



Upcoming Funding Opportunity for Safe Routes to School



North Central Texas
Council of Governments

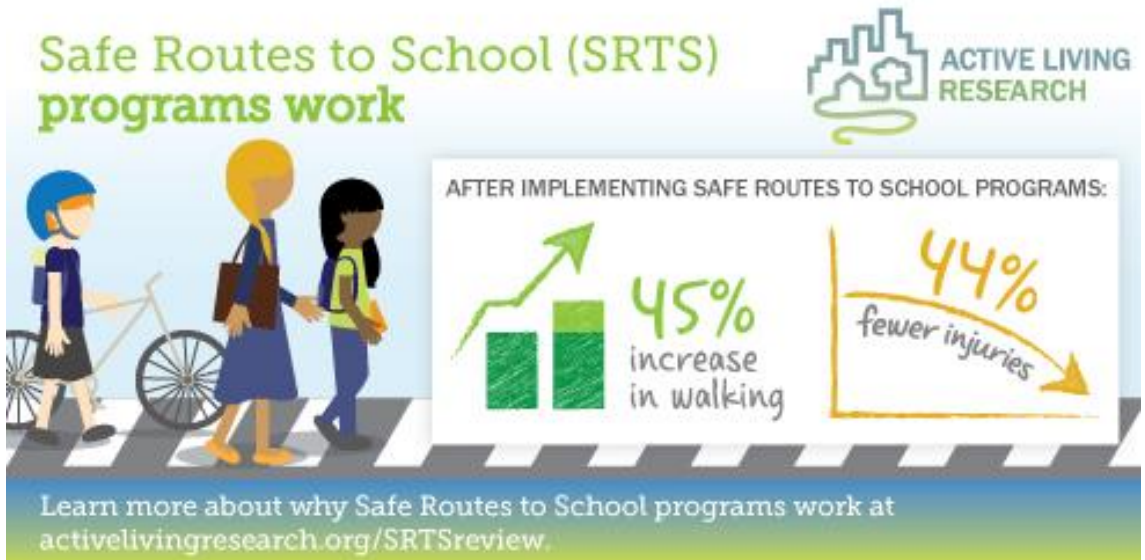
Safe Routes to School

WHAT: A nationwide initiative focused on encouraging and enabling more children to safely walk and bicycle to school.

HOW: The 5 E's - Engineering, Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, and Evaluation.

WHY:

- Safety
- Traffic congestion
- Air pollution
- Health
- Sense of community



TA Set-Aside Call for Projects

ELIGIBLE PROJECT CATEGORIES

- Active Transportation (Pedestrian and Bicycle) Facilities
 - Emphasis on making regional connections
- Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Infrastructure Projects
 - Active transportation facilities that substantially improve the safety and convenience of students walking and bicycling to school
 - Examples: Sidewalks, crossing improvements, traffic control/signage, traffic-calming improvements, on-street bicycle facilities, off-street bicycle and pedestrian trails, bicycle parking

TA Set-Aside Call for Projects (*DRAFT*)

SCHEDULE

- RTC Approves Program: December 8, 2016
- Scheduled to Open: December 12, 2016
- Application Workshop: December 14, 2016
- Deadline to Submit: February 24, 2017

FUNDING

- Total Funding Available: approximately \$23.4 million for FY 2017-2019
 - Funding may be sub-allocated to SRTS projects. To be discussed at the November 16th Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee meeting
- Min. Federal Funding Award Per Project: \$250,000
- Max. Federal Funding Award Per Project: \$5 million
- Local Funding Match Required: 20% of project costs

Safe Routes to School Infrastructure Projects

- Address identified barriers for students to safely and comfortably walk and bicycle to school – in combination with education, encouragement, and enforcement efforts.



Sidewalks

Closing Gaps

- Filling key network gaps can reduce instances of walking in the street and crossing outside of designated crosswalks



Source: City of Grand Prairie, TX



Source: City of Princeton, TX



Source: Ulster County Transportation Council Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Toolbox

Sidewalks

Connectivity

- Increasing the connectivity of streets, paths, and sidewalks reduces travel distances and can make it easier for students to access schools.
- Distance = one of the greatest barriers to walking and bicycling to school



Source: City of Little Elm, TX

Crossing Treatments

Crossing Refuge/Island

- Allow people crossing the street to deal with one direction of car traffic at a time
- Reduce the amount of time a person is exposed to traffic



2010 Statewide SRTS Call for Projects: Park Glen Elementary School, Fort Worth



Source: Alta Planning + Design

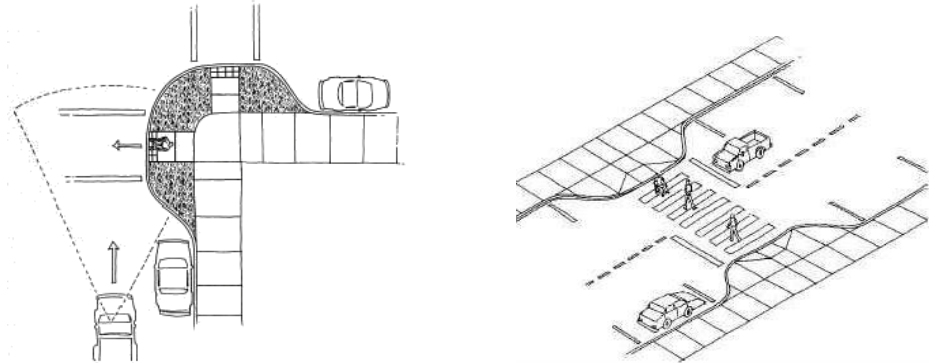


Source: City of Richmond, California

Crossing Treatments

Curb Extensions

- Shorten pedestrian crossing distance, reducing exposure to traffic
- Increase visibility
- Slow down cars making a right turn by making the turning angle sharper
- Work best on streets with on-street parking



Source: FHWA



Source: Ulster County Transportation Council Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Toolbox

Crossing Treatments

Marked Crosswalks

- Direct kids to the best place to cross the street
- Indicate the walking route to school
- Make people driving more aware of where to expect kids to cross the street



Source: Ulster County Transportation Council Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Toolbox

Raised Crosswalks:

- Shown to be successful at slowing vehicle speeds and increasing yielding to pedestrians
- Best on long, straight residential streets



Source: Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center

Crossing Treatments

Traffic Control and Signage

- Make the presence of a person trying to cross the street known to people driving

Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons



Source: Ulster County Transportation Council Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Toolbox

Bicycle/Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon



Good for mid-block crossings with poor vehicular compliance.

Traffic Calming

- Slow traffic down
- Improve speed limit compliance
- Reduce collision frequency and severity
- Examples:
 - Speed Feedback Signs
 - Speed Humps/Tables
 - Traffic Circles



Bike Racks



Source: D.L. Roundtree Elementary School (Allen ISD) PTA Facebook, Bike to School Day, 5/7/14

TA Set-Aside - SRTS Applications

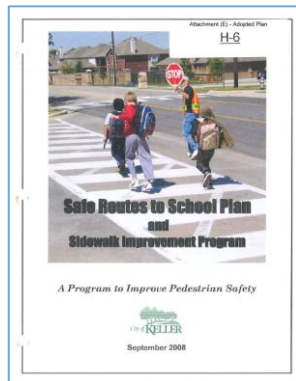
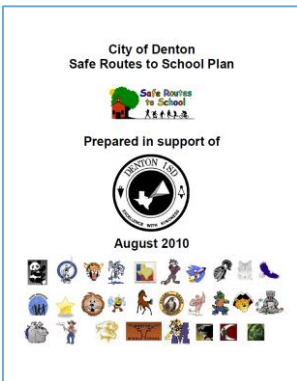
- All SRTS projects must be jointly submitted by a local government and an ISD. A lead agency will be designated.
- **Who can apply?** Local governments, regional transportation authorities, transit agencies, school districts or schools, tribal government.
- Applications must include a **Resolution of support or Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** from a co-applicant governing body (e.g., school board if the applicant is a city).
- **Applicants should place emphasis on:**
 - Projects that implement adopted SRTS plans
 - Potential of the project to improve safety and address an identified safety hazard for students
 - Potential of the project to increase walking and biking rates among students
 - Improving conditions around schools with a high proportion of economically disadvantaged students
 - Community support and collaboration between stakeholders
 - Project readiness

Ideas for Getting Started Now

Have SRTS Plans been prepared for schools in your community?

YES

Review the plan(s) and identify priority projects with community stakeholders (city, school district, school principals, parents, law enforcement, etc.).



NO

1. City: reach out to school district (e.g., Director of Operations) to get a list of schools with walking/biking safety issues, or where lots of kids walk/bike. School District: send city list of schools.
2. City/School District: meet with School Principal(s) and other stakeholders to learn more about existing conditions and safety issues near the schools.
3. Identify appropriate countermeasures, prioritize projects, and begin preparing application(s).

Next Steps (*DRAFT*)

November 16 th , 2016:	BPAC Workshop: 2:30pm
December 14 th , 2016:	Application Workshop
February 10 th , 2017:	Deadline for project application review meetings
February 24 th , 2017:	Application Deadline
May, 2017:	Public Meetings
June 8 th , 2017:	RTC to take action to select projects

Contact Information

Karla Weaver, AICP

Program Manager

(817) 608-2376

kweaver@nctcog.org

Kathryn Rush

Transportation Planner

(817) 704-5601

krush@nctcog.org



www.nctcog.org/bikeped