

Gather Information, Identify Issues

Determine how many children walk or bike to school. Determine the parents' attitudes. Look at walking and bicycling conditions using the CDOT school zone evaluation, walkability and bikeability checklists, and audits.

Identify Specific Solutions

Solutions will include the "five E's." Prioritize the potential solutions and fun ideas. Solutions that are easy to implement and low cost can occur right away. Long-term solutions might require coordination and planning.

Make a Plan

Make the SRTS plan concise and include the "five E's." Include a time schedule for each strategy. Map out the area covered. Explain how to evaluate the program.

Funding

Parts of a SRTS program will cost very little. Some changes may need large amounts of capital. Seek funding through federal, state, county, city, private, and charitable organizations.

Implement the Plan

Continue committee meetings. Start making activities happen. Follow the timeline and strategies.

Evaluate, Make Improvements, Grow

Monitor strategy success. Discover more champions. Encourage policy changes. Create a permanent committee. Moreover, brag and notify everyone about the success!

8/08

OVERVIEW

In 1969, roughly half of all 5-to-18 year olds walked or biked to school. Nearly 90% are driven by auto or bus to school today. SRTS is a Federal-Aid program to enable children to walk and bicycle safely.

In Colorado, funds are distributed to develop programs for K-8 grades. The SRTS Advisory Committee includes educators, parents, bicyclists, pedestrians, law enforcement, and transportation planners. School districts, schools, cities, counties, state entities and tribal entities are eligible to apply. Nonprofits need to partner with a state subdivision to apply for funding.

A call for applications is announced through CDOT's Public Information Office. SRTS applications are available on the website. Descriptions of funded Colorado projects and additional SRTS resources are also available through the program and on the web. Colorado Safe Routes to School looks forward to working with you.

**COLORADO
SAFE ROUTES
TO SCHOOL**

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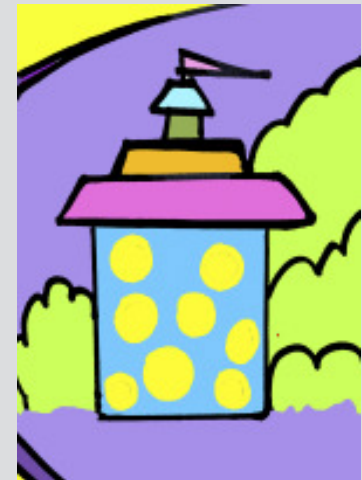
www.saferoutesinfo.org

Helmets work—so helmet up!



Funded by the Federal Highway Administration.

**WALK TO
SCHOOL**



COLORADO SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

Kids want to have fun.

Parents want kids to be safe.

Teachers want kids to learn.

**CDOT wants Safe Routes to School
for all kids!**

SafeRoutes

Colorado Safe Routes to School



Colorado Department of Transportation

WALK TO SCHOOL

ALL KIDS DESERVE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

Colorado Safe Routes to School (SRTS) uses a comprehensive approach to make school routes safe for children when walking and bicycling to school. The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) administers Colorado's SRTS program. In Colorado, many communities, parents and schools are fostering a safe environment for their students by using SRTS programs to not only fund education and safe infrastructure, but also to encourage healthy options for our children that are safe for both walking and bicycling.

Why is this program important?

SRTS programs can improve safety, not just for children, but for the entire community. It provides opportunities for people to increase their physical activity and improve their health. It reduces congestion and pollution around our schools and encourages partnerships.

WALK
BIKE

SafeRoutes

Colorado Safe Routes to School



Colorado Projects

Successful SRTS programs involve the whole community and encompass the "5 E's": evaluation, encouragement, education, enforcement, and engineering.

Evaluation

Make sure that the underlying problem is identified so that proper solutions can be addressed. Set reasonable expectations. Identify changes that will improve the program. Measure outcomes of the project to determine success.

Encouragement

Promote walking and biking to school as healthy, safe, and fun through a combination of activities. Special events create an air of excitement and celebration, such as Walk to School Day. Contests and mileage clubs increase walking and biking by making it fun and rewarding. Ongoing activities, such as walking school buses and park-and-walk options, give more children the opportunity to walk or bike.

Education

First, teach children to safely walk and bicycle, and second, stress the health and environmental benefits. Educate the parents so more children can walk and bike in a safer setting. Reach all drivers near schools through signage, enforcement, and media. Involve the neighborhood residences and businesses in the SRTS process.

Enforcement

Collaborate with local law enforcement to ensure drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians follow laws. Involve parents and the community to create strong traffic enforcement. Use public awareness and education to generate public support.

Engineering

Improve infrastructure around schools to establish safe and fully accessible crossings, walkways, trails and bikeways. First, implement low-cost and easy solutions such as signs and striping. Next, identify long-term solutions for the school zones, school routes, crossings, and for traffic calming. Identify the safest and most direct routes with a school route map.

How do you start a SRTS program?

Form a Committee

Identify key people who have an interest in SRTS. Look for existing groups, such as coordinated school health teams or PTA. A well-rounded group includes the school, community, parents, and local government.

Hold a Kick-off Meeting

Provide a SRTS presentation including issues and strategies. Generate a vision and next steps that include ideas for working toward the vision. Consider forming groups to separate tasks.

Continued

