Safe Routes to School Practices with the Capital Area MPO

ual Conference - Charlotte

April 25, 2019

Project Overview

- 1. Increase understanding of and support for SRTS programs and appropriate policies and practices.
 - Develop SRTS model programs at 5 partner schools
 - Diffuse lessons from model programs
- 2. Explore municipal and school policies, plans, and practices to identify opportunities to improve safety for all users, particularly child pedestrians.
 - Engage various partners to share information and build capacity













Partner Schools

School	Highlights of fit with project
Bugg Elementary, SE Raleigh	 #17 for child ped. crashes near Wake schools Title I school Principal had specific interest in SRTS
Northwoods Elementary, <i>Cary</i>	 Title I school Interest from staff/parents, opportunity to increasing walking
Hodge Road Elementary, <i>Knightdale</i>	 Title I, Year-round Less walkable, opportunity for at-school programming
Lincoln Heights Elementary, <i>Fuquay-Varina</i>	 Scheduled for renovation, town-funded infrastructure improvements nearby. Principal interest
Ligon Middle, Raleigh	 In top 12 for child ped crashes 100 students in no bus transport zone Middle school implementation

Action Plans

OCT-NOV 2015 Kick-off meeting with Steering Committee & Initial Field Review

DEC 2015 Develop Recommendations for the Draft Plan

> JAN 2016 Steering Committee #2

FEB - NOV 2016 Public Workshop (April 2016) Final Plan Development

NOV 2016 - DEC 2018 Grant Supported Implementation (See Chapter 5)

> 2019 - ONGOING School Community Implementation

Action planning process at the 5 partner schools

Contents

- School layout and traffic circulation
- Existing conditions
- Municipal plans
- Survey/tally results
- Infrastructure glossary
- Infrastructure recommendations
- Programs toolkit
- Suggested route map



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Northwoods Safe Routes to School Action Plan JULY 2016



Prepared for Northwoods Elementary

Prepared by Alta Planning + Design

with the Highway Safety Research Center



• Walking school bus





• Walking AT school programs



WOODS

Communications



• Walk/Bike to School Day



Always register your events at www.walkbiketoschool.org!



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- Projects can achieve multiple goals near schools
 - Reduce speed of vehicles
 - Improve access and mobility
 - Separate modes
 - Improve visibility
 - Reduce crossing distance



• Hodge Road



• Northwoods



• Lincoln Heights



• Bugg



Proposed



Supportive Municipal Actions

 Recommendation for Complete Streets Policy in new comprehensive plans

– Garner, Knightdale, Wendell, draft Wake Forest

- Apex inventory of all school areas
- Cary increased budget for sidewalks
- Raleigh's 2017 Transportation Bond includes \$2 million for SRTS
 - Prioritization and projects still TBD



CAMPO Safe Routes to School Program

- CAMPO subcommittee building on Wake Ped Net effort
- Formal SRTS program development initiated in June 2015
- Review of nationwide best practices/successful programs
- Developed CAMPO SRTS 'Program Elements'





Program Elements

PILLAR	OBJECTIVE/GOALS
Policy/Guidance	Build on current relationships and cultivate new partnerships
	Research
	Identify/implement policies to sustain and reduce variability of SRTS funding
	School siting, Active Transport Zones, Transit Connectivity
	Monitor and evaluate the SRTS Program's reach and effectiveness
Outreach/Education	Enhance public's knowledge of safe walking and bicycling practices
	Increase level-of-comfort with walking and cycling to school
	Provide relevant, easy to use tools and resources to further the SRTS program
Infrastructure Improvements	Develop strategy to effectively prioritize SRTS projects
	Advocate for Complete Streets

Program Elements cont.





























Current Initiatives & Accomplishments

- CAMPO SRTS Subcommittee meets quarterly
- CAMPO SRTS Policy Group meets monthly
- CAMPO Area Plans to include SRTS studies
- CAMPO Walk Zone GIS mapping
- WCPSS Wellness Policy
- WCPSS Learning Environment Guidelines
- WCPSS Template Guidelines for Walking/Biking to School

SRTS tasks in FY 2020 CAMPO UPWP

1) Identify schools with a high potential for biking and walking using data such as population, demographics, facilities/barriers, and crashes

- Evaluate schools through walk audits
- Identify routes from major residential areas
- Provide interim/long-term recommendations for physical improvements at intersections, roads, and ingress/egress
- Review and coordinate with schools and school system administrators

2) Collect baseline bicycle and pedestrian counts at schools

3) Identify infrastructure gaps using GIS walk zone data

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