



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 email provides a summary of news; research and resources; meetings, conferences, summits, and forums; and webinars and trainings 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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ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM: INFORMATION, TRAININGS, AND WEBINARS

The Active Transportation Program (ATP) was enacted in September 2013 via Senate Bill (SB) 99 and is a new program to fund safe walking and bicycling infrastructure and non-infrastructure projects throughout California. The following workshops, trainings, and webinars will be a good opportunity for local public health departments, schools, and other implementing organizations to prepare for the ATP Call for Projects that was released on March 21, 2014, with a May 21, 2014, deadline. To access the application and application instructions, please visit the [Caltrans Division of Local Assistance website](#).

SRTS National Partnership Active Transportation Program Workshop and Webinar Topic Series

The SRTS National Partnership is hosting an ATP Topic Workshop and Webinar Series on the following topics and dates:

SAN JOSE / BAY AREA: [Preparing for the SRTS/ATP Call for Projects](#) **workshop**
Wednesday, March 26 | 1 – 3:30 p.m. PT

STATEWIDE: ATP: An Open Question and Answer Session **webinar**
Thursday, March 27 | 10 – 11:30 a.m. PT

For more information on these events and links to register as they are available, visit the SRTS National Partnership California [website](#).

Caltrans Is Hosting Active Transportation Program Trainings in All Districts

Throughout April 2014, Caltrans will conduct trainings on ATP in each of the 12 Caltrans Districts. The purpose of these trainings is to assist potential ATP applicants, partners, and District staff to achieve efficient, effective, and timely delivery of ATP applications in accordance with state and federal requirements. If you have any questions on the Active Transportation Program, please contact Teresa McWilliam, ATP Manager, at Teresa_mcwilliam@dot.ca.gov. For training locations contact your Caltrans District Contact Person listed in [this schedule](#).

NEWS

Los Angeles Announces 180-Mile Family-Friendly Bikeways Network

In February 2014, the City of Los Angeles released two draft documents for 90 days of public comment that will prioritize safety and health in the City's General Plan: the [Mobility Element](#) and the [Plan for a Healthy Los Angeles](#). The Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition (LACBC), Los Angeles Walks, and other stakeholders were involved in the development of both plans to ensure that the needs of Los Angeles' pedestrians and bicyclists were considered. The plans call for a layered network of complete streets that serve all people who travel on them, with special focus on vulnerable road users, including children, the older adults, pedestrians, and bicyclists. For more information, please visit the [LACBC website](#).

Fire Up Your Feet

Children need 60 minutes of physical activity a day to keep their heart and lungs healthy and maintain a healthy weight. Schools play a big role in encouraging active lifestyles for students of all ages, whether it's walking and bicycling to school or being active at school and in the classroom. Schools that participate in [Fire Up Your Feet](#) get resources, encouragement and incentives to create healthy habits that will last a lifetime. This spring, Fire Up Your Feet is awarding more than \$30,000 to California K-8 schools. The Challenge takes place April 1-30, 2014. Check the award details [here](#). The website also includes [flyers, newsletter announcements, videos, and Spanish materials](#).

National Public Health Week – April 7-13th

The [American Public Health Association](#) (APHA) champions the health of all people and communities. During the first full week of April each year, APHA brings together communities across the United States to observe National Public Health Week (NPHW) as a time to recognize the contributions of public health and highlight issues that are important to improving our nation. For more information about NPHW, please click [here](#).

Every Kid Healthy Week, April 21-25, 2014

[Action for Healthy Kids](#) works with schools nationwide to promote "[Every Kid Healthy](#)" – a national movement to make all schools healthier places. Every Kid Healthy is focused on the nation's problem of childhood obesity as well as its solutions: sound nutrition, regular physical activity, and health-promoting school programs. During the week of April 21-25, 2014, Action for Healthy Kids will be recognizing Every Kid Healthy Week and will work with schools in California to host Every Kid Healthy events to make sustainable changes that encourage students to eat better and be active every

day. They are also offering an “Every Kid Healthy Week Challenge” – a school-wide activity and art project. For more information about this challenge, please contact [Alyssa McClelland](#).

Call for Proposals – Rural Communities Facing Design Challenges

In 2013, [Project for Public Spaces](#) partnered with the [Citizen’s Institute on Rural Design](#) (CIRD) to help improve rural communities across the United States. The 2013 pilot program included workshops on design change and placemaking in four rural communities. CIRD has now announced the 2014 Request for Proposals for the next round of rural design workshops. Successful applicants will receive a \$7,000 stipend and in-kind design expertise and technical assistance valued at \$35,000. The Request for Proposals, application guidelines, and more information on the program are posted on the [CIRD website](#). The deadline for submitting a proposal is Tuesday, May 6, 2014, at 6 p.m. PT.

Bike to School Day 2014

National Bike to School Day registration is now open on the National Center for Safe Routes to School [Walk Bike to School website](#). Join tens of thousands of children, parents, school officials, and many other supporters for the third annual Bike to School Day on May 7, 2014. Bike to School Day event registration is free and open to all individuals and organizations planning a 2014 Bike to School Day event in the United States. Registering a Bike to School Day event provides organizers access to a variety of downloadable materials, including stickers, certificates, badges, classroom activities, and a chance to win exciting giveaways to be announced soon. For more information on Walk and Bike to School activities in the United States, visit www.walkbiketoschool.org.

RESEARCH and RESOURCES

SRTS Effectiveness in Reducing Pedestrian Injuries

In January 2013, [Pediatrics](#), the official journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics, published an article entitled “[Effectiveness of a Safe Routes to School Program in Preventing School-Aged Pedestrian Injury](#)” that concludes that “implementation of the SRTS program in New York City has contributed to a marked reduction in pedestrian injury in school aged children.” The online version of the article can be found [here](#).

Active School Travel Campaign Infographics

[Metrolinx](#), an agency of the Government of Ontario, Canada, that was created to improve the coordination and integration of all modes of transportation in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area, has released their March school travel infographic. Every month during the school year Metrolinx releases a new infographic and shares tips and stories for mapping and promoting safe active routes to school.

Infographics are available on these following websites:

<http://www.metrolinx.com/schooltravel>

<https://twitter.com/SmartCommute/status/440864280443760640>

www.facebook.com/SmartCommuter

Bicycle Safety Education Resources

Released in 2011, the [Bicycle and Pedestrian Curricula Guide](#) catalogs bicycle and pedestrian curricula available throughout the country. In January 2014, the National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration released a literature review through the National Safety Council entitled "[Bicycle Safety Education for Children From a Developmental and Learning Perspective](#)" that closely analyzes bicycle education content and its actual effect on student behavior.

Bicycling's Societal Health Benefits Outweigh Negative Factors

In 2013, [International Transport Forum](#) published a report entitled "[Cycling, Health and Safety](#)" that reviews research findings and presents evidence derived from International Transport Forum—Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development countries relating to bicycle safety.

Bridging the Gap Study Shows SRTS Participation Increasing

In March 2014, [Bridging the Gap](#) released a research brief entitled "[Elementary School Participation in Safe Routes to School Programming is Associated with Higher Rates of Student Active Travel to School](#)" that examines elementary school administrators' reports of school participation in SRTS initiatives, and associations with estimated rates of active travel by students. Research shows that the prevalence of elementary school participation in SRTS programs grew steadily over the past seven years, increasing by 54 percent between 2006-07 and 2012-13 (from 14.2 percent of schools to 21.8 percent of schools). Rates of student active travel to school, as estimated by school administrators, were 60 percent higher at schools that participated in SRTS programs (where 32.4 percent of students walked or bicycled) than at schools that did not participate (where 20.2 percent of students walked or bicycled).

California Injury Data Online

In February 2014, the [Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development](#) posted the "[EpiCenter—California Injury Data Online Article](#)" online as part of Medical Information Reporting for California. The [CDPH EpiCenter](#) is an injury data website launched in 2002 by the Safe and Active Communities Branch within the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). Redesigned in 2011 to provide information from additional data sources, EpiCenter provides data on all serious injuries in California. The core injury queries use the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development's Hospital and Emergency Department discharge data and the CDPH's Death Statistical Masterdata, which are produced yearly. EpiCenter includes seven different user-friendly query systems that allow users to generate state injury numbers and crude rates and produce their own data tables.

Complete Streets Implementation Best Practices

In December 2013, the Minnesota Department of Transportation and the University of Minnesota published a guidebook entitled [Complete Streets from Policy to Project: The Planning and Implementation of Complete Streets at Multiple Scales](#) that explores the variety of ways in which complete streets is conceptualized and institutionalized by various jurisdictions, offering practical and applicable insights for jurisdictions in Minnesota and elsewhere.

Comprehensive Travel Survey Results Show Growth in Active Transportation

Results from the California Household Travel Survey—the largest and most complex review of its

kind—show that the percentage of California residents walking, bicycling, or using public transportation on a typical day has more than doubled since 2000. Nearly 23 percent of household trips were taken by walking, bicycling, and public transportation. In 2000, that share was only 11 percent. This increase includes a dramatic increase in walking trips, which nearly doubled from 8.4 percent to 16.6 percent of trips. The 2012 study provides a snapshot of the travel behavior of approximately 109,000 persons from more than 42,000 households in 58 California counties, including parents driving to work and children bicycling to school. To view the entire press release, please visit the [Caltrans website](#).

Federal Highway Administration Health in Transportation Brochure

In May 2013, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) published [Moving Healthy: Linking FHWA Programs and Health Brochure](#) that provides information on FHWA programs, initiatives, tools, and resources that influence or are influenced by health. Although FHWA does not have a single, specific program that focuses solely on health, it is implicit in a broad range of existing programs. This brochure describes FHWA programs, funding sources, and tools that can support health-related issues in communities across the country. In February 2014, FHWA updated their [Health in Transportation Frequently Asked Questions](#) online resource.

Health and Vitality of Communities Resource

In January 2014, [Health Resources in Action](#) published a report entitled “[Leveraging Multi-Sector Investments: New Opportunities to Improve the Health and Vitality of Communities](#).” The report explores how economic and community-development sectors as well as the public health and medical care sectors identify opportunities to collaborate to more effectively work together to build healthier communities.

Health Impact Assessment Resource

In December 2013, the [United States Environmental Protection Agency](#) (U.S. EPA) released a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) review synthesis report entitled “[A Review of Health Impact Assessments in the U.S.: Current State-of-Science, Best Practices, and Areas for Improvement](#).” The report is a systematic review of HIAs from the United States to assess how HIAs are being implemented nationally and to identify potential areas for improving the HIA community of practice. The review focused on HIAs from the four sectors that the U.S. EPA’s Sustainable and Healthy Communities Research Program identified as target areas for empowering communities to move toward more sustainable states: Transportation, Housing/Buildings/Infrastructure, Land Use, and Waste Management/Site Revitalization. The results of the HIA review were synthesized to identify the current state of the HIA practice in the United States, best practices in HIA, and areas for improvement.

Human Factors in Pedestrian Crossing

In January 2014, FHWA released a report entitled “Human Factors Assessment of Pedestrian Roadway Crossing Behavior.” The report examines more than 70,000 pedestrian crossings at 20 different locations seeking to better understand the environmental influences on both where and when pedestrians elect to cross the road. To view the entire report, please click [here](#).

Interactive Map of Carbon Footprint for All US Zip Codes

Researchers with Cool Climate Network at the University of California, Berkeley, have created an [interactive map](#) entitled “Average Annual Household Carbon Footprint by Zip Code” that provides estimates of household single-year consumption of energy, travel, goods, and services. This tool can be used to compare local averages and create a personalized climate action plan for your community.

New Recommendations from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Commission to Build a Healthier America

In January 2014, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) published a report entitled “[Time to Act: Investing in the Health of Our Children and Communities](#).” RWJF convened the Commission to Build a Healthier America to help find better ways to improve the health of the nation. The Commission—a national, nonpartisan group of leaders from both the public and private sectors—issued ten recommendations aimed at improving the health of all Americans. Click [here](#) to for more information.

New Report: Beyond the Yellow Bus

In 2014, [Center for Cities+Schools](#) and [Mile High Connects](#) released a report entitled “Beyond the Yellow Bus: Promising Practices for Maximizing Access to Opportunity Through Innovations in Student Transportation.” The study looks at how localities across the country are implementing new and innovative alternative approaches to student transportation that expand regional transportation access for K-12 students, improve cost-effectiveness, and leverage inter-agency partnerships beyond the traditional yellow school bus. To download the full report, please click [here](#).

Obesity Rates in the United States

In February 2014, the [Journal of the American Medical Association](#) published an article entitled [Prevalence of Childhood and Adult Obesity in the United States, 2011-2012](#) that concludes that “there have been no significant changes in obesity prevalence in youth or adults between 2003-2004 and 2011-2012.”

Preliminary 2013 Report on Pedestrian Traffic Fatalities by State

In March 2013, the [Governors Highway Safety Association](#) published a report entitled “Pedestrian Traffic Fatalities by State: 2013 Preliminary Data.” The report shows that the number of pedestrian traffic fatalities in the United States for the first six months of 2013 decreased by 190—or 8.7 percent—from 2,175 in 2012 to 1,895 in 2013. It provides state-by-state data and also includes analysis of pedestrian fatality patterns, suggested explanations for recent fluctuations, and approaches to reducing pedestrian injuries.

Report on Pedestrian and Bicycle State Legislative Action

In February 2014, the National Conference of State Legislatures issued a 2013 report entitled “Traffic Safety Trends: State Legislative Action 2013.” The report examines occupant protection, distracted driving, driver licensing, impaired driving, aggressive driving, speed limits, motorcycle helmets, automated enforcement, school bus safety, and pedestrian and bicycle safety. Tables and charts detailing state traffic safety laws are included, as are contacts and links for further information. To view the report, please visit the [National Conference of State Legislatures website](#).

MEETINGS, CONFERENCES, SUMMITS, AND FORUMS

Open Streets National Summit in Los Angeles

The [Open Streets National Summit](#) will be held on April 4-6, 2014, in Los Angeles, California. The Summit will be hosted by [Open Streets Project](#) and CicLAvia, Los Angeles' Open Streets initiative, which is one of the premier Open Streets programs in North America. The Summit will feature sessions for both novice and experienced Open Streets organizers, led by experts from the Open Streets Project, CicLAvia, and other local organizers. The weekend will also allow for participants to network with one another and participate in and observe CicLAvia on Sunday afternoon. To register for this event, please click [here](#).

California Trails and Greenways Conference in Palm Springs

The [California Trails and Greenways Conference](#) will be held on April 8-10, 2014, in Palm Springs, California. The California Trails and Greenways Conference provides trail professionals, advocates, volunteers, and users a venue for sharing practical, up-to-date trail management and advocacy skills, as well as a forum for networking and building support for accessible, inter-connected, and sustainable non-motorized trail systems.

Bicycle Leadership Conference in Monterey

The Bicycle Leadership Conference will be held on April 8-10, 2014, in Monterey, California. For more information and to register for this conference, please click [here](#).

Transportation Choices Summit and Advocacy Day 2014 in Sacramento

TransForm will host the Transportation Choices Summit and Advocacy Day on April 22-23, 2014, in Sacramento, California. For more information or to register for the Summit, please visit the [TransForm website](#).

PLUS Regional Spring Forum: Mobilizing Education and Civic Leaders to Build Healthy Communities

The [Center for Cities+Schools'](#) PLUS Spring Forum will be held on April 25, 2014, at the California Endowment in Oakland, California. The event is free but space is limited. Register [here](#).

National Outdoor Recreation Conference in San Francisco

The [2014 National Outdoor Recreation Conference](#) will be held on May 13-16, 2014, in San Francisco, California. To register for this conference, please visit the [Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals website](#).

PedsCount! Summit in Sacramento

The 3rd Biennial PedsCount! Summit will be held on May 14-16, 2014, at the Tsakopoulos Library Galleria in Sacramento, California, and will share cutting-edge research and best practices, as well as explore innovations to make it safer for more people to get moving and walking for everyday transportation. Visit californiawalks.org/pedscount-2014 for registration and additional Summit details.

Youth – Plan, Learn, Act, Now National Summit in Washington DC

[Youth - Plan, Learn, Act, Now \(Y-PLAN\)](#) is an educational strategy to inform local community development processes and align educational reform. On May 18-19, 2014, Y-PLAN instructors, students, and civic and school leaders will come together to engage in a two-day symposium to share outcomes, lessons learned, and strategies to leverage the necessary resources to bring Y-PLAN to scale. This event is free but space is limited. Registration will be available soon. Please visit the University of California, Berkeley's [Center for Cities+Schools' website](#) for more information.

Pro Walk/Pro Bike/Pro Place 2014

Registration is now open for Pro Walk/Pro Bike/Pro Place 2014, which will convene on September 8-11, 2014, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. For the latest conference news, including a preview of mobile workshops, and a link to registration please visit the [Project for Public Spaces website](#).

WEBINARS AND TRAININGS

April 1st Webinar - "Building a Wellness Team, Assessing your School's Wellness Environment, and Developing an Action Plan"

On April 1, 2014, from 11 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. PT, Action for Healthy Kids will host a webinar entitled "Building a Wellness Team, Assessing your School's Wellness Environment and Developing an Action Plan." Learn how to build a team that will best meet your goals. Learn about different types of school health assessment tools and how they can help move your efforts forward. This webinar covers goal-setting, timelines, budget, tracking progress, and planning for sustainability. To register for this free webinar, please click [here](#).

April 2nd Webinar – Safe Routes to School Technical Assistance Resource Center Monthly Non-Infrastructure Networking Call

TARC's networking calls are a valuable way to learn from other programs, share exciting news and resources, and network with and ask questions of SRTS peers. This month's call, which will take place on April 2, 2014, from 1:30 to 2 p.m. PT, will include information on Bike to School Day, Open Streets, and data collection. Please visit the SRTS TARC [website](#) to register for the call.

April 3rd Webinar - "Planning for 'Good Repair' in Local Control Accountability Plans"

On April 3, 2014, from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. PT, Healthy School Facilities will host a webinar entitled "Planning for 'Good Repair' in Local Control Accountability Plans (LCAPs)." To register for this free webinar, please click [here](#).

April 18th Webinar - "Public Health Benefits of Active Transportation"

On April 18, 2014, from 12 to 1 p.m. PT, the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP) will host a webinar entitled "Public Health Benefits of Active Transportation." The cost is \$50 for APBP members and \$85 for non-APBP members. For details and registration, please visit the [APBP website](#).

May 21st Webinar - "Best Planning and Engineering Practices for School Zones"

On May 21, 2014, from 12 to 1 p.m. PT, APBP will host a webinar entitled "Best Planning and Engineering Practices for School Zones." 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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