



# Santa Rosa Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Task Force

Meeting Notes of Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023

[You can view the video recording of this meeting by clicking this link](#)

## Members

Christina Panza	Director, Safe Routes to Schools & Education	Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition
Sarah Hadler	Safe Routes to School Education/Encouragement Program Manager	Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition
Alexander Ocegueda	Active Transportation Planner	City of Santa Rosa
Torina Wilson	Active Transportation Planner	City of Santa Rosa
Laurel Chambers	Healthy Eating, Active Living Coordinator	Sonoma County Department of Health Services; Public Health Division
Michael Kellison	Superintendent	Bellevue Union School District
Lisa Saxon	Superintendent	Wright School District
Amy Jones	Superintendent	Rincon Valley Union School District
Jessica Peterson	Safety Coordinator	Roseland School District
Patricia Turner	Director of Risk Management	Santa Rosa City School District
Dana Turrey	Senior Transportation Planner	Sonoma County Transportation Authority

**Additional Attendees:** Chris Gunther (Co-leader of Bikeable Santa Rosa and Parent); Adam Garcia (Data Analyst at SCTA); Kate Davenport (Hidden Valley Elem Parent); Danielle McElwee (SRTS Lead Educator);

**Additional Attendees via Teleconference:** Alexa Forrester (Co-Leader of Bikeable Santa Rosa, Rincon Valley and SR City Schools Parent); Elizabeth Crane (Sequoia Elementary Parent)

## NOTES ON AGENDA ITEMS:

### a. **Introductions & public comments for items not on agenda\***

Christina Panza welcomed everyone saying that this Task Force is a collaboration between the Sonoma County Safe Routes to School program, all of the school districts within the City of Santa Rosa, City of SR Transportation and Public Works, SR Law Enforcement and the Dept of Health Services and members of the public; parents, teachers, principals are welcome to zoom in or be here in person. The purpose of the Task Force is to bring us all together to share what we are doing and to raise concerns or issues in our districts and to collaborate and identify

opportunities for improvements, collaboration and funding. This is our first public meeting.

b. There were no public comments.

## 2. Safe Routes to School Program Report (Christina Panza, SRTS Director):

*(This item begins at [5:25](#) on the video recording)*

*(PowerPoint slides and corresponding handouts included in notes packet)*

a. Christina Panza gave a PowerPoint presentation on the status of the Safe Routes to School Program.

- i. Shared infographic on benefits of SRTS
- ii. 23 enrolled schools in the City of Santa Rosa jurisdiction and 4 in the unincorporated area
- iii. During the month of September, we ask schools to collect transportation data on how students are getting to and from school.
- iv. We are collecting student addresses in order to make GIS maps that show where students live in relation to school. We can compare that data with the number of kids who live in  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1 and 2 miles from school and how many are walking/biking. Maps are useful for identifying meet up spots for Walking School Buses/Bike Trains.
- v. Last spring, we did a countywide Parent Survey, 627 responses from the schools in Santa Rosa. *(This is at [9:00](#) on the video recording)*
  1. Of all respondents, 55% of respondents drove their kids in single family vehicle every day, 15% walked every day, 1.5% biked every day
  2. Barriers—67% said concerns about vehicle traffic/busy roads is most significant concern for choosing not to walk/bike to school.
  3. More than 80% agreed that walking/bicycling is important for child's health.
  4. 68% of parents wish that walking/biking was something they did more often.
  5. Top reason parents chose for walking/biking is that "Walking/Bicycling encourages an active, healthy lifestyle." 2<sup>nd</sup> reason was that it's fun!
  6. There were a number of parents interested in helping with SRTS activities at their school
- vi. Review program services *(this is at [11:28](#) on the video recording)*. We do encouragement, education, community education and outreach at our schools. We have a Back to School piece to engage parents, esp at new schools.
- vii. September Challenge is Map your Route to School and we share this with all of our schools.
- viii. Wed. 10/4 is Int'l Walk and Roll to School Day; 50 schools registered county-wide.

- ix. Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day is in November and is run through AAA, and there are grants available for \$750.
  - x. City of SR has a Diversity-Equity-Inclusion grant available that could support Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day.
  - xi. We encourage schools to form meet up spots for Walking School Buses and Bike Trains. We have developed resources to support schools and to help find potential leaders. We have a “How To Lead a Bike Train” Webinar coming up on Thu. 8/31.
  - xii. Learn To Ride a Bike classes are held once a month in Santa Rosa.
  - xiii. There is a free Family Bicycling Workshop on Sat. 9/9 at SR French American Charter. We are looking for schools/districts to host these in the spring.
  - xiv. We created new educational handouts on walking safety, bike safety, e-bike safety and driver awareness. School in Windsor is using these handouts for students to lead safety campaign.
  - xv. We have Educational PSAs that we create and share with our schools.
  - xvi. The upcoming area Task Forces are (*this is at [17:52](#) on the video recording*): SW Santa Rosa on Thu. 9/28, 10:30-12 at Bellevue Union School District; East Santa Rosa on Thu. 10/26, 10:30-12 at Rincon Valley Union School District; Central/NW Santa Rosa on Fri. 12/1, 10:30-12 at Santa Rosa City School District.
  - xvii. We create snapshots that capture all of the school’s activities and data for our enrolled schools at the end of every school year.
- b. Comments/Questions (*this is at [19:27](#) on the video recording*)—Jessica Peterson asked about where to find info for grants. Christina said that the information is in our SRTS E-news that she/anyone may subscribe to, just send your email to Christina. Jessica asked another question—if there are additional schools that want to be in the SRTS program, can they still receive services? Christina said that schools can enroll at anytime—but the later they enroll, they may not receive certain services, like a bike rodeo, but we will support them with as many services as we can.

**3. CalFresh Healthy Living support for Safe Routes to Schools (Laurel Chambers/Dept of Health Services)**

*(This item begins at [21:00](#) on the video recording)*

*(corresponding handout included in notes packet)*

- a. Healthy Living grant program offer support for some SRTS activities. Mission of program is to increase physical activity and nutrition amongst a low-income CalFresh eligible population. Schools qualify if at least 50% of students are on free-reduced meal program. We are looking for projects to impact policy, systems and environmental changes at the school.
- b. We can help with Walking Audits, engaging parents, identifying projects, painting a playground traffic garden.
- c. If interested, Laurel would love to have further discussions on what eligible school sites would be interested in.

- d. Christina defined walking audit—When a team of school reps (admin/staff/parents/students), and city reps will take a walk in the school neighborhood and identify issues and barriers to walking and biking. Then work together to identify solutions.

**4. City of Santa Rosa Active Transportation Update (Alexander Ocegüera, City of Santa Rosa Transportation Planner)**

*(this can be found at [25:30](#) on the video recording)*

*(PowerPoint slides included in notes packet)*

- a. We want to achieve a low-stress comfortable network, working together to figure out solutions, put them in plans to achieve those goals.
- b. Active Transportation Update:
  - a. Recently completed project: Cycle track on Armory Drive from Elliot Ave to Ridgeway Ave—protected bike lane that has 2 lanes of traffic for cyclists on one side of the road, this creates a more comfortable/low-stress space where there is a physical barrier b/w cars and bicyclists—added benefit to pedestrians because a car is not right next to you. SR High, Ridgeway and SRJC are close by.
    - i. Laurel asked if this is an alternative to taking Mendocino. Alexander said yes, and future plan is to have a overcrossing on HWY 101 and for Elliot Ave to have a cycle track as well.
    - ii. Laurel asked if there will be usage data. Hopefully in the future with the ATP plan.
    - iii. Christina asked if this is a connector for a HS student living by Coddington to get to SR High.
  - b. Projects under construction:
    - i. High Intensity Activated Crosswalk (HAWK) in construction stage at Piner High School—gets people to slow down/stop for kids crossing from high school over to the park across Fulton Rd.
    - ii. Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacons (RRFB)
      - 1. State Farm/Cleveland
      - 2. Hoen/Sierra Creek (completely installed)
      - 3. Dutton/Funston
      - 4. Montgomery/Franquette
      - 5. Summerfield/Parktrail
      - 6. Mendocino/Howard
      - 7. N. Dutton/W. 8<sup>th</sup>
      - 8. Sebastopol/Laurel (partially installed)-in front of Cesar Chavez, still needs improvements to ramps
      - 9. Steele/Meyers
    - iii. Question by Lisa Saxon—what criteria is needed? Answer: look at volumes of cars/peds and we count for a full day
- c. Upcoming projects:

- a. Planned SR Ave Cycle tracks, between 1<sup>st</sup> and Sonoma, help with Prince Memorial Greenway, have actual physical barriers protecting bicyclists and pedestrians to help feel more low stress
- b. SR Corridor project from Sonoma to Maple—buffered bike lanes and different types of traffic control features to slow speeds
- d. Potential Pilot Projects:
  - a. Asking for help from school districts in SR to come up with pilot projects. We want to work with schools to come up with solutions and identify areas that are in need. We want to slow speeds and reduce collisions.
  - b. Work through road diets and make fun pop-up events with schools.
  - c. Pilot projects should be in a low-stress area, can create temporary bike lanes that shorten crossing distance, and protect bicyclists/pedestrians.
  - d. Pop ups should stand out, get the community involved, people at schools.
  - e. We are going out with students riding with the bike busses trains and Bikeable Santa Rosa to see what the problems are and what the solutions could be.
  - f. Active Transportation Plan—set ground work for improvements we are hoping to make. 50-75% of these projects are completed!
  - g. Questions: Laurel asked about if water-based temp paint should be used for popups. Maybe not because they can be messy for our water and storm drains. We want to set up A-frame boards that you can scan to take a survey.
  - h. Christina has seen various levels of pop-ups, 1 day or 1; they can be with City support or student led, example of High School in Oakland. Bicycle Coalition and schools can bring in volunteers, these pop ups are a great community builder, good to talk about in our focus meetings.
  - i. Lisa Saxon asked for Alexander’s contact info:  
[aoceguera2@srcity.org](mailto:aoceguera2@srcity.org)

5. **Santa Rosa Police Department Enforcement Update** (N/A—no police Dept representative in attendance)

6. **District/site SRTS issues, concerns & opportunities** (*this can be found at [44:25](#) on the video recording*)

- a. Jessica—We have a school site, Roseland Creek, that is on a road that really needs a crosswalk. Roseland Elem is on Sebastopol Road, which is very busy, and there is a new Boys and Girls site at Roseland Elem—kids need to go down the street, cut across and go back around and it’s busy-- these are our two hot spots right now.
- b. Lisa—on Price Avenue off South Wright Rd which goes into Wright Charter School, traffic and safety concerns. There is a curb on north side of Price

Ave, but only one crosswalk on S. Wright Rd to get people to Price Ave, but no crosswalk that is lit, marked, clear from south side of Price to north side of Price to get to the protected area for kids to walk. We are unincorporated but partnered with City on a water issue, hopeful to work with City to partner these safety concerns: light, temporary bike lanes, speed bump on Price Ave. Christina asked Lisa to cc: her on communications with Alexander.

- c. Amy Jones (Rincon Valley)—interested in pop up events, would love to participate in auditing, there's a new housing development on Hwy 12 to be done in August 2024, between 3 RV schools with 90 new students. Christina said we do have limited funding this year to have a consultant do some projects to identify barriers, like a walking audit or a map. Part of this Task Force could help identify these priorities. Laurel's program could not do audits for Rincon Valley.
- d. Michael Ellison (Bellevue)—our district is in heart of SR, bisected by 101. SR Ave further bisects the district, experiencing unprecedented housing growth all along the corridor. These are individual developments with not much coordination between groups, as a result, there could be 50-100 new students having to cross over SR Ave where there really isn't a good place to cross, so we are lobbying for another place to cross SR Ave. Hearn is another challenging place to cross—don't have confidence to tell families to walk/bike across Hearn—it just isn't built for that yet. We have great programs at some of our schools like Kawana Springs which is embedded in a neighborhood. We continue to look forward to partnerships to find safe pathways for students to get to school.
- e. Christina—Meadowview has enrolled in the SRTS program, the only Bellevue school. Schools don't have to be enrolled in our program to share our safety Info (flyers/PSAs), our resources are always available on our website. We could give a PTA presentation or a Site Council meeting or another option for schools that want support and who are not enrolled.
- f. Elizabeth Crane (Sequoia Elem Parent)—crossing Calistoga Rd concern with a new housing project being completed, great to have protected bike lanes or a pop-up on Calistoga Rd. (Amy Jones asked for Elizabeth to contact her).
- g. Alexa Forrester (SR Schools and Rincon Valley parent, Bikeable SR)—appreciate insight from superintendents and school admin on line with concerns of Bikeable Santa Rosa. The crossing on Sebastopol Rd to the new Boys and Girls Club needs improvement as well as the crossing across SR Ave and the new housing development in Rincon Valley should have protected bike lanes and a roundabout. Asking Alexander and Torina about ATP plan—is there a way to get a coordinated school component of that, is this something superintendents can advocate for?
- h. Torina (City of SR)—the part of that scope of that project will include SRTS, there's not funding to have school specific studies. We are interested in applying for grants to do a SRTS plan. SRTS will be a big

consideration, working with Christina and doing a lot of outreach. Ultimate goal is a low stress/active transportation network that anyone of all ages or abilities can use—need feedback from parents and students.

- i. Christina—we will share that info with our enrolled schools and the districts. when looking for feedback on that, we'll create a flier that makes it easy to share with parents. We did collect comments from parents on our Parent Survey as to what the barriers were and we shared that with the City. We would love to see a SRTS plan and can collaborate with support for that plan.
- j. Patty Turner (SR City Schools)—in the process of scheduling mtgs with Assistant Principals and Principals soon, will be drawing out more items and concerns to bring to the table.
- k. Christina—at the focus meetings, we can share out more about our particular areas.
- l. Kate Davenport (Hidden Valley Elem Parent)—concern about the main street by our elementary at the T-intersection of Chanate Rd and Montecito Meadow. We don't walk because it's a mad dash across the road to try to get to the other side safely, not worth it to me. Bikers choose to be on the sidewalk. Chanate Rd heading up to Fountain Grove
- m. Alexander asked Kate to email him to get a better idea of what Kate is talking about. Christina said that Kate can copy her on an email for support as well.

**7. Other Business & Announcements** (*this can be found at [1:02:19](#) on the video recording*)

- a. Christina--Schools can still enroll in the program. All of the shared info, the resources/handouts are all on the Sonoma Safe Routes website, <https://sonomasaferroutes.org/>. Everything is available for schools to use. We email all of our school partners in the middle of the month for the following month to share info about the upcoming monthly challenge. If you want to be on the email list, please sign up

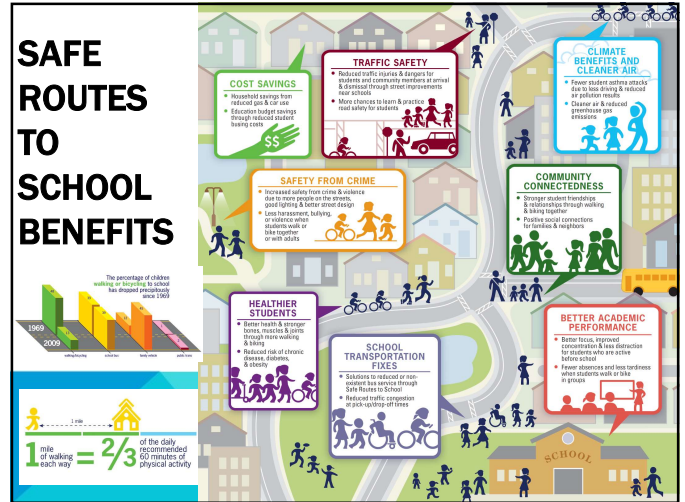
**8. Next Meeting & Adjournment -*The next meeting of the Santa Rosa Safe Routes to School Task Force is scheduled for Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30am, at the Bellevue Union School District Office with a focus on the Southwest Santa Rosa area.***

*\*Public comment on items not on the agenda. Please limit comments to 2 minutes each. The Committee will hear public comments on non-agenda issues for up to 10 minutes, at which time they will hear scheduled agenda items. Any additional public comments will be heard at the conclusion of the items that are already on the agenda, if time permits. Comments may also be emailed pre- or post-meeting to Christina Panza, SRTS Director & Task Force Facilitator at [christina@bikesonoma.org](mailto:christina@bikesonoma.org)*





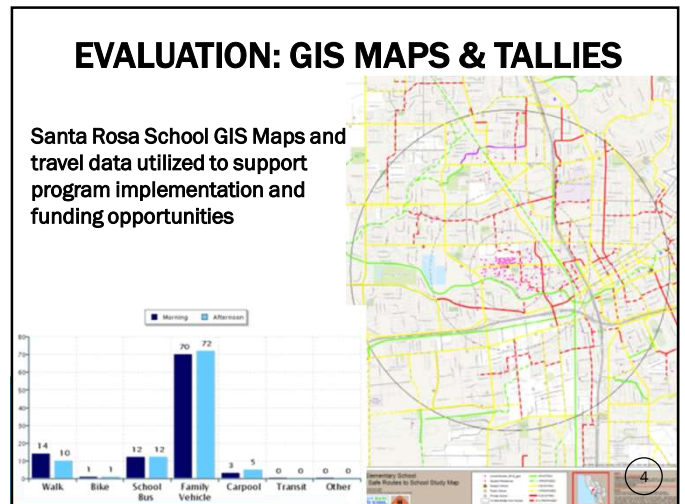
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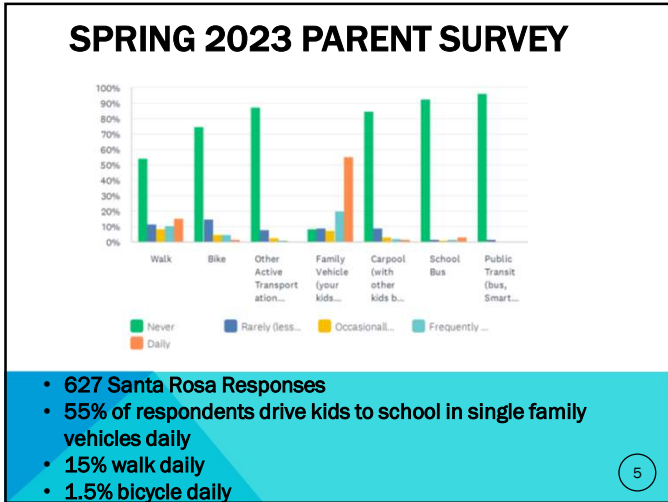
- ### 2023 ENROLLED SITES
- Bellevue Union: [Meadowview Elementary](#)
  - Bennett Valley Union: Strawberry Elementary
  - Rincon Valley Union: [Austin Creek](#), Binkley, Madrone, Manzanita, Sequoia, Spring Lake, Village, Whited
  - Roseland: Sheppard Accelerated School
  - Mark West Union (unincorporated SR): Mark West Elem, Mark West Charter
  - Piner Olivet Union: n/a
  - Santa Rosa City Elem/High: [Burbank \(Luther\)](#), Cesar Chavez, Hidden Valley, Helen Lehman, Monroe, [Piner High School](#), Proctor Terrace, Santa Rosa Middle, Santa Rosa Charter School for the Arts, Santa Rosa French American Charter, [Willowside Middle](#)
  - Wright District: JX Wilson, RL Stevens, Wright Charter
- \*newly enrolled 23-24

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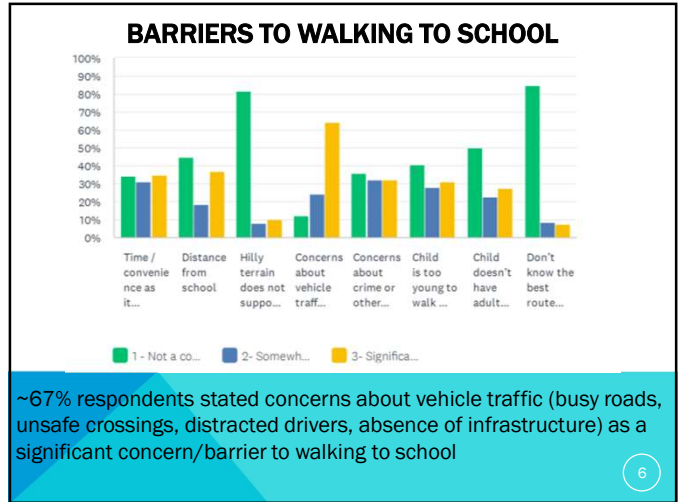


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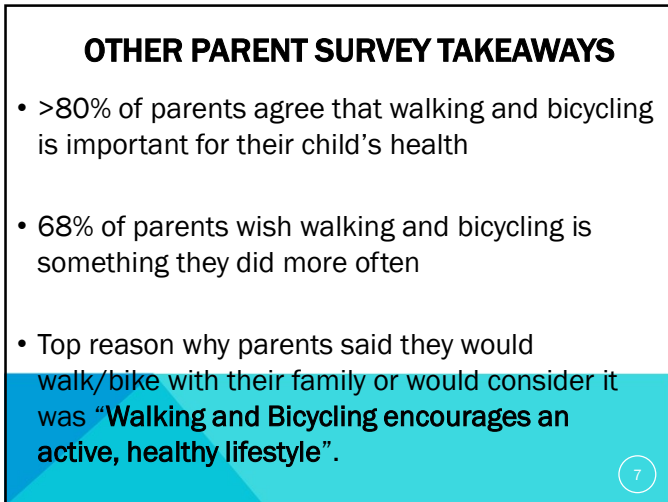




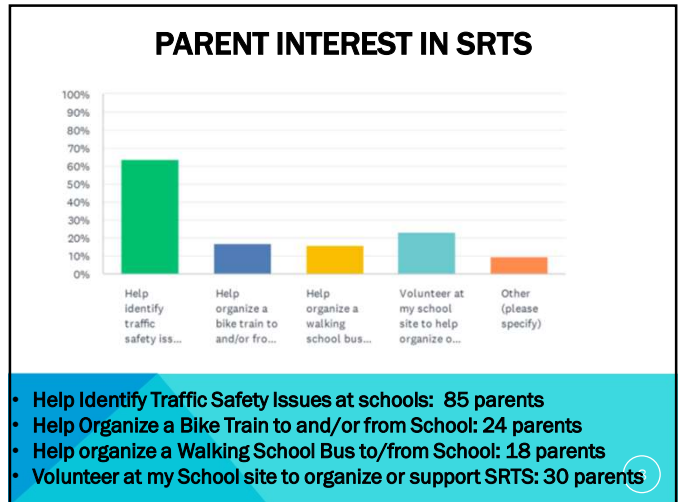
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## PROGRAM SERVICES

- Walk, Bike & Carpool to School Encouragement Support
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Bicycle "Rodeos"
- 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Bike/Ped Safety Lessons
- Middle School Bike Safety/Skill Lessons & Youth Engagement
- Community Education/Outreach/Facilitation
- Learn to Ride, Family Bike Workshops, Bike Camp & Rides, Bikemobile

**SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL**  
THE SAFE ROUTES PROGRAM AT OUR SCHOOL 2023-24

Our school has embraced the Sonoma County Safe Routes to Schools initiative to encourage families to walk, bike or carpool to school whenever possible! The launch date is International Walk & Roll to School Day on Wednesday, October 4th. If you live too far, drive part way and then walk. Choose a safe route for your child to walk or bike. Plan a route with the lowest street crossings, and practice it with your child. Wear helmets, obey stop signs and teach your child to bike in the same direction as traffic. Biking and walking to school is fun, it's also healthy for our children, and our planet!

**PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

**INTERNATIONAL WALK + ROLL TO SCHOOL DAY**  
October 4th, 2023 (alternative date may be scheduled)

Our families around the world is walking, bicycling, and driving to school. Please for students who walk or ride!

**ADDITIONAL WALK-ROLL DAY EVENTS, CHALLENGES, and other fun and inspirational activities!**

Look out for announcements about Walk & Roll to School Days or other activities that encourage kids and families to walk, bike, scooter, skateboard, carpool or bike to school. Join or lead a Walk or Roll to School Day from a designated location if available or on the school grounds if interested in involving a walking or bicycling school bus!

**SRTS EDUCATION for students and families (ages 7-8)**

The Sonoma County Safe Routes to School program provides lessons, materials, and activities to encourage and assist parents, teachers, and students to increase safe and secure bicycle and pedestrian safety for students and families. Send your eyes out for opportunities for you or your children to learn more about bicycling and walking for transportation and recreation.

For more information about the Sonoma County Safe Routes to School Program visit [www.sonomasaferroutes.org](http://www.sonomasaferroutes.org)

**PROGRAM BENEFITS**

- Increases skill & confidence in walking & bicycling among students and parents
- More families understanding why to avoid health consequences, improve personal safety, and reduce crime
- Improve health, energy, attitudes and behavior among students who walk/bike to school
- Decrease greenhouse gas emissions & air pollution
- Reduces traffic congestion
- Identifies infrastructure and environmental obstacles to improve safety for both students, bicyclists, and drivers
- Encourages positive, biking, healthy habits

The project is supported by the State of California Department of Transportation and the Sonoma Measure B Transportation Tax.

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## SEPTEMBER CHALLENGE

**SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL**  
**WALK & ROLL To School & anywhere SEPT**

**MAP MY ROUTE TO SCHOOL CHALLENGE**  
COMPLETE BY OCTOBER 2 FOR A CHANCE TO WIN  
**\$25 Copperfield's gift certificate**

**RUTAS SEGUROS A LA ESCUELA**  
**Caminar y Rodar a la Escuela**  
**SEPTIEMBRE**

**BASED ON MAPS FOR AN OPORTUNIDAD A LA TABULETA DE REGALOS DE \$25 COPPERFIELD'S**

**SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL**  
**WALK & ROLL To School & anywhere SEPTEMBER CHALLENGE**

**BACK TO SCHOOL CHALLENGE**

**Map Your Route**  
to school from home or from a drop-off location that is at least a 1/4 mile walk from school!

Describe your route map by using 1/4" draw a road in the space here or on a separate piece of paper.

**Route tips**

CONSIDER ROUTES THAT HAVE:

- Not many cars or lower traffic
- Low speed limits: cars driving slowly
- Bike lanes, sidewalks or paths
- Clearly marked crosswalks
- Other people walking and biking
- Bright lighting when it's dark
- Neighbors watching out for each other

How long does it take you to get to/from school from your starting point?  
How often can you go walking to school from your starting point this year?

FULL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_  
DRIVER: \_\_\_\_\_

TO PARTICIPATE, VISIT [SONOMASAFEROUTES.ORG](http://sonomasaferroutes.org)

The project is supported by the State of California Department of Transportation and the Sonoma Measure B Transportation Tax.

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## INT'NL WALK & ROLL TO SCHOOL DAY - OCT

**INTERNATIONAL**  
**WALK & ROLL to SCHOOL DAY**

**REDUCE TRAFFIC GET HEALTHY HAVE FUN**  
**BE GOOD TO THE EARTH!**  
**WED, OCT 4**

**WALK & ROLL TO ANYWHERE CHALLENGE PRIZES!**

TO PARTICIPATE, VISIT [SONOMASAFEROUTES.ORG](http://sonomasaferroutes.org)

**DÍA INTERNACIONAL DE CAMINAR y RODAR A LA ESCUELA**

**AYUDA A DISMINUIR EL TRÁFICO PONTE EN FORMA DIVIERTETE sé bueno(a) con el planeta!**

**MIÉ, 4 DE OCT**

**DESAFÍO ¡PREMIOS!**  
DE CAMINAR Y RODAR A DONDE SEA

PARA PARTICIPAR, VISITA [SONOMASAFEROUTES.ORG](http://sonomasaferroutes.org)

The project is supported by the State of California Department of Transportation and the Sonoma Measure B Transportation Tax.

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## RUBY BRIDGES WALK TO SCHOOL DAY - NOV

- Register with AAA for a SWAG kit!
- Grant Opportunities available:
  - AAA
  - Santa Rosa Diversity, Equity and Belonging Mini Grants

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## WALKING SCHOOL BUSES & BIKE TRAINS



**BE A BIKE TRAIN LEADER!**

- Do you bicycle with your kids or grandkids or wish you could?
- Want to support other parents and/or kids in bicycling to/from school or on local roads at other times?
- Interested in helping identify priority bicycling routes and/or barriers to bicycling in your town?
- Want to support Safe Routes to School in other ways?

**Fill out our brief Bike Champion Interest Survey and we will reach out to you to discuss how the Safe Routes to School program can support you in becoming involved!**



Sonoma County Safe Routes to School WEBINAR

### HOW TO START A BIKE TRAIN



Bike trains are a safe, fun way for kids to ride their bikes to school in groups. Join us (via Zoom) as local bike train leaders share experience and step-by-step advice on how to start and maintain your own successful bike-to-school effort!

**Topics include:**

- Establishing a meet-up spot
- Planning your route
- Keeping it safe
- Spreading the word
- Recruiting volunteers
- Making it fun!

**Get Ready for International Walk & Roll to School! Join on Wednesday, October 4!**

**Date:** Thursday, August 31st  
**Time:** 6:30 p.m.  
**Sign up:** [www.tinyurl.com/startabiketrain](http://www.tinyurl.com/startabiketrain)



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## FALL 2023 COMMUNITY/FAMILY EDUCATION

### Learn to Ride a Bike for Kids Classes with SR City Parks & Rec

### Family Bicycle Workshop

**FAMILY BICYCLING LESSONS**  
IN PERSON, ON-BIKE LESSONS

## Learn to Ride a Bike — for Kids

Wednesdays in Santa Rosa

Summer/Fall 2023 Dates: 8/23, 9/20, 10/18, 11/15  
 For rates & registration, visit [SantaRosaRec.com](http://SantaRosaRec.com)





5% FAMILY that RIDES together THRIVES together!

## FAMILY BIKE WORKSHOP

**FREE!**

**AND PICNIC! ★★☆☆**

Santa Rosa French-American Charter School  
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH**  
**10am-12:30pm**  
**Pre-Registration Required**  
[www.bikesonoma.org/family-bike-workshops](http://www.bikesonoma.org/family-bike-workshops)

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## SRTS EDUCATIONAL HANDOUTS

### BIKE SAFETY TIPS

**WEAR your HELMET**  
 Protect your brain — wear a helmet! It's the law. Make sure your helmet fits snugly and is firmly buckled under your chin.

**FOLLOW the RULES**  
 Ride on the right, in the direction of traffic. Obey all road signs and traffic signals as if you were a car. When you enter a driveway or intersection, you should STOP, look LEFT, look RIGHT, and look LEFT again to make sure no cars are coming. Only proceed when you know it's safe. WALK your bike in a crosswalk.

**Be PREDICTABLE**  
 Do what drivers expect you to do. Use hand signals and yield to pedestrians. Ride single file in all but the most crowded areas. Drop slower traffic on the left, ringing a bell. Ride in a straight line (don't weave) that last away from parked cars (door zone). Look and listen to what is around you.



### WALKING SAFETY TIPS


**DRESS to be SEEN**  
 Wear bright colored clothing or reflective gear if it is dark. Bright colors are more visible during the day and light colors are more visible in the evening and night.

**USE SIDEWALKS**  
 Walk facing oncoming traffic if there is no sidewalk.

**WALK with OTHERS**  
 Walk with an adult, other students, or a buddy.

**CROSS at CORNERS**  
 Cross at corners or at a marked crosswalk. This is when drivers expect you. Look left, right, then left again before crossing the street. At a four-way intersection, look over your shoulder for cars that may be turning.

**LISTEN for ONCOMING CARS**  
 Listen for oncoming cars that may be behind a parked car, tree, or other obstacle.




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## DRIVER AWARENESS FOR SAFE ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

### CONSIDER ALTERNATIVES to IMPROVE SAFETY and AIR QUALITY

- ★ Walk or bike as often as you can.
- ★ Drop off or pick up your child a quarter to half mile from school, a 5-10 minute walk.
- ★ Carpool. Look into a ride share with friends or neighbors.
- ★ Be idle free: turn your car off if stopped for >30 seconds. Leaving the car running is polluting and does not save time or energy.
- ★ Leave for school 10 minutes early to avoid morning drop-off stress and congestion!



### BE AWARE and SHARE the ROAD

- ★ Slow down: follow the speed limit and caution signs, speeding is the #1 cause of all crashes.
- ★ Look out for pedestrians and cyclists everywhere, at all times. Be prepared to stop for children running across the street and in-between vehicles.
- ★ When driving in a school zone, never pass other vehicles, change lanes, or make U-turns.
- ★ Yield to pedestrians in crosswalks. Stop well back from the crosswalk to give other vehicles an opportunity to see the crossing pedestrians so they can stop too.
- ★ Driving is not the time to multi-task.
- ★ All cell phone use should be put on hold, especially when in a school zone.
- ★ Give bicyclists at least 3 feet of space or change lanes when you pass them.
- ★ Communicate intent with bicyclists and pedestrians using eye contact, etc.

### SUPPORT SAFE and SMOOTH DROP OFF/PICK UP

- ★ Always follow the instructions and directions provided by school personnel. Park in, or progress through, designated pick-up/drop off areas as directed.
- ★ Drop your child off on the school-side of the road: your child is safer when they do not have to cross the street.
- ★ Be extra cautious when backing up. Children are small and hard to see.
- ★ Walk in front of rather than behind a school bus, and stay 5-10 big steps away from the sides and rear, outside of the driver's blind spots.
- ★ Do not park or stop in the bicycle lane, even if it's on the street in front of your school.
- ★ Be patient, respectful and courteous to other road users. Anger and frustration can lead to careless and unsafe behavior.

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## E-BIKES ARE ELECTRIFYING THE FUTURE WHAT PARENTS SHOULD KNOW

E-bikes are rapidly increasing in popularity, especially with teens as they provide increased independence. E-bikes allow children to travel further and faster, allowing steep hills to be easily climbed. Heavy school books and sports equipment are no longer an issue to transport! **One less vehicle on the road benefits all.**

**IS YOUR CHILD EXPERIENCED ENOUGH TO MANAGE THE INCREASED SPEEDS AND MANEUVERABILITY OF A HEAVY E-BIKE?**

Parents are advised to do their own research and assess their children's cycling capabilities before purchasing one. Below are some considerations to help parents make informed decisions.

**Heavy E-bikes traveling at high speeds are harder to maneuver and take longer to stop.** The average speed of a standard bicycle is 12 mph. Type 1 & 2 e-bikes can travel up to 20 mph (Type 3- 28 mph). This is a significant difference when considering the experience level of student e-bike riders.

**E-bike riders (and all cyclists) must follow the same rules as vehicles when riding on roadways.** (California Vehicle Code (CVC) §21230)

**IS YOUR CHILD EXPERIENCED WITH THE FOLLOWING?**

Taking turns with vehicles at intersections after coming to a complete stop

Riding predictably WITH the flow of traffic and does not weave in and out of vehicles

Riding outside of the door zone of parked vehicles (at least 3 feet away)

Using hand signals for turning right, left and stopping, and scans before merging onto roads and changing lanes

Obeying posted speeds on pathways and giving pedestrians the right of way

Knowing how to stop abruptly and dodge obstacles without swerving into vehicle lanes

Committed to wearing a helmet and ensuring their passenger does as well (17 and under are required to do so by law)

**TYPES OF E-BIKES**

TYPE I: 20 mph max with only pedal-assist, no throttle. These E-bikes are legal on any paved surface that a regular bike is allowed to operate

TYPE II: 20 mph max with pedal-assist and a powerful throttle function that negates the need to pedal. These E-bikes are legal on any paved surface that a regular bike is allowed to operate at the posted speed.

NOTE: Type I and Type II E-bikes don't have a minimum age restriction and are allowed on multi-use pathways

TYPE III: 28 mph max, only pedal-assist, no throttle. This type is a tier below true motorcycles and mopeds. Riders must be 15 or older and wear a helmet. They are prohibited from multi-use paths unless otherwise specified.

**SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS**

Safe Routes to Schools teaches students the Rules of the Road in elementary and middle schools. Their bicycle classes give students the opportunity to practice maneuvers on mock streets.

Visit [sonomafreeschools.org](http://sonomafreeschools.org) to find out more.

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## EDUCATIONAL PSA'S

### YouTube: Sonoma County Safe Routes to School

- [How to Lock Your Bike Properly](#)
- [Visibility While Riding a Bike](#)
- [Winter Weather Riding](#)
- [Parking & Walking to School](#)
- [Multi-Use Trail Etiquette](#)
- [How to Map Your Route to School using Google Maps](#)
- [3 Feet, It's the Law](#)
- [Bicycling through Shortcuts and Parking Lots](#)

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## UPCOMING TASK FORCE MEETINGS

**September 28, 2023: SOUTHWEST SANTA ROSA FOCUS AREA**

**Time:** 10:30am-12:00pm

**Place:** Bellevue Union School District

**October 26, 2023: EAST SANTA ROSA FOCUS AREA**

**Date/Time:** Thursday, October 26th, 2023

**Time:** 10:30am-12:00pm

**Place:** Rincon Valley Union School District

**December 1, 2023: CENTRAL/NW SANTA ROSA FOCUS AREA**

**Time:** 10:30am-12:00pm

**Place:** Santa Rosa City School District

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**WHITED ELEMENTARY CHARTER**  
Rincon Valley School District

**Sonoma County Safe Routes to School Program**  
2022-23 School Snapshot

SRTS School Sites: Fall 2022  
Principal: Beth Acosta  
Champion: Beth Acosta

Students Travel Modes	Actual Green Trips	Green Trips
Feb 2022	25%	35%

Parent Surveys	# of School Responses	# of District Responses
Spring 2023	13	104

\*Active Green Trips = walk, bike, stroller, skateboard, Green Trips = Active plus carpool bus

**Encouragement Activities**

- Int'l Walk and Roll to School Day
- Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day
- Bike To School Day
- Monthly Walk/Roll Day (M/R)
- Golden Sneaker Award
- Monthly Challenges w/ \$ (D/R)
- Walking School Bus
- Bike Train
- Health Equipment Student Involvement with activities

**Education Activities**

- 2nd Gr. Ped Safety Lessons
- 4th Gr. Bike Basics Lessons
- 4th Gr. Bike Rodeo
- 5th Gr. Communications/Mapping Lessons
- Whole-School Assembly

**Community Engagement**

- Bikeable Vist
- Champion Meetings (2/3)
- Family Bike Workshops/Mini Workshops at School Events
- Parent Presentation (PFA)
- Staff Presentation

**00 Student Address Map**

- 10% live within a 1/4 mile
- 34% live within a 1/2 mile
- 62% live within 1 mile
- 72% live within 2 miles

**Holidays-23**  
**Bikes Reported-23**  
**Learn to Ride-6**

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# CalFresh Healthy Living Support for Safe Routes to School

CalFresh Healthy Living can support Safe Routes to School in qualifying schools! CalFresh Healthy Living strives to improve nutrition and physical activity among the low-income, CalFresh-eligible population through policy, systems, and environmental changes.

Examples of projects we can fund:

- Walking audits
- Surveys and stakeholder interviews to identify safety issues & solutions
- Painted playground traffic gardens



Qualifying Schools:

- Bellevue School District: Bellevue, Meadowview, Taylor Mountain, Kawana
- Roseland School District: Roseland, Sheppard, Roseland Creek
- Santa Rosa City School District: Cesar Chavez Language Academy, Biella, Comstock, Helen Lehman, Lincoln, Burbank, Monroe, Steele Lane
- Wright School District: JX Wilson, RL Stevens, Wright Charter

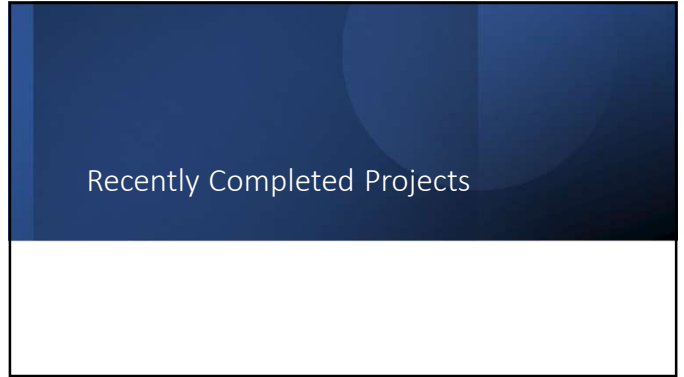
Contact:  
Laurel Chambers  
County of Sonoma, Department of Health Services  
[Laurel.Chambers@Sonoma-County.org](mailto:Laurel.Chambers@Sonoma-County.org)  
707-565-5392



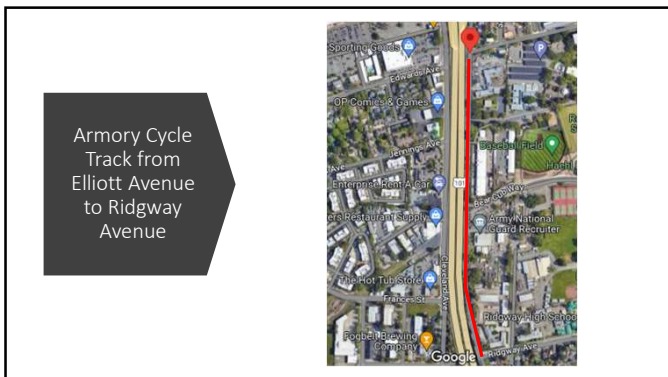
Funded by USDA SNAP, an equal opportunity provider and employer.



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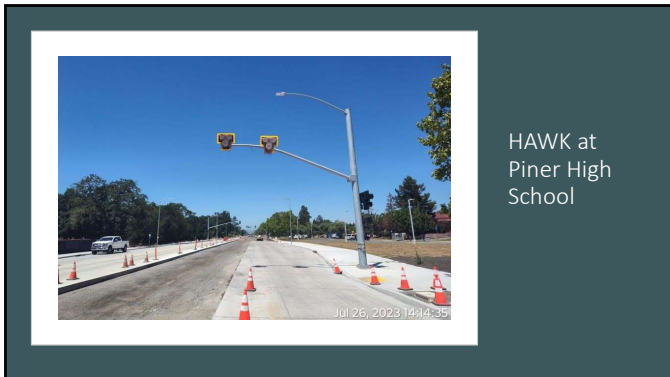
# Projects Under Construction

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## High Intensity Activated Crosswalk Beacon (HAWK)

- Piner High School

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HAWK at Piner High School

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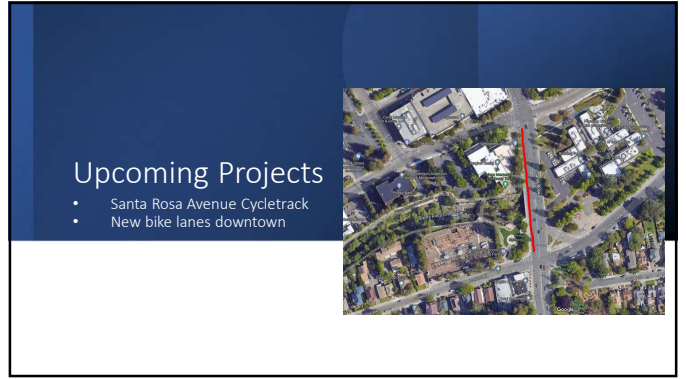
## Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacon (RRFB)

- State Farm and Cleveland
- Hoen and Sierra Creek
- Dutton and Funston
- Montgomery and Franquette
- Summerfield and Parktrail
- Mendocino and Howard
- North Dutton and W Eighth
- Sebastopol and Laurel
- Steele and Meyers

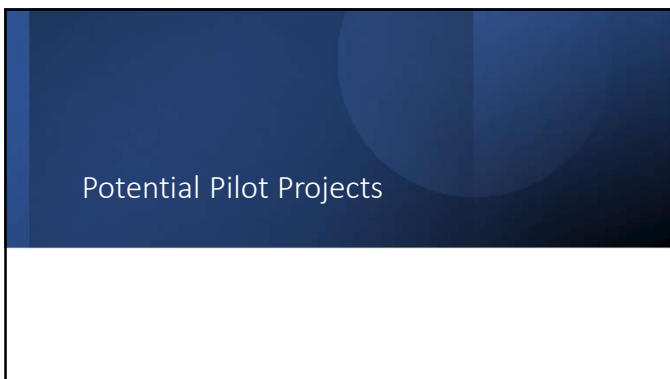
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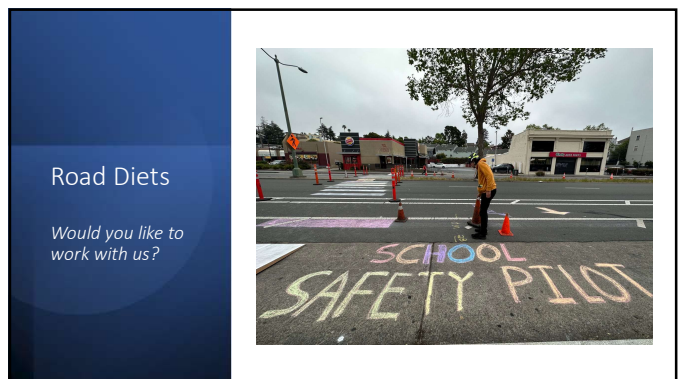
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