

**Media Contact:**  
Theresa Roach  
Communications & Outreach Manager  
810-235-7894 | troach@crim.org

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**FLINT RECOGNIZED AS A RUNNER FRIENDLY COMMUNITY**  
**City of Flint Among Communities Designated as Safe and Welcoming for Runners**

**(FLINT, MI)** – Flint is joining a growing list of communities that have created an environment that is safe and inviting for runners and walkers. Among the Runner Friendly Communities announced for 2015 are Lakeland, Florida; Detroit, Michigan and Flint, Michigan.

The Road Runners Club of America (RRCA) awards this designation to communities that have shown they have an infrastructure that can foster physical activity in a safe environment; they have a proven track record that organizations and businesses work together to promote running and walking as a healthy exercise and sport, and most importantly, there are positive relationships between the running community and local government.

The Crim Fitness Foundation and partner organizations worked together to complete the assessment and application on behalf of the City of Flint.

“This community has truly embraced running and walking as a healthy form of exercise and we need to promote that as much as we can. This is an opportunity for us to shine a positive light on the city of Flint and show that we have a great infrastructure and a strong culture that supports running and walking,” said Crim Race Director Andrew Younger.

The goal of the RRCA’s Runner Friendly Community program is to shine a national spotlight on communities that stand out as runner-friendly and provide incentives and ideas for communities to work towards becoming runner friendly communities.

Designations like these are helpful as the city and community members work together to implement the city’s new master plan, said Alexandria Harris, Assistant Director of Events and Community Engagement at the Crim Fitness Foundation.

“This new designation is a truly encouraging step forward. Many people from several organizations are collaborating and working very hard to reach goals in the master plan. That task can be daunting at times, but when we receive awards like this one, it shows progress and that can be a great motivator in continuing to make our community more accessible, active and healthy,” said Harris.

For more information about how you can get involved in creating a safe and active Genesee County, visit [www.crim.org](http://www.crim.org) or visit [www.imageflint.com](http://www.imageflint.com) for more details about the city of Flint master plan.