



SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL TOOLKIT

Developed by:

The University of Florida Center for Health and the Built Environment
Safe Routes to School Technical Assistance Team



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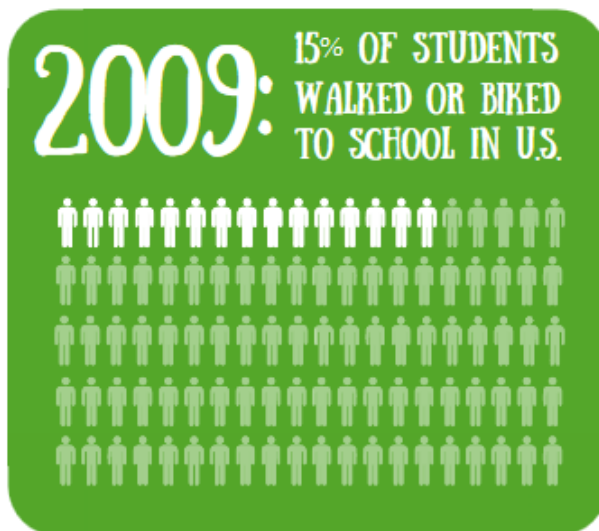
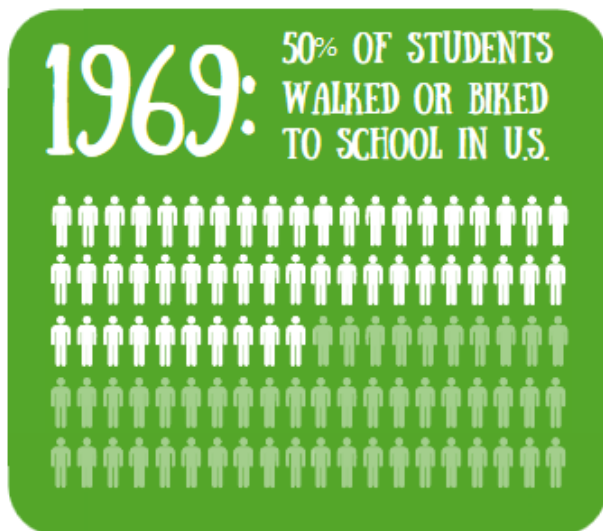


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INTRODUCTION

In 1969, nearly 50% of all students walked or rode a bicycle to school. By 2009, that number had dropped to fewer than 15%. The causes of this decline are varied, and the effects are far-reaching. Fewer students walking or bicycling to school has adversely affected traffic, air quality, and bicycle and pedestrian safety in communities. The sedentary lifestyle associated with this decline has been linked to increased incidences of childhood obesity and related health problems in later life. Safe Routes to School aims to reverse these effects by making walking and bicycling to school safer and easier for primary and secondary school students. This toolkit is meant to guide the user through bringing Safe Routes to School to their community, so that they may reverse these negative effects and experience the environmental, health, and community benefits that Safe Routes to School has to offer.



WHAT IS SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL?

Florida's Safe Routes to School program is sponsored by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). FDOT provides Safe Routes to School technical support and funding support to select communities. The primary goals of Florida's Safe Routes to School program are to:

- Enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school
- Make walking and bicycling to school safe and appealing
- Facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects that will improve safety and reduce traffic congestion, fuel consumption, and air pollution.





WHY SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL?



SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS

- Educate students, parents, neighbors, and the community
- Improve infrastructure at and around the school
- Reward students for participation and get the community excited
- Deter unsafe behaviors and encourage everyone to share the road
- Determine what changes need to be made and figure out how to make them

Many communities in Florida face challenges and barriers that make it difficult for students to walk or ride their bicycles to school. One such barrier is infrastructure that favors vehicles. Roads without sidewalks, crosswalks, or stoplights discourage walking and bicycling and encourage automobile usage. These factors lead to concerns for personal safety. A 2010 survey found that these factors were viewed as major barriers preventing physical activity by rural residents². “Stranger danger” was also found to be a concern among parents in both rural and urban communities. One study found that nearly half of parents surveyed would be uncomfortable with their students walking to school without adult supervision, and 75% of parents surveyed drove their children less than 2 miles to school because they felt that it was more convenient or that it saved time compared to walking³.

Safe Routes to School programs provide a wide range of benefit for students and their communities. By getting an active start to the day, students arrive to school alert, refreshed, and ready to learn. According to a recent study, children that walk or ride their bicycle to get to school perform measurably better on work that demands concentration⁵. Furthermore, encouraging physical activity can teach lifelong healthy habits.



Image: BikeWalkKC (CC 2.0)



NCDOT, 2014 (CC 2.0)

Enabling students to walk or ride their bicycles to school can also better a community. More students walking or bicycling to school means fewer parents picking up and dropping off students in private vehicles, which can help decrease traffic congestion and air pollution around schools. Investing in Safe Routes roadway infrastructure can also help connect existing bicycle and pedestrian networks, providing more active travel and recreation opportunities for the community as a whole.

Safe Routes to School projects are a great way to help communities be more welcoming towards students walking or bicycling to school. This toolkit will provide strategies to help communities overcome the challenges that discourage students from walking and bicycling to school and realize the many benefits of Safe Routes to School.



HOW TO USE THIS TOOLKIT



This toolkit is a guide for developing and implementing a Safe Routes to School program. Every community's has unique needs, challenges, and opportunities. Because of this, the toolkit is intended to be tailored to an area's local context. This will enable the user to reap the maximum benefits of the Safe Routes to School program.

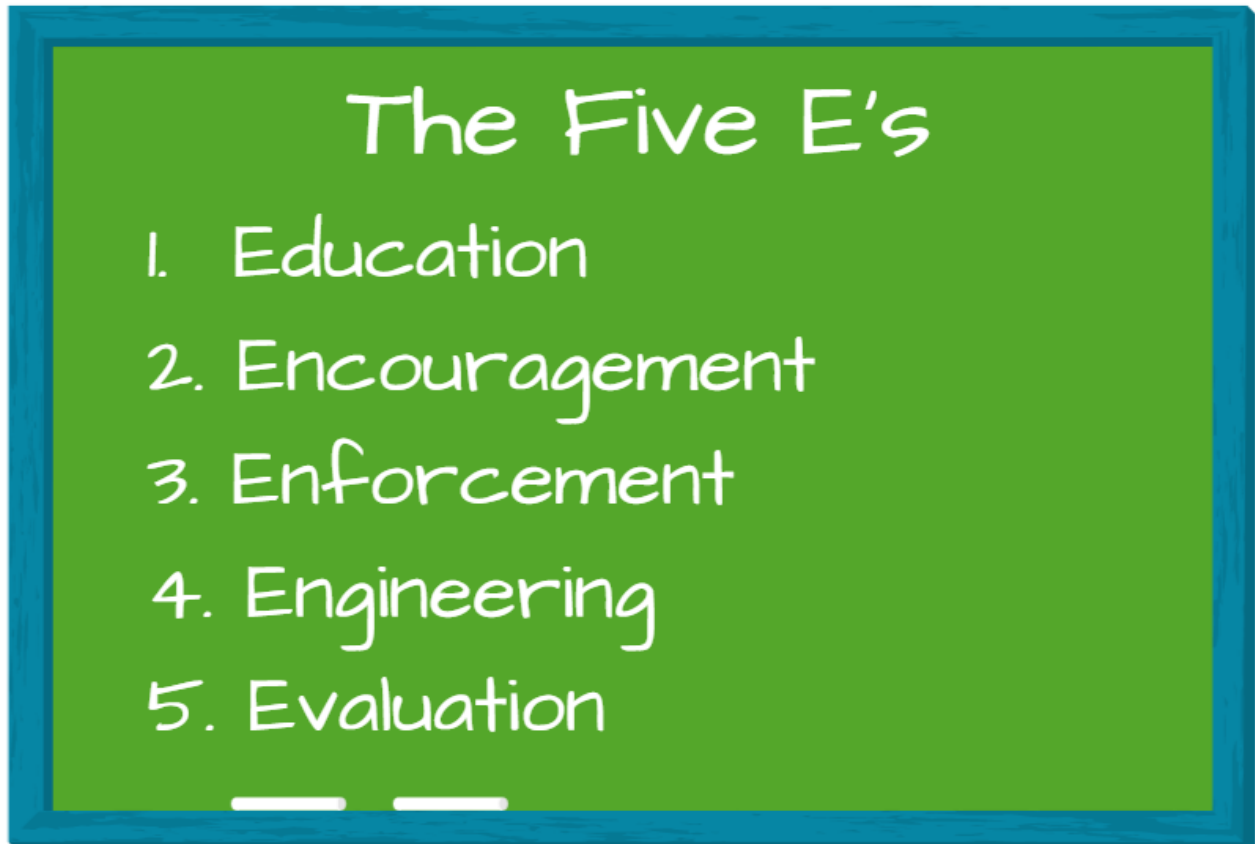
TAILORING THE TOOLKIT

In Hillsborough County, one elementary school had an issue with lack of sidewalks within a six-block radius of the school, while another elementary school had an issue with sidewalks without buffers on high-traffic roads. Despite the fact that both schools are in the same county, the solution for one issue would not work for the other. No two issues are exactly alike. The purpose of this toolkit is to provide users with the knowledge and understanding needed to bring Safe Routes to School to their community and find the solution that works for them.





The Five E's of Safe Routes to School are **Education**, **Encouragement**, **Enforcement**, **Engineering**, and **Evaluation**. Successful programs take a holistic approach to the Five E's and use available resources to engage as many relevant E's as possible.



EDUCATION

For students, teachers, and parents alike, education is a key component of a successful Safe Routes to School program. This section will discuss ways to engage each of these groups by highlighting their unique roles.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Education

Teaching students about bicycle and pedestrian safety can be a hands-on way to show them the fun of riding a bicycle or walking to school, and can give them the knowledge and confidence they need to do so. Safe Routes to School education can be done at school in a variety of fashions, including bicycle rodeos and school assemblies.



Six Simple Safety Tips

1. When walking, stop at every curb and edge.
2. Look and listen, especially when crossing a road.
3. When riding a bicycle, always wear a helmet.
4. Ride your bicycle in the same direction as traffic.
5. Follow all traffic signs and signals.
6. Always stop, look left, right, and left again before pulling out of a driveway or stepping into the street.



Education materials like this can help students learn and remember the basics of staying safe while walking and bicycling.

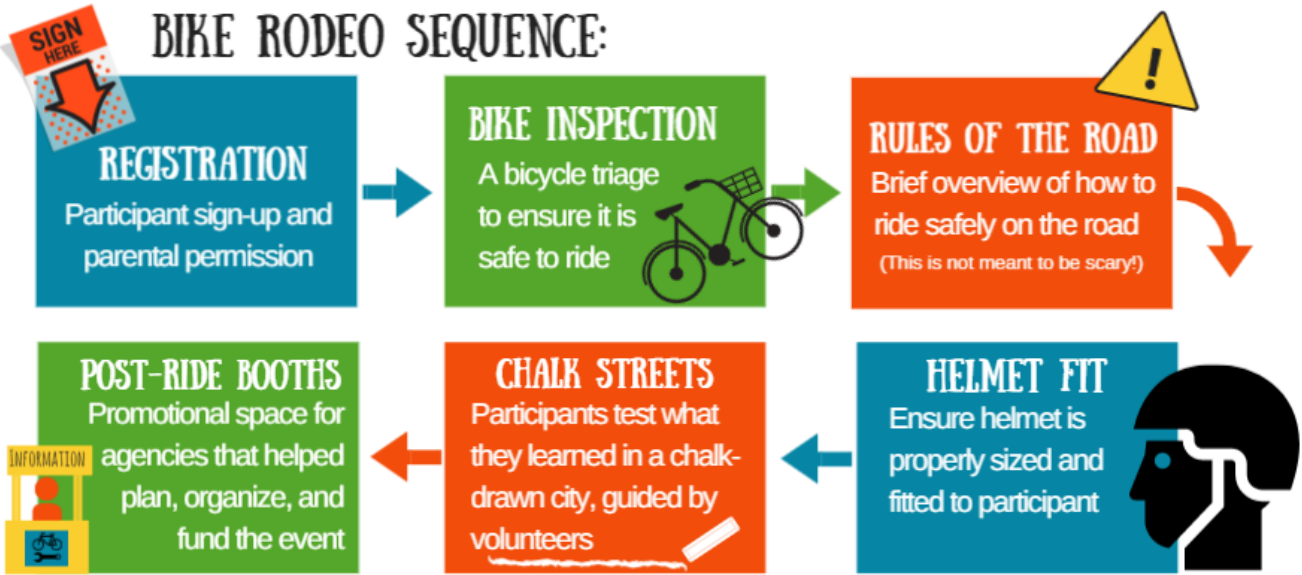
Bicycle Rodeos



Figure 1. A volunteer helps a student at the helmet fit station, while a police officer explains the rules of the road at another station.
www.pedbikeimages.org / Mike Cynecki

A bicycle rodeo is a brief bicycle safety clinic focused on introducing cycling safety to young people. It is a great way to give students the confidence needed to ride their bicycles to school. Rodeos are typically held by police departments, with help from local bike shops, cycling clubs, and/ or bicycle advocacy groups. If guidance is needed, The Florida Traffic and Bicycle Safety Education Program offers training workshops that can give these community groups the tools they need to educate others on bicycle safety.

Rodeos typically occur early on in a school’s summer break. Bicycle rodeos are not meant to be fully comprehensive bicycle safety courses, but instead a fun way for young people to learn the basics of cycling through doing. In a bicycle rodeo, participants are guided through a sequence of stations, each of which imparting an aspect of safe cycling knowledge. An ideal bicycle rodeo has participants engaged for its entire duration with little to no down time¹. A typical bicycle rodeo station sequence might include:



More information on bicycle rodeos is available in the Resources section of this guide.

Safe Routes in the Curriculum

Teachers can use their curriculums to educate and inspire students about walking and bicycling.

Parents and Guardians

Education should be extended to parents and guardians as well, as they determine whether children are allowed to walk or ride their bicycle to school and can influence children's desire to do so. Parents might initially be skeptical of Safe Routes to School programs. Because of this, it may be beneficial to invite parents to a meeting to explain the purpose, goals, and benefits of the program, as well as address any concerns they may have.

Many parents worry about the safety of their school-age children walking or bicycling to school. It is important to treat these concerns as valid and address solutions. Partnering with local law enforcement to deter unsafe driving and dangerous activities in the school area, implementing programs like the walking school bus (discussed in the Encouragement section), and suggesting older siblings walk with their younger siblings are just some of the many ways that potential safety concerns might be addressed.

CURRICULUM EXAMPLES



Math: use students' distance traveled to school to calculate the average distance the class traveled



Science: teach students about pollution from cars



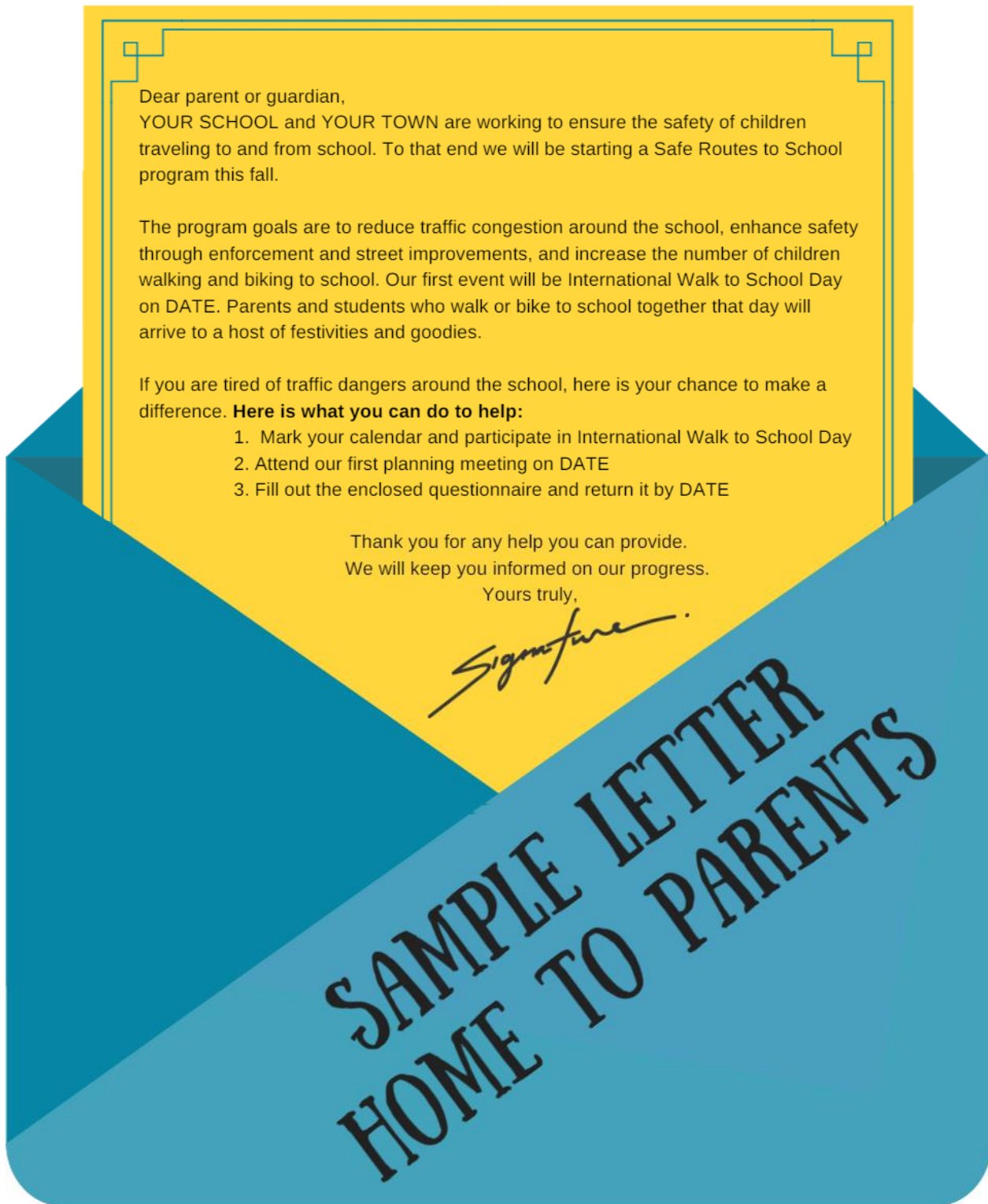
English: have students write a reflection paper about their experience walking or biking from school.



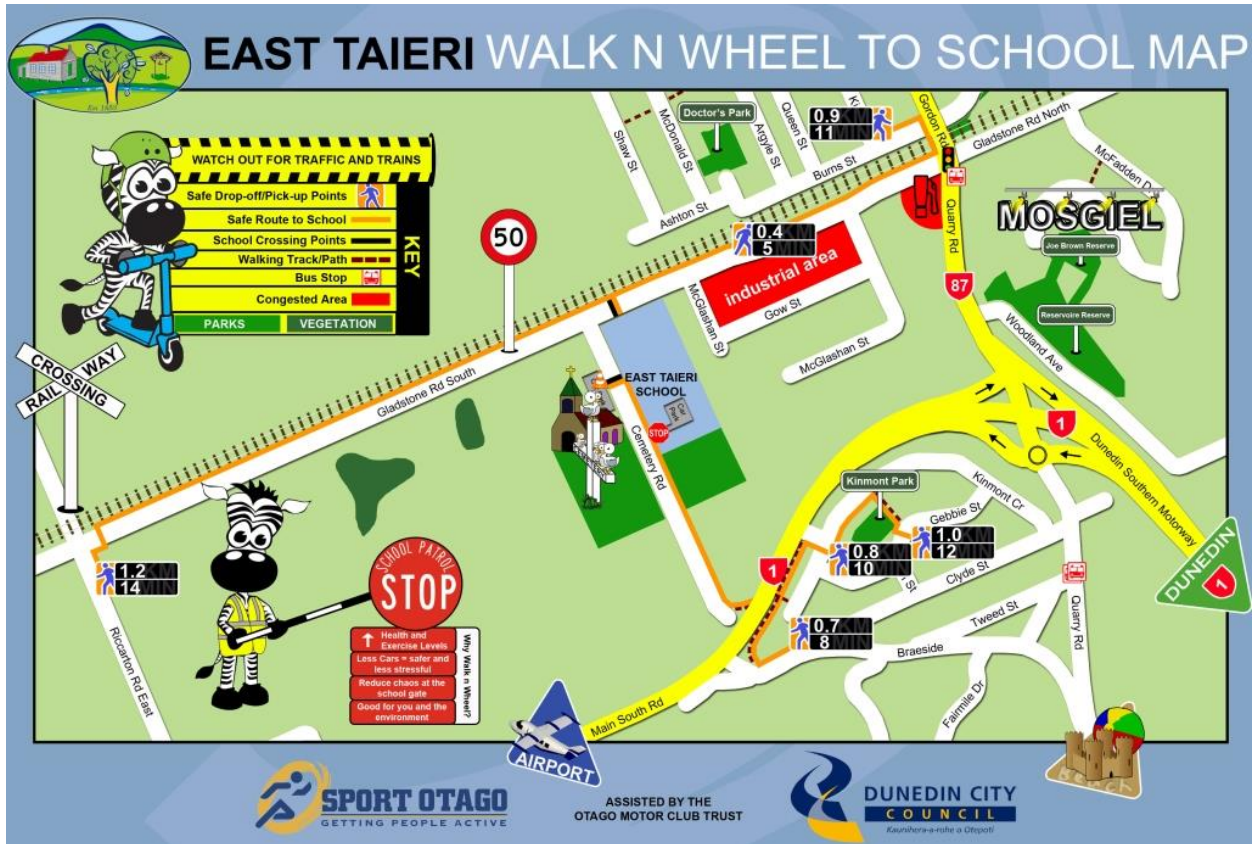
Health: educate students on the health benefits of walking and bicycling (example curriculum can be found in the "Healthy Heart Talking Points" in Appendix 1)



Parents and guardians should be kept informed on opportunities to get involved with the Safe Routes to School Program and kept up to date on plans, events, and changes in school practices. This can be done via in-person meetings, or via distribution of print or digital material, such as the letter below, or the letter found in Appendix 2:



Additional education that is best distributed online or through print includes route maps that highlight safe routes, dangerous areas, and other hazards. These materials can be sent home with students, posted online, or distributed via email. Below is an example of a Safe Routes to School route map from East Taieri School in New Zealand. The map highlights good places for students to walk or ride their bicycles, as well as hazards to be wary of.



ENCOURAGEMENT

A Safe Routes to School program needs to be popular with students and other members of the school community for it to build and sustain momentum. Encouragement promotes the Safe Routes to School program by building community buy-in, getting participants excited about walking and bicycling, and rewarding positive habits. Encouragement can take many shapes. Events and incentives are popular forms of encouragement. Combining multiple Encouragement strategies is often done.

WALKING SCHOOL BUS



University of Salford Press, 2014 (CC 2.0)

In a walking school bus, groups of students are guided by an adult as they walk to school. Walking school buses are very flexible - they can be as unstructured as a group of parents taking turns walking their students to and from school, or as structured as a group of designated chaperones taking turns walking a mapped path with multiple pick-up points on a set schedule. Walking school buses are great for students living outside of walking distance from school, as they can be integrated with remote drop offs.

BICYCLE TRAINS

Bicycle trains are like walking school buses, but are done riding bicycles. In a bicycle train, students ride their bikes to school in a group led by an adult cyclist. These are slightly more involved than walking school buses and are better suited for older students. These activities can be done both independently and/ or in conjunction with “walk/ bicycle to school days.” Like walking school buses, bicycle trains are beneficial for students living further from school, as they can be integrated with remote drop offs.

REMOTE DROP OFF

In the remote drop-off/ pick-up, students are driven most of the way to school and then let off at a designated spot—typically a parking lot-- 0.25-0.5 miles from the school. From that spot, the students are guided to school by a chaperone. These are great for including students that live outside of walking distance from school. Remote drop-off/ pick-up is also helpful in reducing car emissions and amounts of traffic near a school.

Events

Events are great for building and sustaining a community, as well as demonstrating the fun that can be had with a Safe Routes to School program. Events can be one day activities or be ongoing. Events should be treated as special and come with an air of excitement. Some example events include:



Image: Umberto Brayj (CC 2.0)

Walk or Bicycle to School Days:

These events can introduce the idea of walking and/or bicycling to school and are great for kicking off a Safe Routes to School project. Those in charge of the event can coordinate efforts to ensure safe, feasible travel for all participants, as well as set up exhibitions at the school to further present these activities as options. In the lead-up to the event, families can be given materials and instructions on how to safely participate, as well as tips for ensuring success. Walk and/ or Bike to School Day does not have to be a one-off celebration. If the community embraces these events, the day could become a regularly scheduled event. More information on Walk/ Bicycle to School Days is available in the Resources section of this guide. An example Walk and/ or Bicycle to School Day invitation can be found in Appendix 4.



Mileage Club Contests: Mileage clubs encourage physical activity by making it fun, competitive, and potentially rewarding. In a mileage club contest, participants compete to see who can log the most miles of walking and/or bicycling. To include students who are unable to walk or bicycle to school, participants may be allowed to accrue miles on the weekend, during recess, or after school. Additionally, mileage club contests could be done in conjunction with remote drop-off procedures. These can be done at the student-vs-student, classroom-vs-classroom, or even school-vs-school level. Whichever participant or team logs the most miles in a certain amount of time wins gifts or prizes. The structure of these events are flexible and can be tailored to local context.

A back to school blitz: The back to school blitz is a multi-day challenge in which families are given daily checklists that outline different ways to prepare for school. Each checklist focuses on a different aspect of getting ready for the school year. For example, one checklist may focus on organizing supplies, while another may focus on bicycle safety preparedness.



Transportation for America (CC 2.0)

Incentives

Incentives are great for sustaining momentum in a Safe Routes to School project, as they encourage participants to “compete” to be the most physically active. Incentives can take many forms, including prizes, points, or the simple pride of victory. Some example incentives include:

- **Punch Cards:** Punch cards can be used independently or in conjunction with mileage club contests. Every time a student walks or rides their bicycle to school their card is marked. Full punch cards can be exchanged for small gifts or rewards, entered as tickets in a raffle, or used in a variety of other ways.
- **Stickers:** stickers can be used to reward students who complete mileage goals, or simply to encourage students to be excited about Safe Routes to School.
- **Recognition:** recognition is the simple act of letting students know that their walking and bicycling efforts are not going unnoticed. Recognition could be as formal as an announcement at a school assembly or simply a school official personally congratulating a student on a job well done. Recognition can be combined with all other forms of encouragement.



GOLDEN SNEAKER AWARD

To build excitement for Safe Routes to School, one Florida principal came up with a creative, low-cost reward: The Golden Sneaker Award. To make the Golden Sneaker Award, the principal took an old running shoe, spray-painted it gold, and nailed it to a plaque. Just like that, a sneaker destined for the trash became a priceless trophy for students. The Golden Sneaker Award can be used as a prize for events, such as mileage club contests. Winning classrooms can proudly display it, and seeing it can encourage all students to strive to travel more miles in efforts to get it. The Golden Sneaker Award is one great example of unique, creative ways that schools can get students excited for Safe Routes to School.

Other forms of encouragement

Some forms of encouragement do not fall inside the categories of events or incentives. Nevertheless, they are important.

- **Crossing guards:** The sight of a crossing guard can remind drivers to watch for and yield to pedestrians. This job can be taken on by community members or local law enforcement. Crossing guards can encourage students by improving safety and increasing families' confidence in their children walking or bicycling to school.
- **Student safety patrols:** similar to the crossing guard, student safety patrols can help students and families feel safer and more comfortable walking or riding bicycles. Student safety patrols have the added benefit of getting students involved in the program.

ENFORCEMENT

Enforcement in the Safe Routes to School framework is meant to deter unsafe behaviors and encourage safe sharing of the road. In a sense, it is a form of education. Enforcement begins by determining what needs to be changed. Once the focuses of the enforcement are determined, there are a variety of options for implementation. In planning for enforcement, consideration of county school zone policies is crucial.

CROSSWALK STING

In a crosswalk sting, law enforcement stakes out crosswalks to catch drivers violating rules. This is often done with plain-clothed police officers acting as pedestrians trying to use the crosswalk as cars approach. If a driver is caught violating a crosswalk rule, law enforcement pulls them over and issues them a ticket, ideally educating them on why their actions were against the rules in the process.



FEEDBACK TRAILERS AND SIGNAGE



Speed feedback trailers and signage can offer gentle reminders to drivers to consider their speed. Signs can remind drivers to slow down and watch for students in enforced school zones, while feedback trailers can alert drivers to how fast they are going. These methods overlap with the Engineering element.

ENGINEERING

Engineering is a broad term encompassing the design, implementation, operation, and maintenance of roadway infrastructure and traffic control devices. It can be used to increase accessibility and diminish the boundaries preventing students from walking or bicycling to school. Improvements to sidewalks, bike paths, and trails are obvious steps, but less obvious steps include repositioning traffic control devices, improving signage, and incorporating hardscaping, or man-made landscape features, to deter reckless driving. Infrastructure that influences drivers to slow down will reduce the chances of injury to pedestrians and bicyclists, as lower speeds mean better ability to slow down and stop in time. Ideally, this infrastructure should extend beyond the immediate school zone to the entire area within which students may be walking or riding their bicycles to get to school.

Engineering overlaps with the Education element. Engineering is not just about changing the built environment, but also changing the mentality of those inhabiting the built environment. For example, signage and hardscaping can give users cues on safe behavior. This visual education, combined with education techniques and enforcement techniques discussed above, can lead to a community more welcoming to pedestrians and bicyclists.

SIDEWALKS, BIKE PATHS & TRAILS



www.pedbikeimages.org / Laura Sandt

Pictured is a multi-use path in use. Sidewalks, bike paths, and trails give a dedicated space to pedestrians and bicyclists and make them feel safe. Ideally, these elements fit into a wider network and enable students and community members to conveniently, safely, and efficiently walk or bicycle from one location to the next.

TRAFFIC CALMING

Pictured is a speed bump. Traffic calming techniques like this are meant to slow traffic down or divert traffic from a road in order to lower traffic volume in the name of increased safety for road users. These techniques can reduce speeds and discourage dangerous driving near schools.



www.pedbikeimages.org/ Toole Design Group

SIGNAGE AND HARDSCAPING



www.pedbikeimages.org/ Dan Burden

Signage and hardscaping enhance pedestrian and bicyclist safety by increasing driver awareness and encouraging compliance with safe practices. Seeing signage can remind drivers of the presence of students, while hardscaping can give physical indications of where one can and cannot drive. Implementing signage could be a relatively easy action in a Safe Routes to School project.

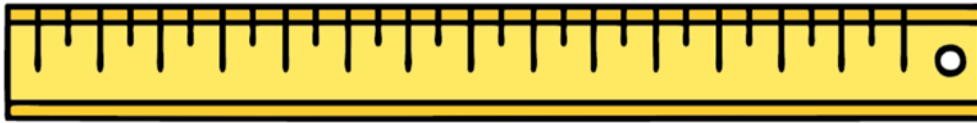
TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES

Pictured is a radar speed limit sign in Granville, NC. Traffic control devices are signs, signals, and markers meant to increase driver awareness. Traffic control devices are meant to draw the driver's eye and alert the driver to safe driving practices or issues related to the road. In the context of Safe Routes to School, traffic control devices can be used to remind drivers that they are in a school zone and in the presence of students.



www.pedbikeimages.org/ Dan Burden

EVALUATION



Evaluation is used in Safe Routes to School projects to measure both successes and shortcomings. Safe Routes to School programs benefit from continuous evaluation. Critically examining ideas before putting them in motion helps make sure that the idea aligns with the program's goals. Assessing projects as they are happening helps keep a project on track. Reviewing the successes and failures of actions helps teams keep track of their progress and learn from past experiences.



Surveys

Surveys of students and parents can be used to gather feedback, which helps determine the direction and progress of a project. Surveys can be done in classrooms to determine the number of students walking or bicycling to school and the distances they are travelling. Surveys help determine why parents do or do not allow their students to walk or ride a bicycle to school and what changes might make them more open to the idea. The results of these surveys can be helpful in all of the Five E's. They can also provide a jumping-off point for a task force constructing a plan. Once the plan is in motion, subsequent surveys can help assess if the plan is meeting expectations.

Below is an example parent survey in English. A Spanish version is available in Appendix 5.

Parent Survey About Walking and Biking to School					
<p>Dear Parent or Caregiver,</p> <p>Your child’s school wants to learn your thoughts about children walking and biking to school. This survey will take about 5 - 10 minutes to complete. We ask that each family complete only one survey per school your children attend. If more than one child from a school brings a survey home, please fill out the survey for the child with the next birthday from today’s date.</p> <p>After you have completed this survey, send it back to the school with your child or give it to the teacher. Your responses will be kept confidential and neither your name nor your child’s name will be associated with any results.</p> <p>Thank you for participating in this survey!</p>					
+ CAPITAL LETTERS ONLY – BLUE OR BLACK INK ONLY +					
School Name:					
1. What is the grade of the child who brought home this survey?	<input style="width: 30px; height: 25px; border: 1px solid black;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 30px; height: 25px; border: 1px solid black;" type="text"/>	Grade (PK,K,1,2,3...)			
2. Is the child who brought home this survey male or female?	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female				
3. How many children do you have in Kindergarten through 8 th grade?	<input style="width: 30px; height: 25px; border: 1px solid black;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 30px; height: 25px; border: 1px solid black;" type="text"/>				
4. What is the street intersection nearest your home? (Provide the names of two intersecting streets)					
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="border: 1px solid black; width: 45%; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; width: 10%; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">and</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; width: 45%; height: 20px;"></td> </tr> </table>				and	
	and				
Place a clear 'X' inside box. If you make a mistake, fill the entire box, and then mark the correct box.					
5. How far does your child live from school?					
<input type="checkbox"/> Less than ¼ mile	<input type="checkbox"/> ½ mile up to 1 mile	<input type="checkbox"/> More than 2 miles			
<input type="checkbox"/> ¼ mile up to ½ mile	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 mile up to 2 miles	<input type="checkbox"/> Don’t know			
Place a clear 'X' inside box. If you make a mistake, fill the entire box, and then mark the correct box.					
6. On most days, how does your child arrive and leave for school? (Select one choice per column, mark box with X)					
Arrive at school	Leave from school				
<input type="checkbox"/> Walk	<input type="checkbox"/> Walk				
<input type="checkbox"/> Bike	<input type="checkbox"/> Bike				
<input type="checkbox"/> School Bus	<input type="checkbox"/> School Bus				
<input type="checkbox"/> Family vehicle (only children in your family)	<input type="checkbox"/> Family vehicle (only children in your family)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Carpool (Children from other families)	<input type="checkbox"/> Carpool (Children from other families)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Transit (city bus, subway, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Transit (city bus, subway, etc.)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (skateboard, scooter, inline skates, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (skateboard, scooter, inline skates, etc.)				
+ Place a clear 'X' inside box. If you make a mistake, fill the entire box, and then mark the correct box +					
7. How long does it normally take your child to get to/from school? (Select one choice per column, mark box with X)					
Travel time to school	Travel time from school				
<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 5 minutes	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 5 minutes				
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 – 10 minutes	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 – 10 minutes				
<input type="checkbox"/> 11 – 20 minutes	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 – 20 minutes				
<input type="checkbox"/> More than 20 minutes	<input type="checkbox"/> More than 20 minutes				
<input type="checkbox"/> Don’t know / Not sure	<input type="checkbox"/> Don’t know / Not sure				
+ +					

+		+
<p>8. Has your child asked you for permission to walk or bike to/from school in the last year? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>		
<p>9. At what grade would you allow your child to walk or bike to/from school without an adult? (Select a grade between PK,K,1,2,3...) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> grade (or) <input type="checkbox"/> I would not feel comfortable at any grade</p>		
<p>Place a clear 'X' inside box. If you make a mistake, fill the entire box, and then mark the correct box</p>		
<p>10. What of the following issues affected your decision to allow, or not allow, your child to walk or bike to/from school? (Select ALL that apply)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Distance.....</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Convenience of driving.....</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Time.....</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Child's before or after-school activities.....</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Speed of traffic along route.....</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Amount of traffic along route.....</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Adults to walk or bike with.....</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sidewalks or pathways.....</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Safety of intersections and crossings.....</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Crossing guards.....</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Violence or crime.....</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Weather or climate.....</p>	<p>11. Would you probably let your child walk or bike to/from school if this problem were changed or improved? (Select one choice per line, mark box with X)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> My child already walks or bikes to/from school</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure</p>	
<p>+ Place a clear 'X' inside box. If you make a mistake, fill the entire box, and then mark the correct box +</p>		
<p>12. In your opinion, how much does your child's school encourage or discourage walking and biking to/from school?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Strongly Encourages <input type="checkbox"/> Encourages <input type="checkbox"/> Neither <input type="checkbox"/> Discourages <input type="checkbox"/> Strongly Discourages</p>		
<p>13. How much fun is walking or biking to/from school for your child?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Very Fun <input type="checkbox"/> Fun <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Boring <input type="checkbox"/> Very Boring</p>		
<p>14. How healthy is walking or biking to/from school for your child?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Very Healthy <input type="checkbox"/> Healthy <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Unhealthy <input type="checkbox"/> Very Unhealthy</p>		
<p>+ Place a clear 'X' inside box. If you make a mistake, fill the entire box, and then mark the correct box +</p>		
<p>15. What is the highest grade or year of school you completed?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Grades 1 through 8 (Elementary) <input type="checkbox"/> College 1 to 3 years (Some college or technical school)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Grades 9 through 11 (Some high school) <input type="checkbox"/> College 4 years or more (College graduate)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Grade 12 or GED (High school graduate) <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to answer</p>		
<p>16. Please provide any additional comments below.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div>		

Site Assessments

Site assessments and walking audits provide field knowledge on the state of conditions at and around the school, as well as an understanding of the experience of walking or bicycling to school. This baseline of knowledge is beneficial to the engineering and enforcement elements of a program. Site assessments, like surveys, are most helpful when done at multiple points throughout the project to ensure it is on the right track. Site assessments are discussed in greater detail in the next section.

Example School Site Audit Form

The following site audit should be conducted to help determine walking and bicycling conditions on/adjacent to school property. This audit will help the school to discover potential areas for design improvements and increased safety. Members of the School Traffic Safety Team and the Principal should complete the following audit during prime school hours in order to see how students get to and from school. Please take a map of the school grounds with you on the audit for orientation and note taking. If a map is unavailable, please construct one as you go to help you identify areas for improvements later on in the Safe Routes to School process.

Date: _____ Day: _____ Time: _____ Weather Conditions: _____

1. Student Drop-Off Areas

YES NO NA

- a. Are they designed so that students exiting or entering cars are protected from other vehicles?
- b. Do they have a continuous raised curb separating vehicles from pedestrians?
- c. Are there accessible curb ramps for wheelchair access?
- d. Do the ramps have tactile warning strips or textured concrete?
- e. Are there posted vehicular signs?
- f. Are there posted pedestrian signs?
- g. Is the area lighted?
- h. Does traffic seem to move freely without congestion and backup?
- i. Please describe additional problems within the student drop-off area in the space provided below.

2. Bus Loading Zones

YES NO NA

- a. Are bus driveways physically separated from pedestrian and bicycling routes by raised curbs or bollards?
- b. Are bus driveways physically separated from parent pick-up/drop-off areas?
- c. If the buses are "double-stacked" for drop-off/loading areas, are measures taken for safety of students needing to cross in front or behind the bus?
- d. Is traffic in the bus loading zone one-way?
- e. Does the bus zone meet the minimum width of 24' for drop-off/pull-out lanes?
- f. Is there a continuous curb and sidewalk adjacent to the drop-off/loading area leading into the school site?

g. Is the bus loading/unloading zone lighted?

h. Please describe additional problem areas regarding the bus loading zone in the space provided below.

3. Sidewalks and Bicycle Routes

YES NO NA

a. Are current pedestrian and bicycle routes separated from motor vehicles by the use of sidewalks or separated pathways?

b. Are the bicycle routes designated by signage?

c. Are marked bicycle lanes present?

d. Are sidewalks and bicycle paths regularly maintained (free of debris, cracks and holes)?

e. Are there accessible ramps for wheelchair access?

f. Are the sidewalks continuous and without gaps?

g. Do the ramps have tactile warning strips or textured concrete?

h. Are the sidewalks lighted?

i. Are the sidewalks used regularly?

j. Please describe additional problem areas regarding the school's sidewalk system and existing bicycle routes in the space provided below.

4. Adjacent Intersections (intersections near school property)

YES NO NA

a. Are there high volumes of automobile traffic?

b. Are there high volumes of pedestrian traffic?

c. Are there painted crosswalks for all crossing directions?

d. Are there curb ramps located at all adjacent intersections?

e. Is there appropriate vehicle signage?

f. Is there traffic control, such as a stoplight or stop signs?

g. Are there pedestrian walk signals?

h. Please describe additional problem areas regarding these intersections in the space provided below.

5. Sight Distance (clear views between motorists and pedestrians)

YES NO NA

5. Sight Distance (clear views between motorists and pedestrians)

YES NO NA

- a. Are desirable sight distances (visibility is free of obstructions) provided at all intersections within the walking zone?
- b. Do cars park or wait, blocking the vision of other motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians?
- c. Have the placement of fences, walls, dumpsters and the location of parking areas for service vehicles been carefully considered in view of sight distance requirements on the school site?
- d. Are there any barriers present that block the viewing of pedestrians and bicyclists (e.g., dumpsters, utility boxes, landscaping, parking areas, ground-mounted signage, building walls)?
- e. Please describe additional problem areas that have sight distance obstructions in the space provided below.

6. Traffic Signs, Speed Control, Signals and Pavement Markings

YES NO NA

- a. Are there any School Advance signs, School Crossing signs, School Speed Limit signs, flashing beacons, and No Parking or No Standing signs?
- b. Is there an effective school targeted program of traffic enforcement?
- c. Is there a designated school zone?
- d. Are there any school pavement markings located on roadways adjacent to or in the vicinity of the school grounds?
- e. Are there currently traffic/speed control measures used, such as different pavement surfaces, non-white paint, speed bumps, and speed tables?
- f. Please describe additional information regarding adjacent traffic signs, speed control, signals and pavement markings in the space provided below.

Data Collection

Determining and evaluating the frequency of students walking or bicycling to school can provide a baseline for improvements. A form to assess this can be seen below. This assessment can also provide motivation for the task force to increase the number of students walking or bicycling to school. This data should be collected often and at a reasonable interval.

Safe Routes to School Students Arrival and Departure Tally Sheet

+
+

CAPITAL LETTERS ONLY – BLUE OR BLACK INK ONLY

School Name:
Teacher's First Name:
Teacher's Last Name:

Grade: (PK,K,1,2,3...)
Monday's Date (Week count was conducted)
Number of Students Enrolled in Class:

0 2
M M
D D
Y Y Y Y
1 5

- Please conduct these counts **on two of the following three days Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday.** (Three days would provide better data if counted)
- **Please do not conduct these counts on Mondays or Fridays.**
- Before asking your students to raise their hands, please read through all possible answer choices so they will know their choices. Each Student may only answer once.
- Ask your students as a group the question **"How did you arrive at school today?"**
- Then, reread each answer choice and record the number of students that raised their hands for each. **Place just one character or number in each box.**
- Follow the same procedure for the question **"How do you plan to leave for home after school?"**
- You can conduct the counts once per day but during the count please ask students both the school arrival and departure questions.
- Please conduct this count regardless of weather conditions (i.e., ask these questions on rainy days, too).

Step 1.
Fill in the weather conditions and number of students in each class

Step 2.
AM – "How did you arrive at school today?" Record the number of hands for each answer.
PM – "How do you plan to leave for home after school?" Record the number of hands for each answer.

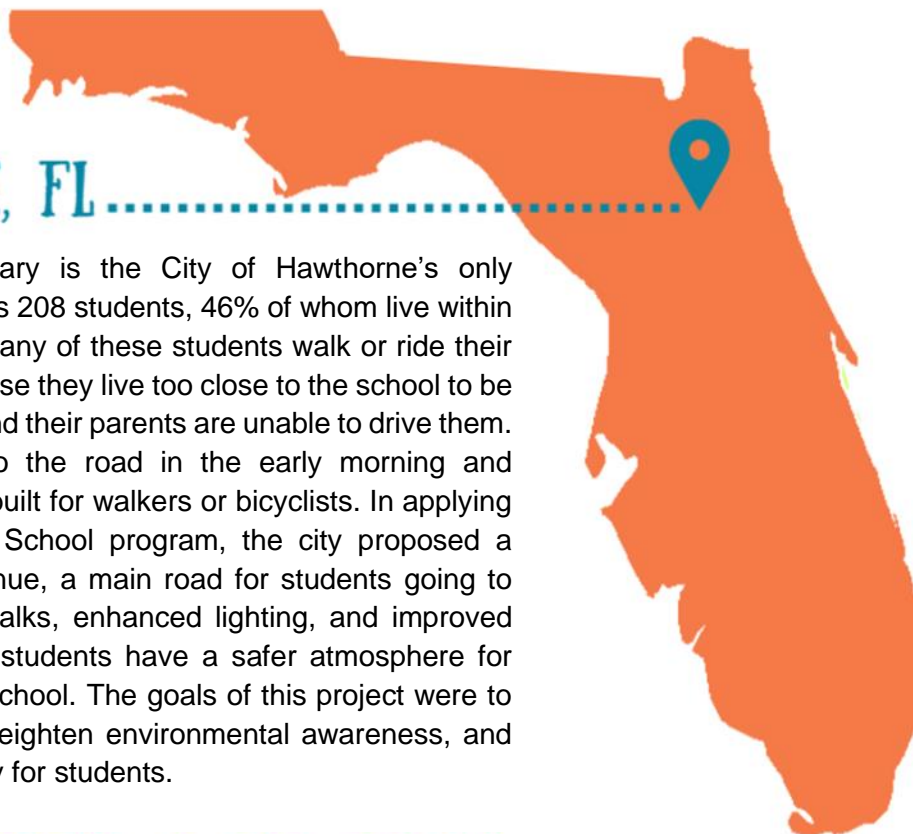
Key	Weather	Student Tally	Walk	Bike	School Bus	Family Vehicle	Carpool	Transit	Other
	S= sunny R= rainy O= overcast SN=snow	Number in class when count made	-	-	-	Only with Children from your family	Riding with children from other families	City bus, subway, etc.	Skate-board, scooter, etc.
Sample AM	S N	2 0	2	3	8	3		3	1
Sample PM	R	1 9	3	3	8	1	2	2	
Tues. AM									
Tues. PM									
Wed. AM									
Wed. PM									
Thurs. AM									
Thurs. PM									
Please list any disruptions to these counts or any unusual travel conditions to/from the school on the days of the tally.									

+
+

Case Studies

HAWTHORNE, FL

Chester Shell Elementary is the City of Hawthorne's only elementary school. It has 208 students, 46% of whom live within 2 miles of the school. Many of these students walk or ride their bicycles to school because they live too close to the school to be eligible to ride the bus and their parents are unable to drive them. These students take to the road in the early morning and navigate roadways not built for walkers or bicyclists. In applying to the Safe Routes to School program, the city proposed a change to SE 65th Avenue, a main road for students going to school: extended sidewalks, enhanced lighting, and improved crosswalks so that the students have a safer atmosphere for walking or bicycling to school. The goals of this project were to improve traffic safety, heighten environmental awareness, and promote physical activity for students.



HAWTHORNE'S 5 E'S PLAN

Education: The city will participate in education programs through the Florida Traffic and Bicycle Education Program.



Encouragement: The city will encourage students to walk or bicycle to school as part of a healthy, active lifestyle, and work to make walking and bicycling part of the culture. The city also proposed implementing bike and walk to school days and frequent walker/ bicyclist programs.



Enforcement: Prior to applying for Safe Routes to School, the school resource officer and sheriff's office ensured that drivers followed the rules in school zones, and crossing guards directed pedestrians and vehicles for drop off and pick up. However, these enforcement techniques were not employed on SE 65th Avenue.



Engineering: A consultant will be retained by the City.



Evaluation: In applying for the Safe Routes to School program, the city proposed a student travel tally and parent survey, with the hope of further evaluation based on the specific initiatives of their Safe Routes to School Committee.



Fort Lauderdale Vision Zero

In 2012, the City of Ft. Lauderdale was found to have the second highest pedestrian fatality rate in the country by the US Department of Transportation's Fatality Analysis Reporting System. Determined to make a change, the City and its residents decided to start their Vision Zero project, with the goal of creating transportation systems with zero crash-related fatalities or serious injuries. While Vision Zero is a distinct program from Safe Routes to School, the two programs both utilize the 5 E's framework:

- **Engineering:** The City intends to develop "Complete Streets", which will create safe and convenient environments for all forms of transportation, thus allowing community members to rely less on cars. Traffic calming measures will be put into place and work to slow drivers down, thus creating safer environments for walking and biking students, as well as other members of the community
- **Education:** The City hopes to teach citizens of all ages and abilities the best practices of safe city street usage, so that the community may share the roads. Vision Zero has multiple education programs in place just for students. One such program is the University of Miami's WalkSafe Program, which works with schools to teach pedestrian safety skills to school-age children through in-class and hands-on lessons.
- **Encouragement:** The city plans special events, such as Walk to School Days and Family Fun Rides, to get the community excited about walking and bicycling and to demonstrate the possibilities of walking and bicycling
- **Enforcement:** The city intends to target high-crash corridors and identified speeding zones in order to address unsafe behaviors in a focused way, through emphasis on awareness and education.
- **Evaluation:** The city will collect and analyze data using tools such as the Parent Survey, as well as conduct yearly Neighbor Surveys to determine the success and perception of various strategies.

CASE STUDY: 'NO CHILD LEFT ON THEIR BEHIND'

In Wymore-Blue Springs, Nebraska, approximately 70% of students live at least one mile from school. This distance, combined with a lack of sidewalks and concerns regarding traffic, made it difficult for students to walk or bicycle to school. With funding from Public Health Solutions, Wymore-Blue Springs was able to promote physical activity through social marketing. Families and children were **encouraged** to walk and ride bicycles to school during the day, in the evenings, and on weekends. Families were also given **educational** materials through community events, backpack mail, and church bulletins. Though Wymore-Blue Springs did not engage in all 5 E's, the community was still able to use its available resources to get students moving.

WYMORE-BLUE SPRINGS, NE



STORY COURTESY OF THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP

CREATING A SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PLAN

1. Assemble Your Task Force

Schools participating in a Safe Routes to School project can benefit greatly from assembling a team. The purpose of the team is to organize the project, set realistic timelines, and carry out tasks. Assembling a team allows for community participation in the development and implementation of projects and programs and can help build excitement for Safe Routes to School. Having a team with members from many different areas of the community is great for a Safe Routes to School project. Below is an example team:

THE 5 E'S TASK FORCE

EDUCATION



WHO: Principal and teachers from the project's school

TASK: Principals can ensure that Safe Routes to School events are compatible with a school's schedule and curriculum. Having the school principal on board can also help in applying for funding, as a letter of support (such as the example in Appendix 3) can bolster an application. Teachers can incorporate Safe Routes to School into their lesson plans to reinforce the ideas with students.

ENCOURAGEMENT



WHO: PTA members and school staff

TASK: PTA members can help organize and run encouragement events. Some events, such as the walking school bus, rely heavily on volunteers, and PTA members can fill that space. Involved PTA members could also encourage other parents to support the Safe Routes to School program, as well as provide local knowledge. School staff can motivate students, remind students about Safe Routes to School events, and, if able, set an example by walking or bicycling to school themselves.

ENFORCEMENT



WHO: Local law enforcement

TASK: The person or people in this role can increase patrol efforts and focus on speeding and other dangerous driving practices in the vicinity of the school.



WHO: A traffic or transportation engineer from local or city government

TASK: The person or people in this role would work with the community to determine what infrastructure improvements are needed as well as determine potential options for the improvements.



WHO: City employees and school officials

TASK: This role is for persons capable of collecting data before, during, and after the project. Knowledge and access to data, which city and school officials have, are beneficial for this role. For example, law enforcement can provide data on speeding issues, and city officials, school employees, and volunteers can conduct site assessments.

2. Assess the Existing Conditions, Identify the Issues

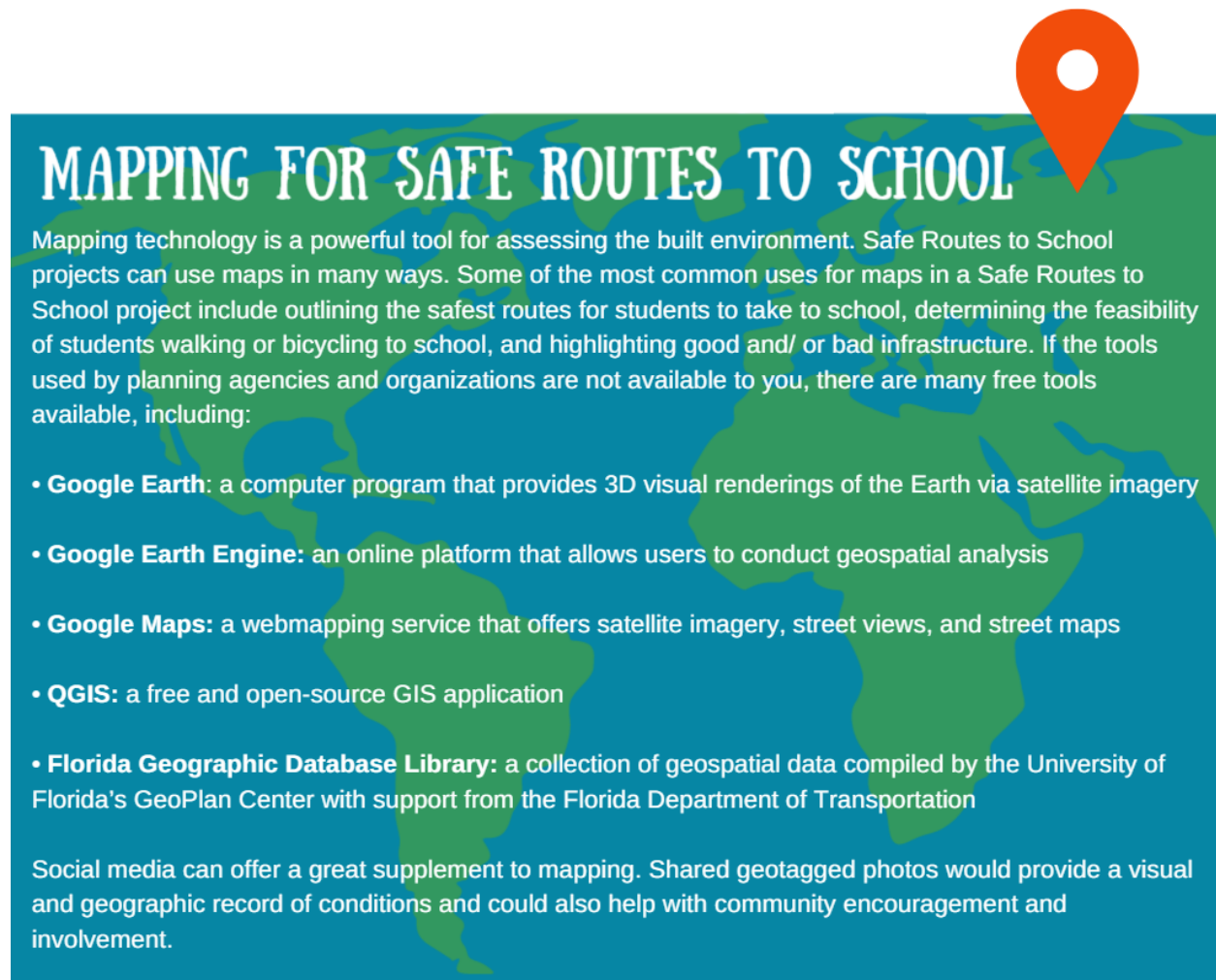
To set the goals of your Safe Routes to School program, the issues that your project will address need to be determined. Prior to conducting assessments, interviewing the community is beneficial for understanding the local context and tailoring the assessments. This can take the form of surveys, which help determine why families use their chosen transportation means, why students do or do not walk or ride a bicycle to school, and what can be done to change attitudes. To help in this, the National Center for Safe Routes to School has developed a parent survey, which can be found in the “Evaluation” section.

Once surveys have been conducted and local context is understood, site assessments can be done. In a site assessment, hazardous walking conditions within 2 miles of the school are identified. Tallies or counts of how many students walk or ride their bicycle to school, as well as the routes they use, are taken. Forms for these tasks can be found in the “Evaluation” section. Security and safety concerns in those areas are noted. Alternative routes are identified, as well as their needed improvements. The results of these assessments can set a baseline to improve upon, and are helpful in filling out Section 4 of the Florida Safe Routes to School Infrastructure Application.

It is beneficial to involve many partners – including adults, neighbors, and students—in this step. Their local knowledge is invaluable, and they can help in conducting certain assessments. This step overlaps heavily with the Evaluation element discussed previously.

The findings from site assessments can be visualized through maps. These maps can show traffic patterns, highlight sidewalks and crosswalks, and identify any issues found during site assessments. There are many possibilities with maps and mapping software, and all of them are helpful in visualizing existing conditions and potential improvements. Technical assistance with

mapping software may be available from a local county or municipal planning agency, or from a metropolitan planning organization assisting with the program. These maps can provide an excellent starting point in identifying the goals and visions of a Safe Routes to School program, as well as encourage the team by visually showing change.



MAPPING FOR SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

Mapping technology is a powerful tool for assessing the built environment. Safe Routes to School projects can use maps in many ways. Some of the most common uses for maps in a Safe Routes to School project include outlining the safest routes for students to take to school, determining the feasibility of students walking or bicycling to school, and highlighting good and/ or bad infrastructure. If the tools used by planning agencies and organizations are not available to you, there are many free tools available, including:

- **Google Earth:** a computer program that provides 3D visual renderings of the Earth via satellite imagery
- **Google Earth Engine:** an online platform that allows users to conduct geospatial analysis
- **Google Maps:** a webmapping service that offers satellite imagery, street views, and street maps
- **QGIS:** a free and open-source GIS application
- **Florida Geographic Database Library:** a collection of geospatial data compiled by the University of Florida's GeoPlan Center with support from the Florida Department of Transportation

Social media can offer a great supplement to mapping. Shared geotagged photos would provide a visual and geographic record of conditions and could also help with community encouragement and involvement.

3. Identify Goals and Visions

Once the existing conditions have been assessed and the issues have been identified, it is time to establish a project vision and determine goals that work towards that vision. Every community is unique, and thus every Safe Routes to School program is unique, too. Goals may focus on the education, engineering, enforcement, and/ or encouragement elements. A timeline for these goals should be established. Responsibility for each goal should be assigned to members of the task force. Resources for each goal should be made clear. In pursuing and accomplishing these goals, it is important to check in and evaluate regularly to ensure that goals are still on track and still achieving their intention.

FUNDING

The Safe Routes to School infrastructure program is 100% funded and managed through the Florida Department of Transportation on a cost-reimbursement basis. The Florida Department of Transportation encourages all communities with Safe Routes to School projects to apply for a Florida Safe Routes to School grant.

CONCLUSION



The benefits of Safe Routes to School are far-reaching. Enabling students to walk or ride bicycles to school can lead to improvements in students' health, improvements in academic performance, improvements in environmental conditions, and improvements to the community in many other ways. This toolkit is intended to aid the user in successfully bringing a Safe Routes to School program to their community. By using the 5 E's and applying the steps to creating a Safe Routes to School plan to their local context, the user can put their community on a path towards reducing traffic congestion, increasing physical activity for children and young adults, and increasing the number of students walking and bicycling to school.

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5. Vinther, D. "Children who walk to school concentrate better." *Science Nordic*, November 30, 2012. <http://sciencenordic.com/childrenwho-walk-school-concentrate-better>

RESOURCES

For further reading, see:

- The Florida Department of Transportation Safe Routes to School resource website: <http://www.srtsfl.org/>
- The National Center for Safe Routes to School: <http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/>
- The Safe Routes to School National Partnership: <https://www.saferoutespartnership.org/>
- The Safe Routes to School Guide: <http://guide.saferoutesinfo.org/index.cfm>
- Walk and Bike to School: <http://www.walkbiketoschool.org/>
- UF Center for Health and the Built Environment Safe Routes to School Technical Assistance Program: <https://dcp.ufl.edu/saferoutes/>
- Florida Traffic and Bicycle Safety Education Program: <http://hhp.ufl.edu/safety/>
- An Organizer's Guide to Bicycle Rodeos:
http://www.bike.cornell.edu/pdfs/Bike_Rodeo_404.2.pdf

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: Healthy Heart Talking Points



Heart Healthy Talking Points

General Health

- ♥ “Today’s kids may be the first generation in history whose life expectancy is projected to be less than that of their parents.” *Dr David Katz, Yale public-health expert*
- ♥ New Federal guidelines now recommend that people should exercise at least 30 minutes daily to cut the risk of chronic disease and children should exercise 60 minutes a day. To prevent weight gain it should be 60 minutes and to maintain weight loss, it should be 60 to 90 minutes.

Exercise and Youth

- ♥ In most gym classes, kids are aerobically active for just 3 minutes. *Time Magazine June 7 2004*
- ♥ In the years that P.E. has declined, the nation has seen big increases in attention deficit disorder and childhood depression. *Time*
- ♥ **Walk and Talk** Instead of sitting at the table to do homework, take a walk with your child while practicing spelling words, multiplication tables or geography facts. *U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*
- ♥ Fewer than one in four children report getting 20 minutes of vigorous activity every day of the week, and less than 25 percent get any type of daily physical activity. At all grade levels, girls, get fewer hours of exercise per week than boys, and as children advance through high school, their level of participation drops off. *Shape the Nation, National Association for Sport and Physical Education NASPE 2001*

Disease Prevention

- ♥ Poor diet and physical inactivity could soon overtake tobacco as the leading cause of preventable death in the U.S. *Journal of American Medical Assoc. March 2004*
- ♥ Exercising and maintaining a healthful weight when young can delay the onset of breast cancer in women at very high risk of the disease – Women who exercised actively when they were young – even just walking a lot, and maintained a healthful weight through the age of 21 were somewhat protected from breast cancer. *Science Magazine study by the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center*



More 



Physical Fitness

- ♥ Americans run only 25% of all errands by foot, a drop of 42% in the past 20 years. 75% of all trips are less than a mile from home.
- ♥ A study recently released by the California Department of Education (CDE) shows a distinct relationship between academic achievement and the physical fitness of California's public school students.

"This statewide study provides compelling evidence that the physical well-being of students has a direct impact on their ability to achieve academically," said Diane Eastin, State Superintendent of Schools. "We now have the proof we've been looking for: students achieve best when they are physically fit."
- ♥ Physical activity is often limited to specific sports or games. In order for children to learn to love physical activity, it is necessary to provide a variety of options so that children can choose the activity they most want to learn and enjoy.
- ♥ 70% of children watch at least one hour of TV each day. 35% watch five hours or more. In Marin, 23% of Marin children ages 5-17 spend 3 or more hours on a typical **weekday** watching television or videos, or playing video games on TV. It rises to 47% for **weekend** days where the average is 2.6 hours. *Marin County Health Survey*

Obesity

- ♥ 34% of Marin County Children 2-17 are overweight at risk/or are obese. Boys 12-17 have a bigger problem than girls. Hispanic and low income families are particularly at risk. *Marin County Health Survey*
- ♥ Being overweight and obese can lead to Type 2 diabetes, heart disease, and cancer of the colon, breast, uterus, and other cancers. There is an alarming increase in Type 2 diabetes in children.
- ♥ Watching less than 10 hours of TV weekly and engaging in brisk walking at least half an hour daily reduced the obesity and diabetes risks by 30 percent and 43 percent respectively. *Journal of American Medical Assoc.*
- ♥ For every hour people spend in their cars, they are 6% more likely to be obese. For every ½ mile they walk in a day they are 5% less likely to be obese. If they live in a mixed-use environment (one in which there are shops and services near their homes, they are 7% less likely to be obese. *Survey done in Atlanta, by Lawrence Frank, professor at University of British Columbia.*
- ♥ \$117 billion a year – total medical tab for illnesses related to obesity – *U.S. Surgeon General*



Compiled by Safe Routes to Schools, a program funded by the Transportation Authority of Marin, and implemented by the Marin County Bicycle Coalition.
P.O. Box 1115, Fairfax, CA 94978
(415) 456-3469
www.safeoutestoschools.org

APPENDIX 2: Letter Home to Parents

SRTS Kick-off meeting Letter

Example Safe Routes to School Task Force Invitation Letter

[Date]

Dear,

You are invited to join [Community or School Name] in starting a Safe Routes to School Program. Safe Routes to School Programs across Indiana and the country have helped create safer walking and bicycling routes near schools so parents/guardians feel comfortable allowing their children to walk and bicycle to school. This allows children to lead more active and healthier lifestyles. It also helps reduce traffic volume and congestion near schools.

Your assistance is needed to start a Safe Routes to School Program here. Join other interested school and community members for an informational meeting on [date] at [time]. The meeting will be held at [location]. For more information and to RSVP, please contact [name] at [phone number] or [email address].

Thanks for your help.

Sincerely,

[Name]

[Address]

APPENDIX 3: Support Letter from Principal

Chester Shell Elementary

21633 SE 65th Avenue Hawthorne, Florida (352) 481-1901

Ms. Sarita Taylor
Safe Routes to School Coordinator
Florida Department of Transportation
605 Suwannee Street MS-17
Tallahassee, FL 33399-0450

Re: Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Application

Dear Ms. Sarita Taylor:

This letter is to express my support for the Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) application for an infrastructure project at Shell Elementary School in the city of Hawthorne in Alachua County. This project involves the construction of a sidewalk, crosswalks, and lighting on SE 65th Avenue. We see the addition of these improvements as a way to enhance safety for walkers and bikers as they travel to and depart school.

Shell Elementary students arrive to school in a variety of ways, as we serve a large geographic zone. We do have a large portion of students living within walking and biking distance of our school. Many of these students must walk or bike to school as they are too close to the school to be eligible to ride a bus, and their parents are unable to bring them to school. Our bikers and walkers must leave their houses at dawn, making travel on a roadway very unsafe. We serve small children (grades PK-5), and these children should not be forced to share the roadway with motor vehicles. I feel these unsafe conditions make this project ideal for SRTS funding. Please consider our community and its children when making your decision.

Sincerely,

Holly Burton

Holly Burton, Principal
Shell Elementary School

Encouragement

APPENDIX 4: Walk to School Day Invitation/ Proclamation



Your School Name Here
is participating in Walk to School Day on
Day, Month Date, Year

Join children and adults around the world to celebrate
the benefits of walking and bicycling.

About our event:

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a thin green border, intended for text describing the event.

Learn more at

walkbiketoschool.org

Walk to School Day is coordinated in the U.S.A. by
the National Center for Safe Routes to School.



via Walk & Bike to School

+	+
<p>8. ¿En el último año, le ha pedido permiso su hijo para caminar o andar en bicicleta hacia o desde la escuela? <input type="checkbox"/> Sí <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>9. ¿En qué grado permitiría que su hijo camine o ande en bicicleta solo a/o de la escuela? (seleccione un grado entre PK,K,1,2,3...) <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> grado o <input type="checkbox"/> No me sentiría cómodo/a en ningún grado</p>	
<p>¿Cómo llenar este formulario?: Escriba en letras MAYUSCULAS. Marque las cajas con "X"</p>	
<p>10. ¿Cuáles de las siguientes situaciones afectaron su decisión de permitir, o no permitir, que su niño camine o ande en bicicleta hacia o desde la escuela? (marque todas las que correspondan)</p>	<p>11. ¿Probablemente dejaría que su hijo caminara o usara la bicicleta para ir a /regresar de la escuela si este problema cambiara o mejorara? (elija una respuesta por línea)</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Distancia.....</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Mi hijo(a) ya viaja a pié o en bicicleta a/desde la escuela</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Conveniencia de manejar.....</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Sí <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No estoy seguro/a</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Tiempo.....</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Sí <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No estoy seguro/a</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Actividades antes o después de la escuela.....</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Sí <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No estoy seguro/a</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Velocidad del tránsito en la ruta.....</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Sí <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No estoy seguro/a</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Cantidad de tránsito en la ruta.....</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Sí <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No estoy seguro/a</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Adultos que acompañen a su niño.....</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Sí <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No estoy seguro/a</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Aceras o caminos.....</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Sí <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No estoy seguro/a</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Seguridad de las intersecciones y cruces.....</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Sí <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No estoy seguro/a</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Guardias de cruce peatonal.....</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Sí <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No estoy seguro/a</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Violencia o crimen.....</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Sí <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No estoy seguro/a</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Tiempo o clima.....</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Sí <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No estoy seguro/a</p>
<p>+ ¿Cómo llenar este formulario?: Escriba en letras MAYUSCULAS. Marque las cajas con "X" +</p>	
<p>12. En su opinión, ¿cuánto apoyo provee la escuela de su hijo a caminar y usar la bicicleta para ir o regresar de la escuela?</p>	
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Anima Fuertemente <input type="checkbox"/> Anima <input type="checkbox"/> Ni uno ni otro <input type="checkbox"/> Desalienta <input type="checkbox"/> Desalienta Fuertemente</p>	
<p>13. ¿Qué tan DIVERTIDO es caminar o andar en bicicleta hacia o desde la escuela para su niño?</p>	
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Muy Divertido <input type="checkbox"/> Divertido <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Aburrido <input type="checkbox"/> Muy Aburrido</p>	
<p>14. ¿Qué tan SANO es caminar o andar en bicicleta hacia o desde la escuela para su niño?</p>	
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Muy Sano <input type="checkbox"/> Sano <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Malsano <input type="checkbox"/> Muy Malsano</p>	
<p>+ ¿Cómo llenar este formulario?: Escriba en letras MAYUSCULAS. Marque las cajas con "X" +</p>	
<p>15. ¿Cuál es el grado o el año más alto de educación que usted terminó?</p>	
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Grados 1 a 8 (Escuela primaria)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Universidad 1 a 3 años (alguna universidad o escuela técnica)</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Grados 9 a 11 (alguna High School/secundaria)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Universidad 4 años o más (graduado de la universidad)</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Grado 12 o GED (graduado High School/secundaria)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Prefiero no contestar</p>
<p>16. Por favor proporcione comentarios adicionales:</p>	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></div>	

APPENDIX 6: Sample of Awarded SRTS Application



SAMPLE

SECTION 1 – SCHOOL, APPLICANT, MAINTAINING AGENCY & M/TPO INFORMATION

Notes: Signatures confirm the commitment of the School, Applicant and Maintaining Agency to follow the Guidelines of the Florida's Safe Routes to School Program. The School is responsible for the parent's surveys and student tallies before and after the project is built. It is also responsible for promoting safe walking and biking to and from school. The Maintaining Agency is generally responsible for entering into a Local Agency Program (LAP) agreement with the FDOT to design, construct, &/or maintain the project. Districts have the option to design and/or construct it, but the Maintaining Agency is always responsible for maintaining the project. Check with your District to see how they are handling these issues.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

SCHOOL NAME: Sabal Palm Elementary School

SCHOOL ADDRESS: 2813 Ridgeway Street

COUNTY: Leon CITY: Tallahassee ZIP: 32310

TYPE: Elementary CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 2nd

PRINCIPAL'S NAME: Anicia Robinson
(Printed)

PHONE #: 850-488-0167 EMAIL: robinsona2@leonschools.net

PRINCIPAL'S SIGNATURE: Anicia R. Robinson DATE: 12/12/19

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: Eric Gooch, P.E. TITLE: Program Engineer
NAME OF APPLICANT AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: City of Tallahassee Underground Utilities and Public Infrastructure (UUPI)

APPLICANT AGENCY/ORGANIZATION TYPE: Maintaining Agency

APPLICANT: Eric Gooch, P.E. TITLE: Program Engineer

MAILING ADDRESS: 300 South Adams Street, Box A-18

CITY: Tallahassee STATE: FLORIDA ZIP: 32301

PHONE #: 850-891-2858 E-MAIL: Eric.Gooch@Tal.gov.com

SIGNATURE: Eric Gooch DATE: 12/18/2019
Applicant

I attended the SRTS workshop and have reviewed this application for completeness.

ATTENDEE'S SIGNATURE: Eric Gooch DATE: 12/18/2019



SAMPLE

MAINTAINING AGENCY INFORMATION

MAINTAINING AGENCY 1 City County Florida Department of Transportation District _____

NAME OF MAINTAINING AGENCY: City of Tallahassee UUPI DUNS #: 07-324-5193

CONTACT PERSON: Steve Shafer TITLE: Assistant General Manager UUPI

MAILING ADDRESS: 300 South Adams Street, Box A-18

PHONE #: 850-891-2855 E-MAIL: Steve.Shafer@Tal.gov.com

CITY: Tallahassee STATE: FLORIDA ZIP: 32301

Note: your signature below indicates your agency's willingness to enter into a LAP or other formal agreement with FDOT to complete the project if selected for funding.

SIGNATURE:  DATE: 12/18/19

MAINTAINING AGENCY 2 City County Florida Department of Transportation District _____

NAME OF MAINTAINING AGENCY: _____ DUNS #: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____ TITLE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

PHONE #: _____ E-MAIL: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: FLORIDA ZIP: _____

Note: your signature below indicates your agency's willingness to enter into a LAP or other formal agreement with FDOT to complete the project if selected for funding.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

METROPOLITAN/TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (M/TPO) SUPPORT

If the city or county is located within an MPO/TPO urban area boundary, the MPO/TPO representative must fill in the required information below, to indicate support for the proposed project:

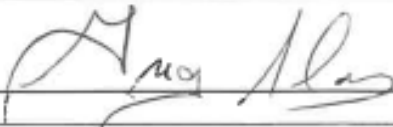
NAME OF MPO: Capital Regional Transportation Planning Agency

CONTACT PERSON: Greg Slay TITLE: Executive Director

MAILING ADDRESS: 300 South Adams Street, Box A-19

CITY: Tallahassee STATE: FLORIDA ZIP: 32301

PHONE #: 850-891-8630 E-MAIL: mailto:greg.slay@crtpa.org

SIGNATURE:  DATE: 12-19-19



SAMPLE

SECTION 2 – ELIGIBILITY AND FEASIBILITY CRITERIA

Notes: This section will help FDOT determine the eligibility and feasibility of the proposed project. Except for the questions in 2A-2C below answering "No" does not constitute elimination from project consideration. You must fulfill requirements in 2A-2C below before applying!

- A1. Has a school-based SRTS Committee (including school representation) been formed? Yes No
- A2. Has at least one meeting of this committee been held? Attach sign in sheet & minutes Yes No
- A3. Public notification of SRTS meeting? Yes No
- B1. Does the school agree to provide required data before and after the project is built, using the NCSRTS [Student In-Class Travel Tally](#) and [Parent Survey](#) forms at <http://saferoutesdata.org/> following the schedule provided by the District? Yes No
- B2. Have you attached the National Center's data summary for the [Student In-Class Travel Tally](#) and [Parent Survey](#) forms to this application? Yes No
- B3. Are the [Student In-Class Travel Tally](#) and Parent Survey data summaries attached? Yes No

Note: Project planning cannot go forward until public right of way or permanent public access to the land for the proposed project is documented to the District.

- C. Have you provided either survey/as-built or right of way documentation that provides detail to show that adequate right of way exists for proposed improvement? Yes No
- D. Is the Maintaining Agency Local Agency Program (LAP) Certified? (currently qualified & willing to enter into a State agreement requiring the agency to design, construct, and/or maintain the project, abiding by Federal, State, & local requirements?)..... Yes No
 If No:
 Are they willing to become LAP Certified?..... Yes No
 If the agency is not willing to become LAP Certified, explain how this project could be built without this certification: N/A

- E. Who do you propose to be responsible for each phase of the project?
 Design: City County Other, Including FDOT (Explain below)
 Construction: City County Other, Including FDOT (Explain below)
 Maintenance: City County Other, Including FDOT (Explain below)
 If you checked **Other, including FDOT** for any of the above, please explain the responsible party for each phase, including who you have been talking to about this: N/A

- F. Is the County/City willing to enter into an agreement with FDOT to do the following, if the District decides this is the best way to get the project completed:
 Install and/or maintain any traffic engineering equipment included in this project? Yes No
 Construct and maintain the project on a state road? Yes No N/A

- G. Public Support - Explain your public information or public involvement process below. You may attach up to six unique letters, on official letterhead, from groups indicated below. The letters should indicate why and how the authors can support the proposed project at the affected school. **Failure to provide documentation of public involvement activities directly with affected property owners is grounds for an application to be excluded from consideration.**

What neighborhood association or other neighborhood meetings have been held to inform neighbors directly affected by this proposed project and the reaction?

The CRTPA completed an extensive SRTS study in August of 2014 for every school in Leon County. During this process, there were on-site meetings and school campus inventories completed with school representatives. Neighborhood field reviews were completed and public meetings were held to solicit comments from and provide information as part of the process.

More recently, letters of notification were sent to the neighbors that will be directly affected by this project. In addition, the notification letter was sent to the Mabry Manor Neighborhood Association via the City of Tallahassee Neighborhood Affairs Department. At the time of this application, there has been no feedback, positive or negative, regarding the proposed sidewalk projects.

What PTA/PTO/school meetings have been held to inform parents and school staff about this project and the reaction?

This project was discussed at the October 10, 2019 District Advisory Council (DAC). The DAC's function is to facilitate communication among the school system, parents, students, and community. The DAC also informs and advises the Superintendent and School Board regarding school/community needs, interests, and concerns. There was a very positive reaction from the school board members and the community members that a proactive approach was being taken to attempt to secure funding to accelerate a key sidewalk project that will provide a better route for those children and families that walk to school. Additionally, a presentation was made at the October 22, 2019 Leon County School



SAMPLE

SECTION 2 – ELIGIBILITY AND FEASIBILITY CRITERIA

Board Meeting. The reaction from the meeting was very supportive of the projects and the school board emphasized they would like to help in any way.

Letters of support from the school principal and the school board are included in this submittal.

Explain what other public meetings have been held, such as Metropolitan Planning Organizations, Regional Planning Councils, Citizens' Advisory Committees, Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Councils and Community Traffic Safety Teams and the reaction?

The CRTPA completed an extensive SRTS study in 2014 for every school in Leon County, which was used to select this potential sidewalk project. Additionally, a meeting occurred on October 4, 2019 that included representatives from the CRTPA, City of Tallahassee, Leon County, Leon County School Board, and FDOT. The CRTPA and the other representatives present at the meeting were very supportive of the projects selected for submittal.

Explain what articles or letters to the editor have been written for newspapers, etc. and the reaction:
None have been submitted

Please indicate whether you have attached letters of support from Law Enforcement or other individuals or groups not previously mentioned: Yes No

H. If the proposed project has been identified as a priority in a Bicycle/Pedestrian or other Plan, or is a missing link in a pedestrian or bicycle system, please explain:

The four (4) streets identified in the Sabal Palm Sidewalk project were all identified in the CRTPA SRTS report as offsite infrastructure improvements to enhance walking and bicycling safety to Sabal Palm Elementary School. This project will construct sidewalks on portions of the four streets providing safe pedestrian routes to Sabal Palm Elementary as follows:

- Villamore Avenue from Eisenhower Street to Dale Street- construct a new 710' long sidewalk along north side
- Dale Street from Villamore Avenue to Ridgeway Street- construct a new 740' sidewalk along west side
- Ridgeway Street from Harris Street to Eisenhower Street- construct a new 330' sidewalk on the south side
- Harris Street from Entrance to Meadows Mobile Home Community to Ridgeway Street- construct a new 150' long sidewalk on the east side

In addition, Villamore Avenue has been identified as a top priority on the City of Tallahassee Sidewalk Priority List and is currently listed as priority number 9 out of 284. The sidewalk ranking process was adopted by the City of Tallahassee Commission and is based factors including safety, latent and existing demand, connectivity, new access, and school access. Dale Street and Ridgeway Street are also on the list as priority numbers 162 and 239, respectively.

I. Is this project in a Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) community? Yes No
FS defines a rural community as: A county with a population of 75,000 or less; A county with a population of 125,000 or less which is contiguous to a county with a population of 75,000 or less; or Any municipality with a county as described above.



SAMPLE

SECTION 3 – BACKGROUND INFORMATION: FIVE E’S

Notes: SRTS is designed to be a comprehensive program. Describe the efforts your school and community have made to address the identified problem through each E so far, and what is planned in the future for each. Each box must be filled in. For more information on the E’s, see Florida’s SRTS Guidelines and the SRTS Guide: <http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/guide/>

1. ENGINEERING

1A. PAST: The attached CRPTA report completed a neighborhood assessment (pg 12-16). This assessment outlines items that are recommended to improve the conditions in the area..

1B. FUTURE: The attached CRPTA report outlines off-site recommendations (pg 17-20). The City of Tallahassee is working through the recommendations and fulfilling these recommendations as funding is allocated or as maintenance is required.

2. EDUCATION

If your school has taught or plans to teach the FLSRTS Curricula (<http://floridasrts.com/>) or other education program, please provide details below:

2A. PAST: All elementary and middle schools have bicycle and pedestrian safety as part of their physical education curriculums. The Leon County School Board (LCSB) works with non-profit agencies to provide additional safety lessons. Leon County EMS also assists with teaching bicycle and traffic safety. The Tallahassee Police Department (TBD) bike squad assists with safety talks to students.

2B. FUTURE: The school will continue the programs in place and provide additional literature to send home such as information from the National Safe Routes to Schools Organization.

3. ENCOURAGEMENT

3A. PAST: The TPD bike squad assists students with neighborhood bike rides. The LCSB promotes walk/bicycle to school days.

3B. FUTURE: Additional school policies could be implemented that encourage bicycle riding. Options include a parent or school volunteer at the bike rack in the morning and afternoon to assist and check in and out students parking their bikes. Promote using the access on Villamore, which will provide better access to campus for students living south of the school.

4. ENFORCEMENT

4A. PAST: Law enforcement to assist with lowering travel speeds. Speed reader boards and crossing guard.

4B. FUTURE: Continue to have law enforcement to assist with lowering travel speeds. Speed reader boards and crossing guards. Fliers to parents that identify unsafe driving behaviors. Additional education to students and parents that teach safe pedestrian and bicycle behaviors.

5. EVALUATION

5A. PAST: Student and parent survey forms from this year have been collected; the results are summarized in this submittal. Additionally, the attached CRPTA report contains and additional summary of surveys from 2014 (pg 7-8 and appendix pg 26-38).

5B. FUTURE: Student and parent survey forms will be completed again between 6 months and 1 year after project completion and implementation or as required by the grant.



SAMPLE

SECTION 4 – PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION

This section will help us understand your school's situation. If the proposed project includes more than one school, please give the requested information for each school.

A. HAZARDOUS WALKING CONDITIONS

1. Opportunity to resolve a documented hazardous walking condition and eliminate the resultant school busing.
 Yes No

If Yes, please enter the documented date and case number: N/A

Include a discussion of public support for the project if busing were eliminated:
N/A

2. Opportunity to eliminate current courtesy busing being done for a perceived hazardous condition. Include a discussion of public support for the project if busing were eliminated:
N/A

- B. Are many students already walking or bicycling to this school in less than ideal conditions? Yes No
If Yes:

- Explain more about the number of students affected:
Ideal conditions would have a sidewalk along all routes within walking distance to the schools. This project would especially affect the large number children who reside in The Meadows Mobile Home Community. These student currently do not have a designated walking path between the Community and the school. Construction of a sidewalk and appropriate signage would increase safety and promote walking to school, as the Community is in very close proximity to the school. Students are currently required to cross the street at an unmarked and unsigned midblock crossing and walk in the roadway or roadside until Eisenhower Street. The sidewalks on Dale Street and Villamore Avenue would also encourage and help protect the 23 students living south of the school to walk or bike on the sidewalk as they currently are required to walk in the road or grass adjacent to the road.
- Explain more about the conditions/obstacles which prevent walking or bicycling to your school:
 Sabal Palm Elementary is located in a neighborhood comprised of higher density single family homes, multifamily homes, and manufactured homes. The immediate neighborhood layout lends itself fairly well to walkability. For the most part, the neighborhood connects in a mostly gridded manner, which contributes to the school's accessibility. Streets are pretty well connected, allowing for multiple route choices to/from school. However, existing sidewalk infrastructure is only available in the neighborhood immediately north of the school while bicycle infrastructure is non-existent. Where sidewalks do exist, they tend to only be available on one side of a street. Speeding vehicles are also a concern. The current speed studies show drivers are traveling at high speeds on Dale Street and Villamore Avenue. Providing a safe/designated walking path outside of the roadway would provide a safer walking and biking environment in the presense of speeders. A recent traffic crash that involved a school age child that occurred at the corner of Eisenhower Street and Ridgeway Street also alerts concern for the lack of sidewalk and well marked and signed crossings for this intersection. The crash occurred on October 25, 2019 and is shown in the crash summary as the last entry.

Additionally, it was noted by the schools Safety Resource Office (SRO) that the location of a Star Metro bus stops near campus is an issue for children walking and bicycling home. The two stops are located just west of the walker's exit along Eisenhower Street and at the corner of Eisenhower Street & Ridgeway Street. The SRO stated that children may feel uncomfortable walking by these stops due to the behavior, smoking and foul language, occurring there by bus stop patrons and asked that the stops be relocated so that students so not have to pass them directly on their way home. The concerns for neighborhood safety were generally agreed upon by parents from both Kindergarten through 2nd and 3rd through 5th. Survey respondents overall showed concerns for crime.



SAMPLE

SECTION 4 – PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION	
C.	<p>Are enough students living near the school to allow many to walk or bike to school if conditions were improved? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If Yes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain more about the number of student living near the school and how this relates to the anticipated success of the proposed SRTS project: The walk/bike shed for Sabal Palm Elementary School mostly extends northwest and just south of the school. There is an active railroad line just north of the school that contributes to the northern limits of the walk/bike shed. The area south of McElroy Street and east of Mabry Street are not included in the walk/bike shed due to the presence of few residential land uses. The proposed SRTS project will assist with the walking/bicycling by connecting additional residences to the sidewalk network allowing more students and families to walk and bicycle to school. Information provided from Leon County Schools indicates that a total of 193 students that attend Sabal Palm are within the walk/bike shed identified. Of those 193, 133 live within a half mile radius, 33 live between a half a mile and one mile, and 27 live between one mile and two miles of the school. <p>To estimate the number of students that could utilize this route after the proposed improvements, the students living within a 1-mile radius was used. The 1-mile radius was used since that is a reasonable distance to walk for elementary school students. The 2-mile radius would be a reasonable distance for biking. There is potential to add the students living within the 2-mile radius bike/walk shed as potential users of the proposed improvements if the number of students biking to school was able to be increased.</p> <p>The surveys showed that there are currently no students biking to school. This number could potentially be increased with the right combination of programs, policies, and infrastructure upgrades. The survey indicates that most students, 69%, at Sabal Palm Elementary are dropped-off by car or riding a school bus. The percentage of children walking is 22%, which is an improvement from earlier surveys. With these improvements, we would provide a safer route to school for those currently walking to school, as well as provide the opportunity to increase the number of students walking.</p>
D.	<p>Write a brief history of the neighborhood traffic issues as background for the proposed project:</p> <p>The traffic issues within the neighborhood are consistent with most local roadways. The streets are typically narrow with curb and gutter. Some streets have a flush shoulder with a roadside ditch, including Villamore Avenue. On-street parking also occurs throughout the neighborhood, even when the roadway is narrow. Pedestrian facilities are rare, especially south of the school. Where sidewalks do not exist, pedestrians are required to walk in the road or along the roadside. Mailboxes, utility poles, trees, parked cars, and other objects create a discontinuous walking path, requiring the pedestrian to navigate these obstructions as well as vehicular traffic. Within the school zone there are flashing lights (i.e., school zone warning lights) located along both Eisenhower Street and Ridgeway Street. There is one designated crossing guard in front of the school on Eisenhower Street.</p> <p>Speeding has also been noted as a traffic issue in the project area. The speed study noted that the 85th percentile along Dale Street and Villamore Avenue were 10 miles per hour above the posted speed limit. According to the crash study, there is also a large amount of accidents that cite the driver failing to yield to the pedestrian. With the construction of a designated sidewalk, the driver's expectation for pedestrians will increase along with their awareness of pedestrians in the area. In addition, a crash occurred at the intersection of Eisenhower Street and Ridgeway Street that involved a school aged child. Construction of a sidewalk and crosswalk location, as proposed, would improve the safety of this intersection.</p> <p>The initial parental surveys discussed factors that might influence their decision to allow their child to walk or bike to school. Survey responses indicate some of these such as having a secure place for storing bicycles and enforcing speed limits in school zones were significant issues. Survey respondents showed concerns the behavioral patterns of automobile drivers, generally, in terms of excessive driving speeds.</p>
E.	<p>How do the demographics of the school population relate to the anticipated success of the proposed SRTS project? For instance, is there a population of students near the school from a culture which traditionally walks a lot?</p> <p>Changing neighborhood demographics appears to be one of the primary issues with students' walking and bicycling to school. Housing surrounding the school that becomes occupied by college students, who tend to not have school-aged children will further decrease the number of children living within walking and bicycling distance to school. This kind of external factor is often difficult to overcome, at least in the short term.</p>



SAMPLE

SECTION 4 – PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION	
F.	Provide the percent of free or reduced lunch program at the affected school: <u>81.13%</u>
G.	STUDENT TRAVEL DATA:
1.	School data: based on the Student In-Class Travel Tally :
a.	Number of students currently walking to school: 112
b.	Number of students currently biking to school: 0
c.	Total currently walking or biking to school (add a & b)..... 112
d.	Number of students in this school: 509
e.	Percent of student in school currently walking or biking to school: (c divided by d): 22%
2.	Route Data:
a.	Number of students from the affected schools living along the proposed route: 193
b.	Based on (mark all that apply): *Existing School Data: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *Visual Observation Survey: <input type="checkbox"/> *Estimates: <input type="checkbox"/>
c.	Number of student currently walking or biking along this route: Unknown
d.	Number of student who could walk or bike along the proposed route after improvements: 166

SECTION 5 – SPECIFIC INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT(S) REQUESTED	
A. LOCATION	
<i>Note: the entire proposed project must be within 2 miles of the school and in the attendance area for the affected schools.</i>	
Request #1 St. Name: Villamore Avenue	Maintaining Agency: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> State
From: Eisenhower Street	To: Dale Street
Project's closest point to school: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0 to ½ mile; <input type="checkbox"/> ½ to 1 mile; <input type="checkbox"/> 1 to 1 ½ miles; <input type="checkbox"/> 1 ½ miles+	
Request #2 St. Name: Dale Street	Maintaining Agency: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> State
From: Villamore Avenue	To: Ridgeway Street
Project's closest point to school: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0 to ½ mile; <input type="checkbox"/> ½ to 1 mile; <input type="checkbox"/> 1 to 1 ½ miles; <input type="checkbox"/> 1 ½ miles+	
See Attachment for additional project sites: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Discuss the projects' proximity (within 2 miles) to other facilities which might also benefit from the project, such as other schools or colleges, parks, playgrounds, libraries, or other pedestrian destinations: There are numerous community amenities located within the projects' proximity such as parks, other schools, universities, and businesses. These include the FSU Sports Complex, Mabry Manor Park, Messer Park, and Innovation Park, which contains the National High Magnetic Field Lab and numerous Florida State University amenities and departments. Messer Park is an active park that contains baseball/softball fields, soccer/football fields, and even a skate park. There are also community services in the area such as Habitat for Humanity, Capital City Youth Services, and Calvary Missionary Baptist Church. These churches, schools, parks, and other amenities are within walking distance of the proposed project, which will benefit the community in all areas of use for bicyclists and pedestrians.	
B. SIDEWALK, BIKE LANE, PAVED SHOULDER, OR SHARED USE PATH	
<input type="checkbox"/> Continuation of Existing Sidewalk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Sidewalk
<input type="checkbox"/> Continuation of Existing Bike Lane	<input type="checkbox"/> New Bike Lane (includes re-striping or reconstruction)
<input type="checkbox"/> Continuation of Paved Shoulder	<input type="checkbox"/> New Paved Shoulder
<input type="checkbox"/> Continuation of Shared Use Path	<input type="checkbox"/> New Shared Use Path
Comments: describe below your requests in detail, including location, length, side of road, etc	
Request #1:	Villamore Avenue: This project will construct a new 710' long sidewalk along the north side of Villamore Avenue from Eisenhower Street to Dale Street, thus providing a safe pedestrian route along this corridor.
Request #2:	Dale Street: This project will construct a new 740' long sidewalk along the west side of Dale Street from Villamore Avenue to Ridgeway Street, thus providing a safe pedestrian route along this corridor.



SAMPLE

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
 DATA SERVICES AND SCHOOL SAFETY
 INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

SECTION 5 – SPECIFIC INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT(S) REQUESTED		
See Attachment for additional project sites: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Describe any other requests:		
C. TRAFFIC CONTROLS		
Mark all that apply in regard to traffic control devices:		
<input type="checkbox"/> We have all necessary traffic control devices (Proceed to E)		
<input type="checkbox"/> We need pedestrian signals (features)	<input type="checkbox"/> We need other school-related signals or beacons	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We need traffic signs	<input type="checkbox"/> We need other school-related signs	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We need marked crosswalks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We need other roadway markings	
Describe the existing and needed traffic controls: In the existing condition, there are stop signs with no stop bars or marked crosswalks. A crosswalk sign for a crosswalk on Eisenhower Street exists, but is facing the wrong way. With the construction of the new sidewalks, there will need to be painted crosswalks at stop conditions as well as associated stop bars. Special emphasis crosswalk pavement marking and associated signing are requested for proposed mid-block/non-stop controlled crossings. The incorrectly installed crosswalk sign on Eisenhower Street will be fixed.		
D. TRAFFIC DATA		
<i>Notes: Posted Speed Limit is required. AADT stands for Average Annual Daily Traffic</i>		
St 1: Posted Speed Limit: 25 MPH	Operating Speed: 34 MPH	AADT: 202
St 2: Posted Speed Limit: 25 MPH	Operating Speed: 38 MPH	AADT: 237

SECTION 6 – COST ESTIMATE	
This is designed to give FDOT a reasonable estimate of the cost of project. Make this cost estimate as accurate as possible as we do not allow contingency.	
<p>FDOT District contact in the Estimates Offices can help you with your cost estimate (directory): Projects must follow appropriate design criteria. Projects on the State Highway System must follow the criteria in the Plans Preparation Manual (PPM) and FDOT Design Standards. Projects on local systems must meet the minimum the minimum standards and criteria in the Manual of Uniform Minimum Standards for Design, Construction and Maintenance for streets and Highways (Florida Greenbook). These documents can be found on FDOT's web site at: https://www.fdot.gov/roadway</p>	
Construction Cost	\$238,071.06
Maintenance of Traffic (MOT)	\$61,500.00
Mobilization	\$19,050.00
Subtotal	\$318,621.06
Total Construction Cost	\$318,621.06
Professional Engineering Design	\$82,841.48
Construction Engineering and Inspection	\$19,117.27
GRAND TOTAL	<u>\$420,579.81</u>
Printed name of person preparing detailed cost estimate:	<u>Molly Levesque, P.E. (PE # 80429)</u>
Contact #: <u>850-891-2862</u>	Email: <u>Molly.levesque@talgov.com</u>
Signature: <u></u>	Date: <u>12-19-19</u>



SAMPLE

SECTION 6B- REQUEST FOR FUNDING COST ESTIMATE

A Request for Funding Cost Estimate must be signed and sealed by P.E. and submitted as part of the application. Please access the accompanying Funding Cost Estimate form #500-000-30b [here](#).

SECTION 7 - SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

Notes: These will be counted toward total application score.

- Application
- SRTS Meeting Public Notification
- Meetings Sign in Sheet & Minutes
- Student In-Class Travel Tally Data Summary
- Parent Survey Data Summary
- Proof of Right of Way
- Letters of Public Support (up to 5)
- Documentation Affected Homeowners were Notified
- Documentation of Hazardous Walking Condition (if applicable)
- Request for Funding Cost Estimate
- Before Color Pictures (jpg format)
- Color Project Map Showing School Location
- Map Showing Existing Conditions
- Map Showing Proposed Improvements
- Map Showing Where Students Attending School Live
- Traffic/Engineering Report Evaluating the Problem (if applicable)
- Signal Warrants (if applicable)

SAMPLE

Sabal Trail Community Application for Additional Projects


Section 5- SPECIFIC INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS REQUESTED

A. LOCATION

Request #3

Street Name: Ridgeway Street	Maintaining Agency: City
From: Harris Street	To: Eisenhower Street
Projects Closest Point to School: 0 - ½ mile	

Request #4

Street Name: Harris Street	Maintaining Agency: City
From: Entrance to The Meadows Mobile Home Community	To: Ridgeway Street 
Projects Closest Point to School: 0 - ½ mile	

B. SIDEWALK, BIKE LANE, PAVED SHOULDER, OR SHARED USE PATH

Request #3

This project will construct a new 330' long sidewalk along the south side of Ridgeway Street from Eisenhower Street to Harris Street, thus providing a safe pedestrian route along this corridor.

Request #4

This project will construct a new 150' long sidewalk along the east side of Harris Street from the pedestrian entrance to The Meadows Mobile Home Community to Ridgeway Street, thus providing a safe pedestrian route along this corridor.

D. TRAFFIC DATA

Street 3: Ridgeway	Posted Speed: 25 MPH	Operating Speed: 19 MPH	AADT: 182
Street 4: Harris	Posted Speed: 25 MPH	Operating Speed: 16 MPH	AADT: 178