



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](http://www.CAsaferoutestoschool.org).



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## NEWS

**New TARC Resource Available! *California Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Curriculum***

TARC has just released The California Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Curriculum for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades. The curriculum contains nine lessons that are aligned with the California Common Core State Standards, the National Health Education Standards, and the California Health Education Standards. Read more about this resource under our Research and Resources section [below](#).

### **Five California Cities Among Top Ten in United States for Physical Activity**

According to the February 18, 2015 report by BetterDoctor.com, five California cities are among the top ten most active in the United States. The report scored 85 cities based on their access to and spending per resident on public parks; healthy weight percentage; and levels of physical activity. The rankings were determined by data from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Trust for Public Land. Overall, ten California cities made the list of healthiest areas. The five California cities that ranked in the top ten overall were San Francisco, Oakland, Sacramento, Irvine, and San Diego. See the full report [here](#).

### **Safe States Alliance New Special Interest Group on Active Transportation & Built Environment**

Safe States Alliance recently launched a new Special Interest Group (SIG) that will focus on the broad, cross-cutting and multi-sector areas of active transportation and the built environment, and their role in preventing injury and violence. The purpose of the Active Transportation & Built Environment SIG is to provide a forum for Safe States Alliance members with an interest in planning, designing, or advocating for active transportation and built environments to improve community well-being and public health. This SIG is also a way to stay informed about current developments and build a network of professional contacts in this field. Please consider joining the SIG if these topics interest you. Visit the [SIG](#) website for more information.

### **New Safe Routes to School National Partnership Executive Director**

The Safe Routes to School National Partnership (NP) announced that Cassandra Isidro has been named as their new Executive Director. Isidro brings to the organization more than 20 years of executive leadership, program planning and development experience in the nonprofit sector. Her background in public health education, combined with an MBA, provides a strong foundation for her new role as Executive Director for the National Partnership. Isidro joined the Safe Routes to School National Partnership on April 6, 2015, and will work from the Washington D.C. area, leading staff located across the country. For more information about the National Partnership and its programs and initiatives, visit the NP [website](#).

### **Jeanie Ward-Waller Stepping Down as Senior California Policy Manager with the Safe Routes to School National Partnership; National Partnership Seeking New Policy Manager**

Jeanie Ward-Waller has accepted a position with the California Bicycle Coalition as Policy Director, and her last day with the Safe Routes to School National Partnership (NP) was April 15, 2015. NP has begun interviewing for candidates for the Senior California Policy Manager role. Thank you, Jeanie, for your outstanding work with the National Partnership!

## **RESEARCH AND RESOURCES**

### ***California Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Curriculum* for 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grades now available!**

TARC's new resource, the *California Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Curriculum* (the Curriculum) provides nine lessons for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> 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. 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](#).

### **Community Health Status Indicators Tool**

The CDC have released a new interactive web-based tool, the Community Health Status Indicators (CHSI), for viewing county-level health information. The site offers comparisons to peer counties for key indicators related to healthcare access and quality, health behaviors, health outcomes, and other factors that impact health. Visit the CDC [website](#) for more information.

### **National SRTS Partnership Resources Translated into Spanish**

NP released two publications recently translated into Spanish: *Superación de los Obstáculos en las Comunidades Marginadas/Overcoming Obstacles in Underserved Communities; Usando el Programa de Alternativas de Transporte de MAP-21 para Impactar a Su Comunidad Local /Using the Transportation Alternatives Program of MAP-21 to Impact Your Local Community*. Visit the NP [website](#) to view these documents.

### **Building Understanding of Environmental Health**

The FrameWorks Institute recently completed a multi-year, multi-method inquiry into how the American public thinks and talks about environmental health. Sponsored by the American Public Health Association (APHA) and funded by the CDC, this research reveals strategies for talking with the public about environmental health work and the impacts of our environment on public health. APHA recently released a new set of communication tools and resources based on these findings entitled [Building Understanding of Environmental Health: A Communications Toolkit](#). To introduce the findings' framing strategies, the FrameWorks Institute is hosting a webinar series this Spring. Visit the APHA [website](#) for more information.

### **What is Rural? New Document Available from the Rural Assistance Center**

The Rural Assistance Center (RAC) has released a newly updated topic guide to learn about some of the most commonly used federal definitions of rural, including why we need the definitions and how they are used. Access this resource on the RAC [website](#).

### **New Resource from the Center for Sharing Public Health Services**

The Center for Sharing Public Health Services has created [A Roadmap to Develop Cross-Jurisdictional Sharing Initiatives](#) to help guide jurisdictions through the process of considering or establishing cross-jurisdictional sharing arrangements. This guidebook helps local and county governments learn how to share public health services regionally for more effective and efficient operations. The guide is based on a national public health learning community that includes rural public health organizations.

### **New Community Engagement Resource from the Institute for Local Government**

The Institute for Local Government (ILG) released a new resource entitled [\*Building Healthy and Vibrant Communities: Achieving Results through Community Engagement\*](#). This resource helps local officials inform their residents about what land use planning is, who is involved, why community engagement matters and ways to participate. Visit the ILG [website](#) for more information.

#### **New Report from Smart Growth America: Safer Streets, Stronger Economies**

Smart Growth America recently released a report entitled [\*Safer Streets, Stronger Economies\*](#) regarding Complete Streets project outcomes from across the country. In this study of 37 projects, Smart Growth America found that Complete Streets projects tended to improve safety for everyone, increased bicycling and walking, and showed a mix of increases and decreases in automobile traffic, depending in part on the project goal. Compared to conventional transportation projects, these projects were remarkably affordable, created an increase in local jobs, and were an inexpensive way to achieve transportation goals. For more information visit the Smart Growth America [website](#).

### **FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **Due June 1, 2015: Active Transportation Program – Cycle 2 Call for Projects**

ATP Cycle 2 Call-for-Projects is now open. Project applications are due to Caltrans by June 1, 2015 (postmark date). For more information visit the Caltrans [website](#).

#### **Winners Selected Through June 1: Bike Share Giveaway**

[The National Center for Safe Routes to School](#) and [Schwinn's Helmets on Heads program](#) are teaming up again to celebrate Bike to School Day with the National Bike to School Day Helmets on Heads Bike Share Giveaway. This second annual Bike Share Giveaway will provide 10 bikes and 20 helmets to 10 schools and community organizations across the US. Individuals, schools and organizations that [register](#) their Bike to School Day event online are eligible to win one of the ten drawings for Schwinn's bike and helmet giveaway. Registration ends May 31, 2015. For more information visit the Walk/Bike to School [website](#).

#### **Rolling Applications: Voices for Healthy Kids Grants**

The American Heart Association and 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 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](#).

### **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.

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

The APHA Annual Meeting and Exposition will take place from October 31 through November 4, 2015, in Chicago, IL. 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.

**WEBINAR**

**May 22, 2015: “Mayors’ Challenge for Safer People, Safer Streets”**

On Friday, May 22, 2015, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. PT American Walks will host the next free webinar in its second series of 2015, “Mayors’ Challenge for Safer People, Safer Streets.” This webinar is part of the [“Take Action at the Local Level”](#) webinar series that calls upon individuals to build community and institutional support for walkable design. Presenters will include Barbara McCann, former Executive Director of the National Complete Streets Coalition and now Director of Safety, Energy, and Environment in Secretary Foxx’s office, and the mayors of four very different types of cities in the upper mid-west, the south, and the mountain west. Our call to action is to check whether your city Mayor is participating in the Challenge and either get involved or get the Mayor involved! Visit the America Walks [website](#) to register.

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