

Flexibility and Commitment to Sustainability



The City of Claremont, located in Los Angeles County, has a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program that is one piece of a larger effort to create a culture of non-motorized transportation and healthy living. Community members have a history of being engaged and the city has a long standing collaboration with the school district.

Claremont established the Bike Priority Zone in which infrastructure was developed to encourage bicycling and walking. This 2.5 square mile area represents about one-third of the city and includes the use of road diets and increased accessibility. The city also purchased 120 custom designed bicycle racks for long term bicycle parking. Each rack was installed conveniently in front of or in the proximity of popular destinations throughout the Bike Priority Zone. Once improvements were made,

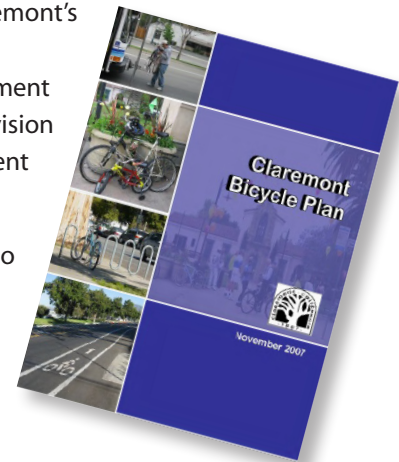
they tracked and found a 20 percent increase in both walking and bicycling in that area including about 100 students bicycling to school on a daily basis.

Originally, a SRTS non-infrastructure award was given to Claremont's police department, but by the time the funds were available, budget cuts made it impossible for the department to implement the program. Working with Caltrans, the City Engineering Division was able to contract with an outside organization to implement the city's SRTS program.

The new SRTS program employed a recognized SRTS trainer to train teachers, parents, and students. Outreach included use of a dedicated website, social media, and a local radio station located at the Claremont Colleges. The program included data collection as an analysis to measure success and to make adjustments as needed.



The City of Claremont and the school district are committed to making SRTS a self-sustaining effort. They do this by encouraging parents to be invested in the program and by training both parents and students so the program will continue from one year to the next.



KEYS TO CLAREMONT'S SUCCESS:

- Gathering community input and involvement early in the process
- Incorporating Complete Streets in all transportation projects
- Outreaching to parents and getting their participation