



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 networking teleconference call, visit our website at www.CAsaferoutestoschool.org.



[America Walks Announces Walking College Fellows](#)

[Caltrans Active Transportation Program \(ATP\) Awardees and Future ATP Applicants: Non-Infrastructure Guidance on Incentives and Giveaways](#)

[Caltrans Soliciting Self-Nominations for its Active Transportation Program Technical Advisory Committee](#)

[Five New Walk Friendly Communities](#)

[American Voters Favor Federal Investment in Walking and Bicycling](#)

[October 7, 2015: Walk to School Day—Registration Now Open!](#)

[California Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Curriculum For Grades 4 and 5 now available!](#)

[Impact of Safe Routes to School Programs on Walking and Biking](#)

[Separated Bike Lane Planning and Design Guide](#)

[Transportation Update: Where We've Gone and What We've Learned](#)

[Bicycling to School Together, A Bike Train Planning Guide](#)

[Let's Walk Together! A Walking School Bus Training Manual](#)

[Rural Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Toolkit](#)

[Three New SRTS Resources for Rural Communities](#)

[Value of the American Community Survey—the Rural Perspective](#)

[Evaluating the Economic Benefits of Nonmotorized Transportation](#)

[Due June 30, 2015: Active Transportation Safety and Encouragement Campaign—Open Streets and Temporary Events Call for Projects](#)

[Rolling Applications: "Voices for Healthy Kids" Grants](#)

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

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

[June 25, 2015 Webinar: When Safe Routes to School Meets Violence Prevention](#)

[July 14, 2015 Webinar: July 2015 Federal Policy Update](#)

[July 15, 2015 Webinar: Institutionalizing the Change](#)

NEWS

America Walks Announces Walking College Fellows

After a very competitive selection process, America Walks staff and Walking College Mentors have identified the 2015 recipients of Walking College Fellowships. These 25 advocates for walking and walkable communities hail from 22 different states and Palau. About one-third of recipients are community advocates, another one-third are made up of public health and planning professionals and the remainder include transportation and health care professionals, students and teachers/professors, and local elected officials. For more information, visit the America Walks Walking College [website](#).

Caltrans Active Transportation Program (ATP) Awardees and Future ATP Applicants: Non-Infrastructure Guidance on Incentives and Giveaways

Some incentives and giveaway items formerly funded under the Federal Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) Program and continued under the new ATP fall under the definition of S.W.A.G (i.e. promotion premiums and giveaway items) under the Governor's 2/18/2011 [Executive Order ban on S.W.A.G](#). In order to ensure compliance with the 2/18/2011 Executive Order, giveaway items that are reimbursable under ATP are limited to those educational items that are an integral component of programs and curriculum in teaching students how to safely walk and bicycle to and from school. Giveaway items that are generally eligible include bicycle helmets, safety reflective items, and program related coloring books. Awardees should avoid purchasing giveaway items that are not directly supporting walking, bicycling or other active transportation, including flashlights, key chains, coffee mugs, squeeze toys, pens, hats, trinkets, shirts, cups, and other gift items that are not educational or directly related to the goals of the ATP. Equipment items such bicycles, bicycles locks, and other items used for training and educational programs remain eligible. A more detailed list of eligible items can be viewed [here](#).

Caltrans Soliciting Self-Nominations for its Active Transportation Program Technical Advisory Committee

In early July 2015, Caltrans will solicit self-nominations from representatives of various non-motorized stakeholder groups to fill approximately twelve vacancies on its new Active Transportation Program (ATP) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). Self-nominees should be committed to serving the needs of all active transportation system users and embrace the overall purpose of the ATP. The ATP-TAC is expected to hold a minimum of four, full day meetings each year, which will be held in northern California primarily, with an occasional meeting in southern California. ATP-TAC members will be expected to attend in person and will not be reimbursed for travel and per diem. More information about the ATP-TAC self-nomination process will be sent to TARC E-News recipients in the next few weeks.

Five New Walk Friendly Communities

In May, the Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center (PBIC) announced five new Walk Friendly Communities (WFC) including Arcata, California. The "Walk Friendly" title means a city or town is being recognized for its success in working to improve a wide-range of conditions related to walking, including safety, mobility, access, and comfort. For more information and to see the other WFC cities, visit the WFC [website](#).

American Voters Favor Federal Investment in Walking and Bicycling

A recent Rails-to-Trails Conservancy poll found that four out of five voters who responded favor increasing or maintaining current levels of federal investment in walking and bicycling paths. The message that active transportation is affordable and produces a strong return on investment seems to resonate strongly with voters. For more information visit the Rails-to-Trails [website](#).

October 7, 2015: Walk to School Day—Registration Now Open!

Registration is now open for the 19th annual Walk to School Day on Wednesday, October 7, 2015. This annual event in the United States (U.S.) is a part of an international effort to celebrate the many benefits of walking and bicycling to school. Walk to School Day event registration is free and open to individuals and organizations holding an October event in the U.S. Events that are registered on the Walk to School website will be displayed on an interactive U.S. map, where neighboring communities, media, and other organizations can identify who is walking in their area. For more information and to register a Walk to School Day event, visit the Walk/Bike to School [website](#).

RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

California Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Curriculum For Grades 4 and 5 now available!

TARC's new resource, the *California Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Curriculum* (the Curriculum) provides nine lessons for 4th and 5th grades that teach students how to be safe pedestrians and bicyclists and understand the positive impact that walking and bicycling have on their health and the environment. To facilitate teaching of the Curriculum, **each of the nine lessons is aligned with the California Common Core State Standards, the National Health Education Standards, and the California Health Education Standards.** The Curriculum can easily be adapted for use in other states or territories. This curriculum will be the first of its kind to be approved by the California Department of Public Health, the California Department of Education, and the California Department of Transportation. The *California Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Curriculum* is FREE and posted on the SRTS TARC [website](#) and on the California Department of Education's California Healthy Kids and After School Resource Center [website](#). The *California Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Curriculum Online Training* is also available through the California Department of Education's California Healthy Kids and After School Resource Center Online Trainings [website](#).

Impact of Safe Routes to School Programs on Walking and Biking

A new review on the benefits of SRTS programs has been published by Active Living Research. The review, entitled [Impact of Safe Routes to School Programs on Walking and Biking](#) highlights findings from studies conducted in several cities and states that have examined walking or bicycling rates, safety, and economic issues associated with SRTS.

Separated Bike Lane Planning and Design Guide

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has released the [Separated Bike Lane Planning and Design Guide](#) for planning and designing physically-separated bicycle facilities within or adjacent to roadways. These facilities are an important tool in creating networks of Complete Streets that are safer and more appealing to for bicyclists.

Transportation Update: Where We've Gone and What We've Learned

In May 2015, the National Council on Disability (NCD) released an update to the 2005 report, [*The Current State of Transportation for People with Disabilities in the United States*](#). This report discusses the gaps and barriers in transit services in rural areas, identifies funding sources for rural transportation, and offers effective strategies to help people with disabilities living in the rural areas access healthcare, employment, and participate in their communities.

Bicycling to School Together, A Bike Train Planning Guide

In an effort to support year around bicycling to school, the National Center for SRTS and Schwinn's Helmets on Heads program have developed a new resource, [*Bicycling to School Together: A Bike Train Planning Guide*](#). This guide was developed for parents and caregivers to provide how-to information and tips on planning a bicycle train in their communities, including information on choosing a safe route, setting a schedule, selecting equipment, and teaching bicycle safety skills.

Let's Walk Together! A Walking School Bus Training Manual

The Los Angeles County Public Health Department's PLACE Program has developed [*Let's Walk Together!*](#), a resource for parents, teachers, and volunteer coordinators who are interested in starting a Walking School Bus (WSB) program at their schools. A WSB is one of many SRTS activities that encourage students to safely walk together to and from school with adult supervision.

Rural Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Toolkit

The Rural Assistance Center (RAC) has released a new toolkit providing an overview of the importance of health promotion and disease prevention in rural communities; including resources to help a community develop a health promotion program by building on the best practices of others. Visit the RAC [website](#) for more information.

Three New SRTS Resources for Rural Communities

In partnership with SRTS practitioners in rural communities from around the country, the SRTS National Partnership (NP) has developed three new factsheets to help overcome obstacles and help rural communities obtain the health benefits of walking and bicycling. [*Rural Communities: Making Safe Routes Work*](#) provides an introduction to Safe Routes to School, highlighting why Safe Routes to School is beneficial for rural communities. [*Rural Communities: Best Practices and Promising Approaches for Safe Routes*](#) delves into the challenges of Safe Routes to School in rural areas and highlights successful rural programs and the innovative approaches used to overcome hurdles. [*Rural Communities: A Two Pronged Approach for Improving Walking and Bicycling*](#) provides an approach for how rural communities can support walking and bicycling more broadly.

Value of the American Community Survey—the Rural Perspective

The U.S Department of Commerce has released a report, [*Value of the American Community Survey: Smart Government, Competitive Businesses, and Informed Citizens*](#). This document provides an overview of the American Community Survey (ACS) and how data from the ACS is used to inform decision-making; discusses the importance of the ACS as a unique source of data on the demographic and economic characteristics of rural areas; and includes examples of how rural data from the ACS is used by federal agencies, academic researchers, state government, and rural communities.

Evaluating the Economic Benefits of Nonmotorized Transportation

The FHWA has released a new report, [*Evaluating the Economic Benefits of Nonmotorized Transportation*](#). The report is designed to help transportation officials determine the best methods for evaluating the economic value of their pedestrian and bicycle facilities. The report discusses potential methods for evaluating different economic benefits, such as commute cost savings, tourism, and health and environmental benefits.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Due June 30, 2015: Active Transportation Safety and Encouragement Campaign—Open Streets and Temporary Events Call for Projects

As part of its Active Transportation Safety and Encouragement Campaign, the Southern California Association of Governments' (SCAG) is offering an opportunity for communities to host events that inspire more people to walk and bicycle through education, encouragement, and a “sneakers-on” experience. During Bike Month, in May 2016, SCAG will support local communities in transforming streets through temporary improvements, street festivals, and other fun activities that increase awareness of active transportation and complete street concepts. **SRTS projects are one of the eligible activities.** Applications are due June 30, 2015. More information on how to apply is available [here](#).

Rolling Applications: “Voices for Healthy Kids” Grants

The American Heart Association and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation 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 policies in order to improve healthy living among children. The funding opportunity will remain open and is based on available resources. For more information about the grant opportunities and to apply, please click [here](#).

WORKSHOPS, CONFERENCES, AND SUMMITS

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 [website](#) for detailed conference information. On-site registration will be available June 29, 2015 starting at 8 a.m.

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

The American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting and Exposition will take place from October 31 through November 4, 2015, in Chicago, Illinois. During this event, over 15,000 public health professionals will 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 [website](#) for more information.

WEBINARS

June 25, 2015 Webinar: When Safe Routes to School Meets Violence Prevention

On Thursday, June 25, 2015, from 10 to 11 a.m. PT, the Safe Routes to School National Partnership (NP) is hosting a webinar on how Safe Routes to School is not just about protecting children who are walking or bicycling from the threats posed by vehicles. In some communities, violence and crime are great dangers to children and can be barriers to walking, bicycling, and being physically active. Hear from speakers Carmen Burks, Cincinnati Public Schools, Jamecca Marshall, Prevention Institute, and Sara Zimmerman, SRTS NP about the impacts of violence on youth and communities, strategies to make routes to school safe from violence and crime, and how to work collaboratively to create communities where children can be active and safe. Register [here](#).

July 14, 2015 Webinar: July 2015 Federal Policy Update

On Tuesday, July 14, 2015, from 1 to 2 p.m. PT, the Alliance for Biking and Walking will host a webinar during which the League of American Bicyclists staff will share the latest news from Capitol Hill regarding Federal Policy updates. Register [here](#).

July 15, 2015 Webinar: Institutionalizing the Change

On Wednesday, July 15, 2015, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. PT, America Walks will host a webinar highlighting advanced steps in the building a walkable community. Celebrated speaker and walkability expert Mark Fenton, who recently authored a Practice Guide for the Every Body Walk! Collaborative titled, *Making Walking Routine: Building Walkability Through Policies and Market Forces*, will describe the most effective and achievable strategies for modifying both public- and private-sector procedures so they lead inevitably to walkable communities. Register [here](#).

[Top of Page](#)