serves as a key ingredient for urban revitalization. Try your hand at making public art as local artists guide you through the process of painting a vibrant new mural at University Park playground. All ability levels welcome.



*Main South CDC and Main IDEA Youth and Arts*

## Saturday, May 5

### WALK DISTRICT 5 WITH CITY COUNCILOR MATT WALLY

**Saturday, May 5, 3–4:30 PM, Meet at Stearns Tavern at Coes Pond Park**

Walk with Councilor Wally as he tells of the past and future of Webster Square. Tour will move from Coes Pond on Mill Street to Park Avenue and highlight the future of recreation and walkability in this emerging part of Worcester.

### WALK DISTRICT 2 WITH CITY COUNCILOR CANDY MERO-CARLSON

**Saturday, May 5, 5–6:30 PM, Meet at the Boulevard Diner, 155 Shrewsbury Street**

Join Councilor Carlson for a stroll from Shrewsbury Street to City Hall. This walk will highlight the importance of historic preservation, the linkages of neighborhoods to downtown and Worcester’s new downtown economic development initiatives.

### MAIN STREET WORCESTER: PAST PRESENT AND FUTURE

**Sunday, May 6, 12–2 PM. Meet at the Old Courthouse at 2 Main Street**

Let your imagination embrace this colorful description of Main Street Worcester as it used to be, is now and will be in the future. We will take time to touch, feel and describe the sights around us so be prepared to linger. Intended for all ages and all abilities. Feel free to drop in or leave the walk at anytime.



*Liz Myska, Attorney and Advocate for other abled individuals*

### WORCESTER WALL TO WALL

**Sunday, May 6, 1–2 PM, Meet at Worcester Wares, DCU Center, Door 22, Commercial Street**

Tour downtown streets with POW! WOW! Worcester to enjoy the wide variety of murals, both large and small, that now animate downtown buildings. Learn how an international array of artists in 2016 have brought color and life to our city center. Tour ends at 44 Portland Street.

*Organized by POW! WOW! Worcester*

## Sunday, May 6

### A PEEK AT THE PRINTERS BUILDING

**Sunday, May 6, 2–4 PM, downtown at 44 Portland Street**

Curious about the creative happenings inside the Printers Building? Listen to a blues and jazz concert and WICN’s live in-studio airing. Make bling with Technocopia. Drum with Crocodile River Drumming. See art in the future ArtsWorcester space. Experience tabling and tours with Davis Publications, Worcester Clean Tech Incubator, Edward Street Child Services, Worcester Bookkeeping Cooperative and WPI’s Project Center. Pre-registration suggested: contact [janejacobsinthewoo@gmail.com](mailto:janejacobsinthewoo@gmail.com).



*Organized by the Printers Building Trust*

### “JANE JACOBS IN THE WOO” AWARD CEREMONY

**Sunday, May 6, 4 PM, Printers Building, 44 Portland Street**

“Jane Jacobs in the Woo” will announce the winner of the **2018 Jane Award**, a person, place or project that best emulates the ideals of Jane Jacobs. Join us for some light refreshments.



*Jane Jacobs in the Woo*

