

Safe Routes to School Plan Template

The Plan

A comprehensive SRTS plan should outline all of the components necessary to create a safe environment for children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school. According to the Federal Highway Administration, a complete SRTS Plan should include the “5 E’s”. This document is a guide for your SRTS Plan. You may use some or all of the suggestions as well as draft your own.

Other issues the plan should address include identifying problem areas and potential short and long term solutions, setting priorities, estimating costs and determining possible funding sources. Finally, explain how the plan will be sustained.

The Coalition

One of the requirements of this grant is to form a coalition of people who will accomplish the goals of your SRTS plan. The members should be representative of the community. A variety of community members with varied expertise will enable your coalition to address many issues.

1. In your plan identify what expertise and background the potential coalition members will bring and why their skills are needed.
2. Explain the role of each member in furthering the goal of your plan.

The “5 E’s”

I. EDUCATION

- a. Describe how your plan will teach kids the benefits of walking and bicycling to school.
- b. Explain why it is important for members of the community to embrace this concept.
 - i. Teachers and other school officials
 - ii. Parents and neighborhood associations
 - iii. City officials including those in law enforcement
- c. Present any education campaigns that may increase awareness.

II. ENCOURAGEMENT

- a. How will the plan encourage more students to walk and bike to school?
- b. What steps will the plan outline that would make walking and bicycling more appealing? Examples include developing awards, contests and other incentives and getting parental involvement.

III. ENGINEERING

- a. Provide a layout of any future infrastructure needs.
 - i. Traffic calming
 - ii. Traffic diversion
 - iii. Bicycle and pedestrian improvements
- b. Explain why they are needed.

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IV. ENFORCEMENT

- a. Indicate how law enforcement can play a vital role in the safety of the plan.
- b. Cite examples of other ways enforcement could be initiated in the plan.
 - i. Crossing guard program (AAA safety patrol program)
 - ii. Student traffic patrol
 - iii. Posting local pedestrian and bicycle laws
 - iv. Develop safety ordinances where needed

V. EVALUATION

- a. Complete Parent/Teacher/Student surveys
- b. Note before and after program observations
 - i. Patrol guard observations
 - ii. Crossing guard observations
 - iii. National SRTS surveys
 - iv. Explain how these observations could contribute to the development of the SRTS plan.
- c. Monitor ongoing changes in the environment