♫ calm music ♫

Title screen: Jackson, Mississippi.

Shots of Jackson and dilapidated roads on a cloudy day.

Scott Crawford leaves his house in an electric wheelchair.

Scott: We need to help liberate folks with disabilities

to help them live as independent as they can be,

and we can't do that without

accessible public rights of way.

We just can't.

Shot of Scott stopping beside an inaccessible sidewalk.

No curb ramps at all.

Scott is interviewed in his living room.

My name is Dr. Scott M. Crawford,

I live here in Jackson, Mississippi.

I have a progressive form of multiple sclerosis,

and believe it or not I'm yelling right now.

This is a yell.

Shot of Scott having to maneuver his wheelchair in the street.

The few sidewalks we do have here in Jackson

are inaccessible.

Photos of severely damaged sidewalks slide on screen.

No curb ramps at all.

Unusable.

I'm talking about dilapidated sidewalks

that haven't been touched in 40 years.

We have probably hundreds of utility poles

that are blocking the width of the sidewalk,

so you can't get by.

Shot of Scott pointing out a utility pole in the middle of the sidewalk.

This is typical, typical.

Grasses and bushes

get in the way of the sidewalk.

Then we have sidewalks to no where,

you know, they just abruptly end.

It's 2016,

and we still have people riding their wheelchairs

in the street.

♫ county blues music ♫

Photographs of several people including Scott having to ride their wheelchairs in busy streets.

Scott: To my knowledge, we've lost four people

since 2009

who have been hit and killed,

just here in Jackson in their wheelchairs.

♫ dramatic music ♫

A newspaper clipping shows a car accident and a crumpled wheelchair.

News anchor 1: Police are investigating a

deadly accident involving two pedestrians.

One of them was in a wheelchair.

News anchor 2: The hit and run that killed 49-year-old

Timothy Ward of Jackson.

Ward was in a wheelchair when the crash happened.

Scott: It's tragic.

It's unacceptable,

and I for one won't tolerate it.

Now, I started taking videos

of locations where I have to

ride in the street, just so I can show the impact

of what this does to people.

Shot of Scott reviewing video footage of him having to ride in busy streets. Cars and trucks zoom passed in all directions.

It's very stressful to ride in traffic with

in a wheelchair.

I can't get my groceries without riding in the street.

That is a pretty significant deterrent

to living on your own, to getting a job.

A newspaper clipping depicting Scott beside an inaccessible sidewalk. Headline reads, “Sidewalk Problems Vex Disabled, Suit Calls for Jackson Compliance.”

I've been filing reports and complaints

and guidance to the city since 2008.

A newspaper clipping with Scott rolling down the street and the headline reading, "Sidewalks Become Battlegrounds.”

Went out and surveyed all the bus routes,

looking for sidewalks and bus stops

that would be higher priority to bring into compliance

and to make the whole system accessible,

Photos of inaccessible bus stops.

and unfortunately the city acted

on very few of those.

A newspaper clipping showing Scott with the headline, "Access: ADA has been in effect since 1990.”

They say we don't have the money,

and I respond to them, do we have the money

to pay someone to do all the things that I could do

for myself?

Do we have the money to institutionalize people

because there's no infrastructure for them to live

in the communities of their choice?

Really?

That's 70k a year to put me in a nursing home.

I'm trying to live as long as I can

with my disease as independently as I can.

Having a disability

and being constantly obstructed

Scott reaches down to pet his small dog.

by the disability and by the lack

of ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliance

is very frustrating and

you need to have a way to think about something else,

and the way I do that is with the LEGOs.

Shots of boxes full of LEGOS inside Scott's home.

So, it started as a Christmas display around my tree,

and then my friends started to see it.

They said, "Oh you gotta display this!"

So, then I got the idea, well let's make it meaningful.

Let's create the Jackson we all want to see and have,

an accessible Jackson where everybody knows

their neighbors, where everybody picks up trash.

It's clean, it's accessible,

it's the idealic capital city

that's called "Keep Building Jackson,"

it is a huge LEGO display depicting Jackson

done all in LEGO bricks.

Photos of a LEGO display that spans the length of a large vehicle in multiple directions.

I built all of it.

It's taken me six years.

So, once we get it set up, it's a free display

for everyone to see and enjoy,

Photo of Scott and two young girls smiling at his LEGO display.

and it's meant to inspire civil pride,

ownership in the city, and ADA compliance.

We need to build infrastructure that

welcomes everyone.

Sidewalks, complete streets,

and the upside is that it doesn't just help

people with disabilities,

it helps everybody else too.

Photo of Scott in front of an inaccessible sidewalk.

♫ uplifting music ♫

Scott: Make our communities accessible for everyone.

Get started at rootedinrights.org/curbs