

The Spin



Colorado Safe Routes to School State Network

Volume 4, Issue 8

STORIES FROM SCHOOLS

Celebrating 10 Years of Safe Routes to School

On August 10, 2005, Congress passed the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). This legislation established our Safe Routes to School program and ushered in a decade of working to create safer, more active routes to school.

Read the blog that U.S. Secretary of Transportation, Anthony Fox wrote celebrating the anniversary: <https://www.transportation.gov/fastlane/safe-routes-school-10-years>

Colorado's Safe Routes to School program was established under state law in 2014 with the passage of House Bill 04-1309 (C.S.R. 43-1-1601). Twenty-nine grants were awarded in 2006 to schools and communities throughout Colorado using funds provided by the SAFETEA-LU legislation, the first state to do so. Most of early projects led to SRTS programs that are still active such as Aurora Public Schools, Adams County School District 14, Boulder Valley School District, Colorado Springs School District 11, City of Fort Collins, Denver Public Schools, Jefferson County Schools, North Evergreen Activity Trail (NEAT), and St. Vrain Valley Schools.

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It can take 10 years (or more)

In North Evergreen, developers created subdivisions in the '80s and '90s without sidewalks, crosswalks or safety infrastructure. Three neighborhood public schools straddle three busy county roads. Between the three schools are 1,200 homes in four densely-populated subdivisions. Physical risks to walking/biking to school included uneven, narrow, gravel shoulders on winding mountain roads, lack of curbs/barriers, steady traffic, blind spots on hilly terrain, morning glare, traffic bottlenecks at school entries/exits, dangerous school parking lots, and lack of safe crosswalks. The school district also imposed busing fees the year before the original grant request which was anticipated to double the middle school drop-off and pick-up vehicle volumes.



[Click here](#) to read how a local homeowners group working with the schools and county transportation persevered over 10 years to produce their safe routes to school.

Remembering Deb Hubsmith

The Safe Routes to School National Partnership announced the passing of its founder, Deb Hubsmith. Read more about this incredible and passionate woman on the SRTS National Partnership blog: <http://saferoutespartnership.org/about/debhubsmith>

CRUISIN' WITH CDOT

SRTS Grant Opportunities

Normally at this time each year, CDOT announces the next round of SRTS infrastructure and non-infrastructure (education, encouragement, and enforcement) grants. When the State legislature did not provide funding for the continuing of the grant program, CDOT started looking at options for continuing to fund the grant program. We hope to announce early this fall through The Spin if we are able to secure funding for this year's projects. Safe Routes to School is more than a grant program. There are lots of resources for building and supporting your efforts on the CDOT web site at <https://www.codot.gov/programs/bikeped/safe-routes>.

THE NATIONAL CROSSWALK

Walk To School Day is Oct. 7 – Register Your School Today

Registration is now open for the 19th annual [Walk to School Day](#) on October 7th, 2015. This annual national event is part of an international effort to celebrate the many benefits of walking and bicycling to school. Event registration reached a record high in 2014 with more than 4,700 registered U.S. events and 165 in Colorado and we hope to see participation rise once again in 2015.



[Registration](#) is free, and provides organizers with free materials and resources. Additional materials are also available CDOT. Send in your request using [this form](#).

A Brief History Lesson

Academic Performance and Physical Activity – [guest blog](#) written by SRTS NP research advisor, Christina Galardi.

The Latest From Capitol Hill

Congress punts transportation until the fall – After weeks of work, the Senate passed the DRIVE Act on July 30 to reauthorize transportation policy and funding, on a vote of 65-34. However, the House of Representatives has forced the Senate's hand into accepting a three-month extension (October 29th) of current law. Read the latest [blog](#) from Margo Pedroso, SRTS National Partnership.

TRAINING WHEELS & WEBINARS

Webinar: Pedestrians Count! – How to Measure Foot Traffic (free)

Thursday, August 27th, 11:00 – 12:30

Hosted by ibpi (Initiative for Bicycle and Pedestrian Innovation)

For more information and to register: www.pdx.edu/ibpi/professional_development

Webinar: The 6 E's of Walk to School Day Encouragement (free)

Wednesday, September 2nd, 11:00-12:00

Presented by SRTS National Partnership

For more information and to

register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7112794964132313858>

Webinar: Creating a Vision Zero (eliminate all traffic fatalities) Movement for Everyone (\$15 fee for non-members)

Wednesday, September 16th, 2:00-3:00

Hosted by Alliance for Biking and Walking

For more information and to register: www.bikewalkalliance.org/trainings/calls-webinars/event/66

Northern Colorado Bike & Walk Conference

Thursday, November 5th at the University of Northern Colorado.

Hosted by the NOCO Bike and Pedestrian Collaborative. Key note address and workshop by Mark Fenton, a public health planning and transportation expert from Massachusetts.

For more information, contact Josh Johnson, [970.416.2293](tel:970.416.2293) or jjohnson@nfrmpo.org

Save the Date – SRTS National Conference – Intersections: Where Transportation and Health Meet

April 5-7, 2016 – Columbus, OH

For more information and to register – www.saferoutesconference.org

Some key dates: September 8-October 31 – Conference call for proposal

December 1-January 15: Early bird registration

Save the Date - Pro Walk/Pro Bike/Pro Place Conference

September 12-15, 2016 – Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

For more information - <http://www.pps.org/walkbikeplaces2016/>

PEDALING PROGRAMS & FUNDING FEET

NHTSA Traffic Safety Facts – www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/CATS/index.aspx

- Bicyclists and Other Cyclists – May 2015
- Children – May 2015
- Pedestrians – May 2015

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Culture of Health Prize 2016 Call for Applications Now Open

Up to 10 winning communities will each receive a \$25,000 cash prize and have their success stories celebrated and shared broadly to inspire locally-driven change across the nation.

Applications will be accepted August 10, 2015 through November 12, 2015 at 3pm ET.

Communities should understand they are applying for a prize and not a grant. The Prize recognizes work that has already been accomplished. [Click here](#) for more information.

Informational webinar to answer questions about the 2016 Prize Call for Applications:

Date: Thurs, September 10, 2015

Time: 1:00-2:00 p.m. MT

[Register for the webinar](#)

The purpose of the **Colorado Safe Routes to School State Network** is to facilitate two-way information sharing and connecting among communities and organizations in order to lift up what is working, identify new opportunities and galvanize support for policy and culture change that will increase the number of students walking and biking safely to and from school in every Colorado community.

[LiveWell Colorado](#) serves as the lead facilitator for the Network. Other members of the Network's steering committee include: [Action for Healthy Kids](#), [Bicycle Colorado](#), [Colorado Department of Transportation \(CDOT\)](#), [Children's Hospital Colorado](#), [Kaiser Permanente](#), [Safe Routes to School National Partnership](#), and subject matter experts.

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