



Greetings from the California Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Technical Assistance Resource Center (TARC)! TARC is a program of California Active Communities, a joint Unit of the University of California, San Francisco and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), and is funded by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) through a SRTS Non-Infrastructure award from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). This monthly electronic newsletter provides a summary of news; research and resources; funding opportunities; job opportunities; conferences, meetings, trainings, and summits; and webinars to support your SRTS work in California. For more information on SRTS in California, to view our monthly E-News archive, or to find out the date and time of the next TARC monthly networking teleconference call, visit our website at www.CAsaferoutestoschool.org.



[Pacific Northwest Network Convenes Regional Active Transportation Forum](#)
[\\$500 Million to Childhood Obesity Prevention](#)
[The Metropolitan Transportation Commission Releases Regional ATP Cycle 2 Draft Guidelines](#)
[MTC Votes to Support Safe Routes to School and Complete Streets](#)
[California Transportation Plan 2040—Public](#)

[Review and Input on Final Draft Begins March 2015](#)

[Newly Updated Guide to Help Residents Make Communities More Walkable and Bikeable](#)

[New Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center \(PBIC\) Paper Covers Crowdsourcing Data for Pedestrian and Bicycle Planning](#)

[New Brief: Integrating Safe Walking and Bicycling to School into Comprehensive Planning](#)

[Economic Impacts of Safe Routes to School](#)

[Active Transportation Program – ATP Cycle 2 Call for Projects – March 26, 2015](#)

[Voices for Healthy Kids Grants](#)

[Fire Up Your Feet: Win Awards for Your Active School this Spring](#)

[March 6-7, 2015: Third Annual Childhood Obesity Bay Area Conference](#)

[March 6-7, 2015: Traffic Skills 101 Course](#)

[March 10-12, 2015: National Bike Summit](#)

[March 13-14, 2015: League of American Bicyclists' Traffic Skills 101 Course](#)

[April 17-19, 2015: League Cycling Instructor Seminar to be Held in Davis, California](#)

[April 27, 2015: California Transportation Choices Summit 2015](#)

[May 6, 2015: National Bike to School Day](#)

[June 29-July 2, 2015: Childhood Obesity Conference](#)

[October 31-November 4, 2015: American Public Health Association Annual Meeting and Exposition](#)

[Various Dates Available in March: Procuring Architectural and Engineering Contracts](#)

[April 5-7, 2016: The Safe Routes to School National Conference in Columbus, Ohio](#)

[March 2, 2015: "Safe Routes to School: What is it and how can it benefit schools, student safety and communities?"](#)

[March 3, 2015: Road Diets: Improving Safety for All Road Users](#)

[March 9, 2015: "Lessons from the Experts: 10 First Steps to Walkability"](#)

[March 17, 2015: "Bicycle Friendly Communities"](#)

[March 12, 2015: Taking Advantage of New Federal Funding Programs in 2015](#)
[March 18, 2015: "Pedestrian and Bicycle Counting Programs"](#)

NEWS

Pacific Northwest Network Convenes Regional Active Transportation Forum

In the Portland metropolitan region, January ended with the launch of a new series, “How We Get There Matters” an Intertwine Alliance forum on active transportation sponsored in partnership with [Metro](#), the Safe Routes to School National Partnership’s regional network in the Pacific Northwest, and Portland State University’s [Initiative for Bicycle and Pedestrian Innovation](#). More than 70 attendees participated in the forum on January 27, 2015. Representatives from planning, advocacy organizations, health, environment, trails, finance, and more came together to discuss different ways to define “projects of regional significance” and help develop plans to guide future investments in transportation. Click [here](#) for more information.

\$500 Million to Childhood Obesity Prevention

On February 5, 2015, the [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation \(RWJF\) announced](#) that it will devote \$500 million over the next 10 years to fight the childhood obesity epidemic. Since its original contribution of \$500 million in 2007, the foundation has committed more than \$1 billion to childhood obesity prevention efforts. With this new funding, RWJF plans to broaden its focus on preventing obesity in early childhood and helping parents and youth champion healthy initiatives. RWJF also announced plans to reduce health disparities by targeting places and populations with the highest rates of childhood obesity. Please see [Funding Opportunities](#) for information on a new RWJF funding initiative.

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Releases Regional ATP Cycle 2 Draft Guidelines

The MTC has released the staff recommendations for guidelines for the 2015 Cycle 2 Regional Competitive Active Transportation Program (ATP). The [draft guidelines](#) build off of last years’ template taking into consideration community feedback. One change includes awarding additional points if the jurisdiction of a project sponsor has passed a Complete Streets policy, or if the project is consistent with countywide goals as determined by the Congestion Management Agency. The call for projects will be March 26, 2015, with a due date of June 1, 2015. For more information visit the MTC [website](#).

MTC Votes to Support Safe Routes to School and Complete Streets

In a big victory for active transportation and health advocates last December, 2014, the MTC voted to fully fund the Regional Safe Routes to School (RSRTS) program for a fifth year, and also reiterated a commitment to advancing Complete Streets. This vote overturned a proposal to halve the funding for the final year. The MTC decision was part of a one year extension of the RSRTS and One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) programs to respond to a shortfall in funds. Another aspect of the vote reaffirmed MTC’s Complete Streets policy, but delays by one year a requirement that General Plan circulation elements be updated. For more information visit the Safe Routes to School California [website](#).

California Transportation Plan 2040—Public Review and Input on Final Draft Begins March 2015

The California Transportation Plan (CTP) provides a long-range policy framework to meet future mobility needs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Prepared by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the CTP defines goals, performance-based policies, and strategies to achieve a collective vision for California's future statewide, integrated, multimodal transportation system. The plan envisions a sustainable system that improves mobility and enhances Californians' quality of life. To learn more about the development of the CTP, please browse through the [CTP 2040 Fact Sheet](#). See below for regional workshops and forums planned and conducted by Caltrans throughout California to review the proposed plan and solicit feedback and input.

Sacramento:

Tuesday, March 10, 2015
4pm–7pm
North Natomas Library
4660 Via Ingoglia, Sacramento

Redding:

Thursday, March 12, 2015
4pm–7pm
City of Redding Community Room
777 Cypress Avenue, Redding

San Diego:

Tuesday, March 17, 2015
4pm–7pm
Valencia Park/Malcom X Branch
Library and Performing Arts
Center
5148 Market Street, San Diego

Riverside:

Wednesday, March 18, 2015
4pm–7pm
Riverside City College
4800 Magnolia Avenue,
Riverside

Los Angeles:

Thursday, March 19, 2015
4pm–7pm
Southern California Association of
Governments (SCAG)
818 West 7th St, 12th floor, Los
Angeles

Fresno:

Tuesday, March 24, 2015
4pm–7pm
Fresno City College
1101 E. University Avenue,
Fresno

Oakland:

Thursday, March 26, 2015
4pm–7pm
Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter
101 Eighth Street, Oakland

Webinar:

Thursday, March 5, 2015, 2pm
To register, visit the CTP [website](#).

RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

Newly Updated Guide to Help Residents Make Communities More Walkable and Bikeable

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) released its newly updated [A Resident's Guide for Creating Safer Communities for Walking and Biking](#). This free guide offers a step-by-step process for residents and community groups looking to improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety, access, and comfort. The Resident's Guide is also a comprehensive resource to assist residents, parents, advocates, and others in being effective leaders and partners when pursuing pedestrian and bicycling improvements.

New Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center (PBIC) Paper Covers Crowdsourcing Data for Pedestrian and Bicycle Planning

A new report from the PBIC, [Crowdsourcing Pedestrian and Cyclist Activity Data](#), highlights how researchers can use new technology and mobile applications to gain more information on travel patterns of pedestrians and bicyclists. The paper, produced under contract by Fehr & Peers, reviews

existing crowdsourcing data resources and tools, their implications for pedestrian and bicycle planning and projects, and potential limitations and issues with the existing options, among other topics. This new paper is part of the PBIC's ongoing White Paper series.

New Brief: Integrating Safe Walking and Bicycling to School into Comprehensive Planning

The National Center for Safe Routes to School and the Safe Routes to School National Partnership (National Partnership) released a new informational brief entitled [Integrating Safe Walking and Bicycling to School into Comprehensive Planning](#) that describes how this approach can help define local government's role in supporting safe walking and bicycling to school.

Economic Impacts of Safe Routes to School

Two studies released this past year examine the economic influence of Safe Routes to School. The first study [Cost of School Transportation: Quantifying the fiscal impacts of encouraging walking and bicycling for school travel](#) by Noreen McDonald and colleagues, examines the impact of reducing bussing costs for schools in North Carolina. A second study, [The cost-effectiveness of New York City's Safe Routes to School Program](#) by Peter Muenning and colleagues, studies how child injury prevention leads to injury-related cost savings in New York City. Both studies reflect the need to understand the economic impact that Safe Routes to School can have on many aspects of communities.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Active Transportation Program – ATP Cycle 2 Call for Projects – March 26, 2015

Get your Safe Routes to School, walking, and bicycling projects ready – the 2015 Active Transportation Program (ATP) grant Cycle 2 Call for Projects is scheduled for release on March 26th, with an application deadline of May 31, 2015. According to Caltrans, another \$360 million will be available in Cycle 2 for ATP projects. Visit the Caltrans [website](#) for more information.

Voices for Healthy Kids Grants

The American Heart Association and RWJF have launched a “Voices for Healthy Kids” initiative that aims to engage, organize, and mobilize people to improve the health of their communities and reverse the childhood obesity epidemic. Voices for Healthy Kids currently has two funding opportunities, the goals of which are to make effective strategic investments in ongoing state, local, and tribal public policy issue campaigns in order to increase public policy impact on healthy weight and healthy living among children. The Request for Application process is rolling; the funding opportunity will remain open and is based on available resources within the Strategic Campaign Fund. For more information about the grant opportunities and to apply, please click [here](#).

Fire Up Your Feet: Win Awards for Your Active School this Spring

Fire Up Your Feet is a core program of the National Partnership available to any elementary and middle school (grades K-8). Since the launch of Fire Up Your Feet in 2013, Kaiser Permanente and Fire Up Your Feet have awarded more than \$200,000 to participating schools. Awards can be used to support school-based physical activity and wellness programs. The next California Activity Challenge will take

place April 13 to May 15, 2015. For more information, please visit the California Fire Up Your Feet [website](#).

WORKSHOPS, CONFERENCES, AND SUMMITS

March 6-7, 2015: Third Annual Childhood Obesity Bay Area Conference

Slow Food San Francisco's 2015 Childhood Obesity Bay Area (COBA) Conference will take place at the University of California, San Francisco Medical Center on March 6-7, 2015. COBA is an annual conference that brings together local stakeholders to promote innovation and provide insight into work being done on childhood obesity. This year's theme, "Building Our Community, Empowering Our Children" highlights the strength of vibrant professional communities working together to educate each other on the causes and solutions to childhood obesity to better serve and empower youth. For more information and to register, please visit the Slow Food San Francisco [website](#).

March 6-7, 2015: Traffic Skills 101 Course

Youth Bicycling Sacramento is offering a Traffic Skills 101 (TS101) course that will increase participants' confidence to ride safely and legally in traffic or on the trail. During this fast-paced class, you will learn how to conduct bicycle safety checks, fix a flat, on-bike skills and crash avoidance techniques. This course is recommended for adults and children above age fourteen. TS101 is being hosted by Davis Bicycles! and other partners and will be held in Davis, California. Visit the Youth Bicycling Sacramento [website](#) for more information.

March 10-12, 2015: National Bike Summit

The 2015 National Bike Summit will be held on March 10-12, 2015, in Washington, D.C. Join hundreds of passionate bicyclists committed to building a bicycle-friendly America for everyone. For more information, please visit The League of American Bicyclists [website](#).

March 13-14, 2015: League of American Bicyclists' Traffic Skills 101 Course

This Traffic Skills 101 (TS101) course will increase confidence to ride safely and legally in traffic or on the trail. During this fast-paced class, participants will learn how to conduct bicycle safety checks, fix a flat, on-bike skills and crash avoidance techniques. The class will be taught by League Certified Instructor Ell Steele and will be held in Folsom, California. Visit the Bicycle Friendly 50/50 Corridor TMA [website](#) for more information.

April 17-19, 2015: League Cycling Instructor Seminar to be Held in Davis, California

The League Cycling Instructor Seminar is for people who want to teach bicyclist education, or to use higher level information in their professional and advocacy work. This seminar is being sponsored by Davis Bicycles!, the City of Davis, University of California Davis, San Juan Unified School District, North Natomas TMA, and Friendly 50/50 Corridor TMA. For more information and to register visit the League of American Bicyclists [website](#).

April 27, 2015: California Transportation Choices Summit 2015

TransForm will be hosting the California Transportation Choices Summit 2015: Year of Action on April

27, 2015, in Sacramento, California. The Summit will include policy education, network building, and strategizing opportunities with planners and agency leaders from around the state. Visit the Transform [website](#) for more information.

May 6, 2015: National Bike to School Day

National Bike to School Day is a one-day event occurring during National Bike Month in May that encourages and celebrates bicycling to school. This year's national event will take place on May 6, 2015. Bike to School day events can include bicycle safety education, parent-led bike trains, and other bicycle-related education and encouragement activities. Learn more about how to create a Bike to School Day event on the Walk Bike to School [webpage](#).

June 29-July 2, 2015: Childhood Obesity Conference

The 8th Biennial Childhood Obesity Conference will take place from June 29, through July 2, 2015, in San Diego, California. The conference will offer opportunities to share and discuss emerging research, best practices, community-based efforts, and effective policy strategies that promote and sustain healthy eating and physical activity practices for children, adolescents, and their families. Please visit the 2015 conference [webpage](#) for detailed conference information.

October 31-November 4, 2015: American Public Health Association Annual Meeting and Exposition

The American Public Health Association's (APHA) Annual Meeting and Exposition will take place from October 31 through November 4, 2015, in Chicago, Illinois. During this event, public health professionals share the latest research and information, promote best practices, and advocate for public health issues and policies grounded in research. Visit the APHA Meeting and Exposition [webpage](#) for more information.

Various Dates Available in March: Procuring Architectural and Engineering Contracts

Caltrans' Division of Local Technical Assistance is offering a one-day course that focuses on Chapter 10 of the Caltrans Local Assistance Procedures Manual to provide an overview of step-by-step procedures that local agencies must follow to procure Architectural and Engineering (A&E) contracts. Topics to be covered include: Definition and Purpose of an A&E Contract; Procurement Process—Roles and Responsibilities; Planning for A&E Contracts; Request for Proposal/Request for Quote and Advertisement; Evaluation and Selection; Contract Negotiations, Audits, and Execution; and Other Considerations. Visit the California Local Technical Assistance Program [website](#) for more information and training dates.

April 5-7, 2016: The Safe Routes to School National Conference in Columbus, Ohio

The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC), the [National Partnership](#) and the [National Center for Safe Routes to School](#) are pleased to announce the fifth Safe Routes to School National Conference to be held in Columbus, Ohio from April 5-7, 2016. The conference brings together program representatives, state departments of transportation, planners, elected officials, and community members to provide an opportunity for individuals, agencies, and organizations involved with Safe Routes to School to network, engage in educational opportunities, become inspired, and form partnerships to enhance their Safe Routes to School work. For more information, visit the conference [webpage](#).

WEBINARS

March 2, 2015: "Safe Routes to School: What is it and how can it benefit schools, student safety and communities?"

On March 2, 2015, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. PT, CDPH's California Walk to School Headquarters will host a free webinar for school and district staff, parent volunteers and local health departments on the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) movement within the school environment and how it can benefit schools and improve student safety. Learn more and register [here](#).

March 3, 2015: Road Diets: Improving Safety for All Road Users

On March 25, 2015, from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. PT, FHWA and PBIC will host a free webinar on road diets—the conversion of four-lane undivided roadways to three lanes (two through lanes and a two-way-left-turn-lane). This cross section reallocation can potentially improve safety, reduce speed differential, and/or improve accessibility for transit users, pedestrians and bicyclists. Learn more and register [here](#).

March 9, 2015: "Lessons from the Experts: 10 First Steps to Walkability"

On March 9, 2015, from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. PT, America Walks will host a free webinar entitled "Lessons from the Experts: 10 First Steps to Walkability." Walkability expert Mark Fenton will review best practices for those beginning to build more walkable communities. To register, please click [here](#).

March 12, 2015: Taking Advantage of New Federal Funding Programs in 2015

On March 12, 2015, from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. PT, expert speaker Frank Klimko will provide concrete information on the direction of federal funding this year and beyond. Frank will give exclusive details on potential new funding programs and information on taking advantage of the upcoming Investing in Innovation competition and Early Learning grants at the United States Department of Education. Register for this webinar [here](#).

March 17, 2015: "Bicycle Friendly Communities"

On March 17, 2015, from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. PT, Tools of Change will host a webinar entitled about the Bicycle-Friendly Communities (BFC) Program. This program is a positive, upstream, results-oriented program designed to get municipal decision makers thinking about how all of their programs around cycling work complementary to one another, and how those programs can be synergistically improved. Presenters will include Justin Jones from the Share the Road Cycling Coalition and Bill Nesper from the League of American Bicyclists. Register for this webinar [here](#).

March 18, 2015: "Pedestrian and Bicycle Counting Programs"

On March 18, 2015, from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. PT, the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP) will present a webinar entitled "Pedestrian and Bicycle Counting Programs." For more information and to register for this webinar visit the APBP [website](#).

[Top of Page](#)