



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; conferences, summits, and trainings; 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.



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NEWS

Walk to School Day Participation Sets a New Record

Walk to School Day 2014 is already celebrating another record-breaking year, with over 4,700 events registered on walkbiketoschool.org. International Walk to School Day continues through the end of October and any Walk to School Day event held in October is eligible for registration. To register, please visit walkbiketoschool.org.

Informational Brief on SRTS Funding Match Requirements

In October 2014, the National Center for Safe Routes to School and the Safe Routes to School National Partnership (National Partnership) released an informational brief on funding match requirements entitled "[Integrating Safe Routes to School into the Transportation Alternatives Program: Reducing Barriers for Disadvantaged Communities](#)." In 2012, the Moving Ahead for Progress-21 transportation legislation made changes to the Federal Safe Routes to School program that added a required state or local match of up to 20 percent of project costs. These changes introduced new challenges in funding Safe Routes to School projects, and could be particularly difficult for many small, rural, and urban low-income communities. This informational brief examines the changes in law, the need for Safe Routes to School projects in disadvantaged communities, and how some states are using creative approaches to supply the match.

Due November 12, 2014: Applications to Host the Next Safe Routes to School National Conference

The National Partnership invites prospective host agencies to apply to organize the 5th Safe Routes to School National Conference, to be held sometime between August 2015 and March 2016.

Please review the [Request for Proposals](#) for a list of roles and responsibilities for the conference host as well as instructions on how to apply. Completed applications are due on November 12, 2014, by 2 p.m. PT. Questions about the application process can be submitted to margo@saferoutespartnership.org.

Doctors "Prescribe-A-Bike" in Boston

The City of Boston and Boston Medical Center now offer low-income residents a \$5 yearlong membership to Hubway, a bicycle-sharing program. With a prescription from a Boston Medical Center physician participants are allowed unlimited bicycle trips provided they use the bicycle for 30 minutes or less at a time. Participants also receive a free helmet. For more information, please click [here](#).

New Plan to Improve Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety

In September 2014, the United States Department of Transportation (DOT) released a report that describes a new initiative to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety entitled "[Safer People, Safer](#)

[Streets: Summary of U.S. Department of Transportation Action Plan to Increase Walking and Biking and Reduce Pedestrian and Bicyclist Fatalities.](#)” The initiative consists of new research and tools to improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety, generate better data, and foster the development of connected physical infrastructure. It also focuses on building stronger partnerships between federal, state, regional, and local planners, engineers, and advocates.

RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

New SRTS Fact Sheet! Managing Risk When Setting Up a Crossing Guard Program

In October 2014, [CA4Health](#), in collaboration with [ChangeLab Solutions](#), released a new fact sheet entitled “[Crossing with Confidence: Managing Risk When Creating Crossing Guard Programs in California.](#)” The document is designed to help communities manage potential risks and establish a safe and effective crossing guard program. Legal implications of establishing a crossing guard program are discussed and concrete steps public entities—including school districts—can take to minimize their exposure to liability are also identified. A companion fact sheet, “[Get Out & Get Moving,](#)” also helps localities understand the legal implications of implementing a remote drop-off program and determine whether a program is appropriate for their community.

CDPH Launches New Open Data Portal

CDPH launched its Open Data Portal (the Portal), which allows user-friendly access to the data it collects about important public health issues. This data can be used to craft solutions to public health concerns while providing more transparency in government. The Portal, which is accessible from the CDPH website, provides the public with a single point-of-entry to data sources that can be used for reporting, creating Web tools and mobile applications, and other uses. Access the Open Data Portal by clicking [here](#).

BIKESAFE Online Resource Updated

An updated online version of FHWA’s [BIKESAFE: Bicycle Safety Guide and Countermeasure Selection System](#) has been released. It provides practitioners with the latest information available for improving bicyclist safety and mobility. The online tools also provide the user with a list of possible engineering, education, and enforcement treatments to improve bicycle safety and/or mobility based on user input regarding a specific location. BIKESAFE is comprised of four sections: a guide of basic information, specific countermeasure details, case studies, and an expert system tool for countermeasure selection. It is among the many tools being unveiled as part of the DOT’s “Safer People, Safer Streets” initiative to improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety.

October 2014 Streetside

The San Francisco Bicycle Coalition has released a new educational video about the top ten rules of the road. Some of the laws are specific to California; many are applicable everywhere. Please click [here](#) to access the video.

Special Reports: Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Obesity

The Trust for America’s Health and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation released a special report entitled “[Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Obesity: An In-depth Look at the Inequities that Contribute to](#)

[Higher Obesity Rates in Black and Latino Communities.](#)” The document shows that rates of overweight and obesity have increased across the United States among people of all ethnic and racial groups, all ages and both genders, but that some groups are disproportionately affected. Click [here](#) to read more about the State of obesity Special Reports in-depth look at the inequities that contribute to higher obesity rates in [Black](#) and [Latino](#) communities.

Overweight and Obesity Among Latino Youths Fact Sheet

In May 2014, Leadership for Healthy Communities updated a fact sheet that focuses on the prevalence, consequences, and causes of overweight and obesity among Latino youths entitled “[Overweight and Obesity Among Latino Youths.](#)” The newest data indicates that, while leveling off in some sectors of the American populace, obesity rates among Latino youths remain significantly high.

State Adult Obesity Map

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity released its 2013 state-specific data on adult obesity prevalence using self-reported information from the [Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System \(BRFSS\)](#). Findings show prevalence of obesity among adults in California is 24 percent. Learn more about the 2013 State Adult Obesity Map [here](#).

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Due October 31, 2014: Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grants

Caltrans has released the Call for Applications for the 2015-2016 Sustainable Transportation Planning Grants, with \$9.8 million available to regional and local government agencies through two programs: the Strategic Partnerships grants and the Sustainable Communities grants.

The Strategic Partnerships grants fund planning projects that address statewide/interregional deficiencies in the state highway system and strengthen government-to-government relationships.

The Sustainable Communities grants fund planning projects that address multimodal transportation deficiencies, encourage stakeholder collaboration, involve active public engagement, and integrate Smart Mobility 2010 concepts.

Applications are due October 31, 2014. Visit the Caltrans [website](#) for more information about the grants and to download application materials.

Due December 15, 2014: Walk Friendly Community Applications

The Walk Friendly Community designation, awarded from bronze to platinum, is given to applicant communities that have demonstrated a commitment to improving and sustaining walkability and pedestrian safety through comprehensive programs, plans, and policies. The program will begin accepting applications for the ninth round on November 3, 2014, with the deadline for submission on December 15, 2014. Interested communities should visit www.walkfriendly.org to learn more about the program and review the community assessment tool.

Due December 15, 2014: 2015 Environmental Justice Small Grants

The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Environmental Justice has announced the opening of its Request for Applications (RFA) for the 2015 Environmental Justice Small Grants (EJSG) Program. The EJSG Program provides funding for eligible applicants for projects that address local environmental and/or public health issues within an affected community. The total estimated amount of funding available for awards under this solicitation for fiscal year 2015 is approximately \$1,200,000. EPA anticipates awarding up to four grants per EPA region in amounts of up to \$30,000 per award for a two-year project period. For more information regarding the EJSG Program and to view the RFA, please click [here](#). To learn more about community successes from previous small grants, visit the Emerging Tools for Local Problem Solving [here](#).

FHWA Updates Its Guide to Funding Opportunities

FHWA updated its list of federal funding available for pedestrian and bicycle projects in a document entitled "[Bicycle and Pedestrian Funding Opportunities: Federal Transit and Federal Highway Funds.](#)" The list denotes which federal funding programs can be used to support a variety of pedestrian and bicycle facilities. The update includes funding changes under the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act.

CONFERENCES, SUMMITS, AND TRAININGS

November 8-9, 2014: Save the Date! Best Foot Forward-Walkability Strategy Summit

California Walks is hosting the Best Foot Forward Summit in Oakland, California on November 8-9, 2014. Join a broad base of walk, health, equity, and sustainability organizations and advocates to craft a shared vision and action plan to advance walkability across California. To register for the event, please click [here](#).

December 5-7, 2014: Winning Campaigns Training in Santa Barbara

On December 5-7, 2014, Santa Barbara Bicycle Coalition is hosting a Winning Campaigns Training during which participants will learn to plan, fund, and run campaigns to transform the transportation landscape in cities and states. For more information and to register, please visit the [Alliance for Biking and Walking website](#).

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, in San Francisco, California. COBA is an annual conference that brings together local stakeholders in childhood obesity prevention 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](#).

June 29-July 2, 2015: Childhood Obesity Conference

The 8th Biennial Childhood Obesity Conference will take place on June 29-July 2, 2015, in San Diego, California. The Biennial Childhood Obesity Conference is the nation's largest, most influential collaboration of professionals dedicated to combating pediatric obesity. Nearly 2,000 attendees from across the country are expected to attend in 2015. 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.

WEBINARS

October 29, 2014 - "ATP Cycle 1 Next Steps"

On October 29, 2014, from 1-3 p.m. PT, Caltrans will host a webinar entitled "ATP Cycle 1 Next Steps." The webinar will cover funding disclaimers, District Local Assistance Engineer contacts, state-only funds, programming, allocation(s), time extension(s), project implementation, California Conservation Corps and California Association of Local Conservation Corps, new agency, and ATP Cycle 2. If you have questions in advance of the webinar, please contact Teresa McWilliam at teresa.mcwilliam@dot.ca.gov. To register for this free webinar, please visit the Caltrans Local Assistance [website](#).

November 13, 2014 - "Thinking Ahead to Active Transportation Program Cycle II: Key Takeaways from Successful Cycle I Applications"

On November 13, 2014, from 10-11 a.m. PT, the National Partnership will host a webinar entitled "Thinking Ahead to Active Transportation Program Cycle II: Key Takeaways from Successful Cycle I Applications." Earlier this year more than 300 California communities competed for \$360 million in Cycle I of the Active Transportation Program (ATP). The National Partnership has reviewed many of the 148 applications that were awarded through the statewide and small urban/rural competition and will share some of the elements that made those applications successful as well as suggest changes for the guidelines and application. Learn about funding opportunities available from health agencies, how federal health dollars applicable for walking and bicycling are administered, and steps for collaboration among transportation and health advocates and agency staff. To register for this free webinar, please click [here](#).

November 18, 2014 - "Health Funding"

On November 18, 2014, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. PT, Advocacy Advance will host a webinar entitled "Health Funding." Learn about funding opportunities available from health agencies, how federal health dollars applicable for walking and bicycling are administered, and steps for collaboration among transportation and health advocates and agency staff. To register for this free webinar, please click [here](#).

December 3, 2014 - "Using Pilot Projects to Implement Protected Bike Lanes"

On December 3, 2014, from 12 to 1 p.m. PT, Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP) will host a webinar entitled "Using Pilot Projects to Implement Protected Bike Lanes." The cost is \$50

for APBP members and \$85 for non-APBP members. For details and registration, please visit the [APBP website](#).

December 16, 2014 - “Maintenance Funding”

On December 16, 2014, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. PT, Advocacy Advance will host a free webinar entitled “Maintenance Funding.” Maintenance is an important part of a safe and efficient transportation system. When constructing pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, it is important to understand the maintenance costs of those investments and maintenance practices that will make them safe and comfortable. Join this webinar to learn about how cities and states maintain pedestrian and bicycle facilities and how those efforts are paid for. To register for this free webinar, please click [here](#).

December 17, 2014 - “Getting to Better Outcomes from Public Engagement”

On December 17, 2014, from 12 to 1 p.m. PT, APBP will host a webinar entitled “Getting to Better Outcomes from Public Engagement.” The cost is \$50 for APBP members and \$85 for non-APBP members. For details and registration, please visit the [APBP website](#).

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