



**Safe Routes to Schools
Update
Santa Rosa City School Board
August 2025**



Safe Routes to School Goals

- ✓ More students/families walk, bike, scoot, skate, bus or carpool for transportation
- ✓ Kids/Families know how to be safe while doing so
- ✓ Barriers to active transportation identified and engineering improvements made
- ✓ Community is more connected and aware of the benefits of SRTS to health and environment

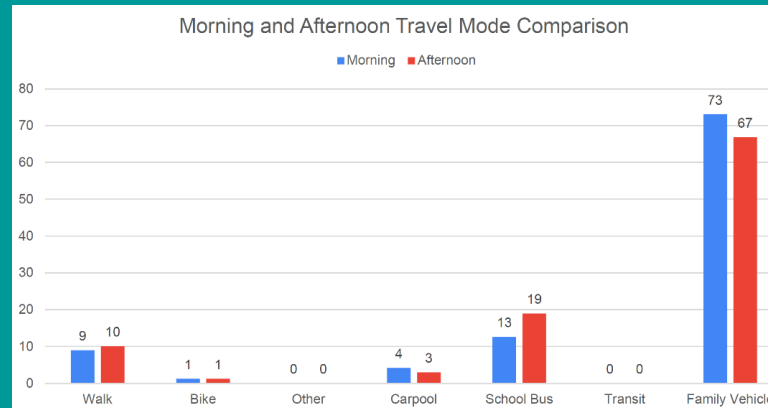
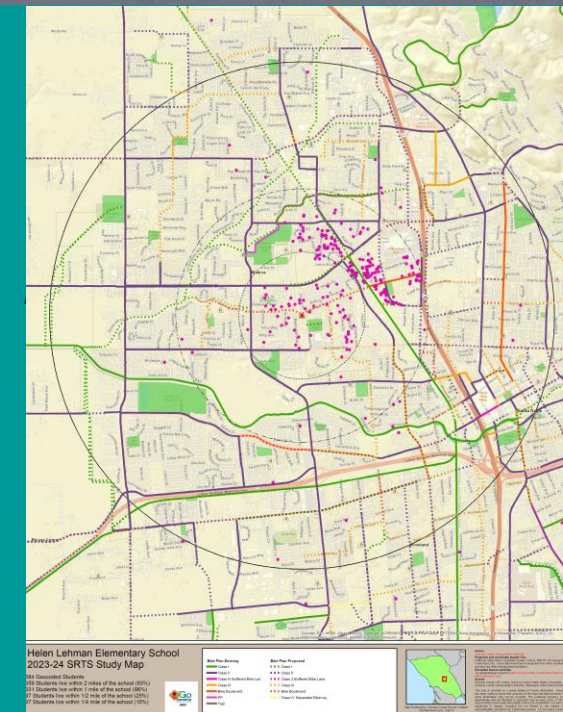


Comprehensive Safe Routes to School Services

Funder: Sonoma County Transportation Authority

Partners: Schools, Districts, local jurisdictions

- ✓ Education
- ✓ Active & Alternative Transportation Encouragement
- ✓ Engineering
- ✓ Evaluation – tallies, GIS mapping



Safe Routes to Participating Schools (SR City School District)

10 enrolled for 24-25
8 enrolled for 25-26



Participating Sites 2024-25 & 25-26		Potential Participant
Cesar Chavez Language Academy	Santa Rosa French American Charter	Rincon Valley Middle
Comstock Middle School	Luther Burbank	Santa Rosa Middle/High School
Helen Lehman		Montgomery Middle/High School
Hidden Valley		Piner Middle/High School
James Monroe		Elsie Allen Middle/High School
Lincoln		
Proctor Terrace		
Santa Rosa Charter School for the Arts		

Safe Routes to School Education



- ✓ 50+ schools
(26 in Santa Rosa, 10 in SR City Schools in 24-25)
- ✓ Classroom, bike/ped safety, on-bike; in schools & in community



Lead Instructors are *League of American Bicyclist Certified* – the gold standard of cycling education

Safe Routes to School Education Program



- ✓ 2nd or 3rd Grade Pedestrian Safety Lessons
- ✓ 4th Grade Bicycle Basics Lessons
- ✓ 4th Grade On-Bicycle Skill/Safety Rodeo
- ✓ 5th Grade Mapping and Communications Lessons
- ✓ Middle School “Drive Your Bike” Lessons (classroom and on-bike)
- ✓ Middle School after-school Bike Clubs
- ✓ Learn to Ride Workshops
- ✓ Family Bike Workshops
- ✓ Annual Kids “Bike Adventure” Camp
- ✓ Outreach/Ed at Community Events
- ✓ Presentations to Parents, School Staff, Community




FAMILY BICYCLING LESSONS
IN PERSON, ON-BIKE LESSONS

Learn to Ride a Bike — for Kids

Wednesdays in Santa Rosa

Winter/Spring 2025 Dates:
2/19, 3/19, 4/16, 5/14, 6/11

For rates & registration, visit
SantaRosaRec.com



4th Grade Bicycle Rodeos: Santa Rosa City Schools (24-25)

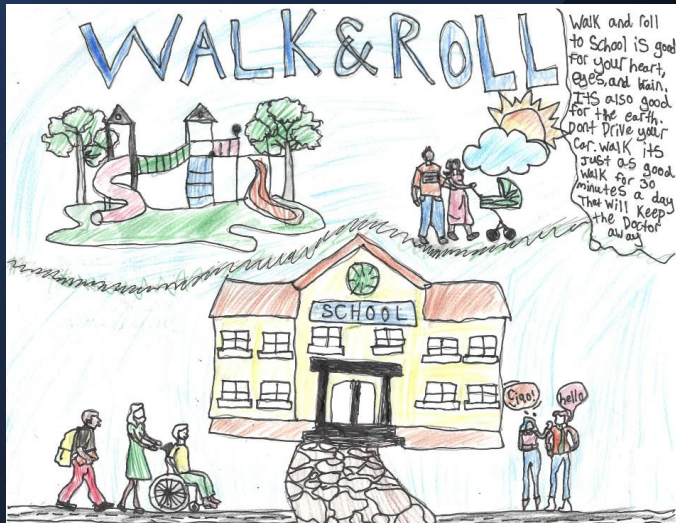
- Helen Lehman Elementary - 10/18/24
- Lincoln Elementary – 10/29/24
- Monroe Elementary – 11/5/24
- Hidden Elementary – 5/1/25
- Proctor Terrace Elementary – 5/9/25
- Cesar Chavez Elementary – 5/27/25



SRTS Education REACH

By Grade Level & Community

24-25 School Year

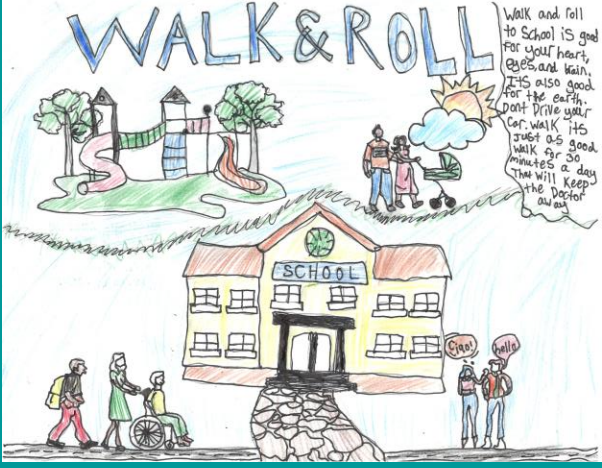
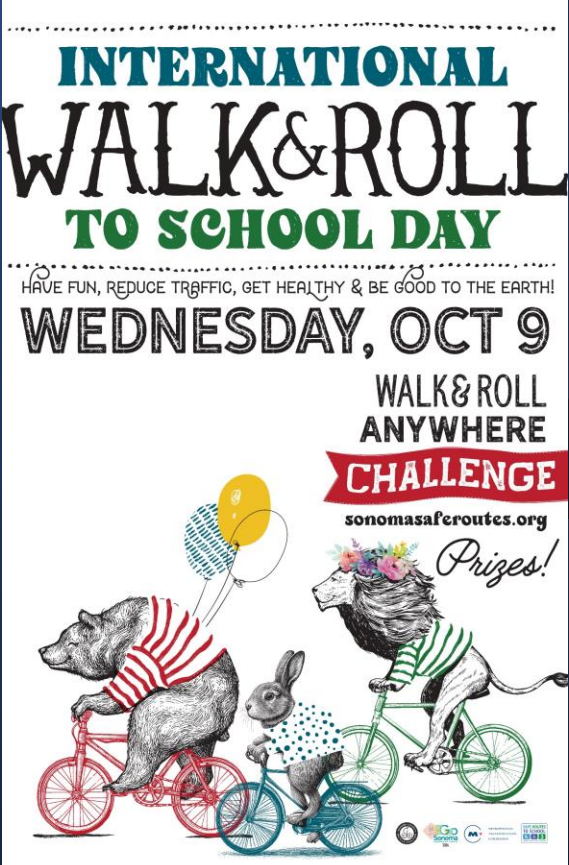


Grade	# students Aug-June Countywide	# students Aug-June Santa Rosa	# Students Aug-June Santa Rosa City Schools
2 nd _3 rd	2479	898	268
4 th	2515	1189	319
5 th	2048	868	204
Middle School (6-8th grade)	1472	1291	0
Community (LTR's FBW's, Camp)	401	174	<i>Not tracked by school</i>
Total	8915	4420	791

Safe Routes to School Encouragement Programming

✓ Walk/Roll Events & Challenges (25-26)

- ✓ Buddy Meet Up Challenge (Sept)
- ✓ International Walk & Roll to School Day (Oct) – Safety Challenge
- ✓ Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day (Nov) – Letter Writing Challenge
- ✓ Walk & Roll for our HeARTS: Annual Art Contest (Feb)
- ✓ Spring “Go Green” Challenge (March/April)
- ✓ Bike to School Day (May)



Safe Routes to School Encouragement Challenges

(examples from 24-25)

Designs for 25-26 Challenges coming soon!



WALK & ROLL BACK TO SCHOOL CHALLENGE

September CHALLENGE

MAP & MEETUP CHALLENGE

This September, we challenge you to map your safe route to school and meet up with others for fun, connection, and safety in numbers! Challenge participants will be entered into a drawing for a gift card to a local bakery, to fund treats for a future morning walk or roll outing for your family or group!

To participate, indicate what you accomplished this month and turn in your sheet to SRTS by Wednesday, October 2nd.

ROUTE TIPS

CONSIDER ROUTES THAT HAVE:

- Not many cars or lower traffic
- Low speed limits; cars driving slowly
- Bike lanes, sidewalks or paths
- Clearly marked crosswalks
- Other people walking and biking
- Bright lighting when/if it's dark

WE MAPPED OR PLANNED OUR ROUTE TO SCHOOL FROM HOME OR FROM ANOTHER LOCATION

WE WALKED OR RODE TO SCHOOL WITH ONE OR MORE OTHER FAMILIES THIS SEPTEMBER ON THE FOLLOWING DATE(S) (Each GROUP date is an entry into our drawings up to 4 entries)

DATE _____

DATE _____

DATE _____

MORE THAN 3 TIMES? LET US KNOW HOW MANY FOR A BONUS ENTRY!

MEET UP DETAILS (Ex: We met with two other families at Lucchetti park and biked to school together!)

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN OUR FAMILY OR WALK & ROLL GROUP _____

WE DIDN'T FORM OR JOIN A MEET-UP, BUT WE DID WALK, BIKE, SCOOT OR SKATE TO SCHOOL ON OUR OWN THIS SEPTEMBER! (One entry per family)

(Optional) EMAIL A PICTURE OF YOUR FAMILY/GROUP AT YOUR MEET UP OR ON YOUR ROUTE TO SCHOOL FOR A BONUS ENTRY - HOLD UP A SIGN SAYING "SHARE MEET UP CHALLENGE" IN YOUR PICTURE.

OK TO SHARE PICTURE NOT OK TO SHARE PICTURE



FULL NAME _____

SCHOOL _____

PARENT STUDENT SCHOOL STAFF

CONTACT INFO _____

(EVALUATION FORMS AVAILABLE FOR OUR BONUS)

Take a picture or scan of your completed form and email it to info@sonomasaferroutes.org or mail to SRTS, PO Box 2008, Santa Rosa, CA 95402. Entries must be received by Wed, Oct 2nd.

To participate, visit sonomasaferroutes.org

WACKY WALK & ROLL December CHALLENGE

SCAVENGER HUNT

Mark off all the items or places you found, saw or visited on your route to school or anywhere!

STUDENT NAME _____

SCHOOL _____

HOME ROOM TEACHER _____ GRADE _____

Submit completed Scavenger Hunt to info@sonomasaferroutes.org or mail to SRTS, PO Box 2008, Santa Rosa, CA 95402. For a complete list of items, visit sonomasaferroutes.org. Prizes will be awarded on a drawing for a wacky winter hat!

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY/INFRASTRUCTURE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> STRIPED CROSSWALK <input type="checkbox"/> SHARE THE ROAD SIGN <input type="checkbox"/> PEDESTRIAN ACTIVATED CROSSING SIGNAL (WALK/DON'T WALK) <input type="checkbox"/> YELLOW SCHOOL ZONE SIGN <input type="checkbox"/> BUMPY YELLOW CURB/RAMP <input type="checkbox"/> BUS STOP <input type="checkbox"/> BIKE LANE <input type="checkbox"/> BIKE RACK <input type="checkbox"/> ANOTHER SAFETY ITEM YOU SAW _____ 	ART & CULTURE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> UNUSUAL GARDEN STATUE <input type="checkbox"/> BIRDHOUSE <input type="checkbox"/> COLORFUL MURAL OR MOSAIC <input type="checkbox"/> BIG SEASONAL DECORATION <input type="checkbox"/> WINDCHIME <input type="checkbox"/> LITTLE FREE LIBRARY <input type="checkbox"/> WACKIEST PIECE OF ART THAT YOU SAW ON YOUR ROUTE _____ 	NATURAL WONDERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> FRUIT OR VEGETABLE GROWING IN A FRONT YARD <input type="checkbox"/> ROCK OR OTHER NATURAL ITEM SHAPED LIKE AN ANIMAL <input type="checkbox"/> CREEK <input type="checkbox"/> MUSHROOM <input type="checkbox"/> CLOUD SHAPED LIKE AN ANIMAL OR OBJECT <input type="checkbox"/> SPIDER WEB <input type="checkbox"/> FLUFFY CAT (TYPE?) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> CURLY HAired DOG (TYPE?) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> FUNNY LOOKING BUG (DESCRIBE?) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> COLORFUL BIRD (COLORS?) _____ 	COMMUNITY <p>Write in which one you saw or visited below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> TRAIL/MULTI-USE PATH <input type="checkbox"/> FIRE STATION <input type="checkbox"/> GROCERY STORE <input type="checkbox"/> ICE CREAM OR YOGURT SHOP <input type="checkbox"/> PARK OR PLAYING FIELD <input type="checkbox"/> Library <input type="checkbox"/> CAFÉ
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sonomasaferroutes.org SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

WALK & ROLL FOR OUR HEARTS! February CHALLENGE

ART CONTEST

WALK & ROLL FOR OUR HEARTS!

Draw a picture demonstrating why you LOVE Walking and/or Rolling. Your picture should illustrate how or why it is fun and/or healthy for our hearts, minds, and bodies.

WINNERS WILL WIN A \$25 GIFT CERTIFICATE TO A LOCAL ART SUPPLY STORE!

WINNING PICTURES WILL ALSO BE MADE INTO A 2025-26 'I LOVE WALK & ROLL' WALL CALENDAR!

SUBMIT ART BY MONDAY, MARCH 3, 2025 (please read contest rules before submitting)

WALK & ROLL FOR OUR HEARTS CONTEST RULES

ELIGIBILITY All Sonoma County K-8 Students

THEME(S) Illustrate how or why walking and rolling is fun and/or healthy for the hearts, minds, and bodies of kids and/or families in Sonoma County

Optional: You may wish to choose a season for your illustration: Winter, Spring, Summer, or Fall

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Artwork must be 8.5x11, and must be landscape orientation
- All mediums welcome: drawing, painting, mixed media, digital illustration, etc. If a "kitty" raised mechanical assistance, no more than 50% of collage material may be from newspapers, magazines, books, or other recycled paper-pieced with text or designs (such as scrapbook paper)
- Submit a scanned copy in .JPG or .PDF format to saferroutes@sonomasaferroutes.org. OR mail to Safe Routes to School, Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition, PO Box 2088, Santa Rosa CA, 95402-3088
- Include your name, school, grade level, and homeroom teacher and a way to contact you (phone or email)
- All entries must be received by Monday, March 3, 2025

JUDGING CRITERIA

- Creativity and originality
- Clarity of art's message in communicating the theme
- Quality of effort put into illustration
- Representation of diversity and inclusivity

AWARDS

- \$25 Gift Card to local art supply store
- Selected winning pictures will be featured in 2025-26 'I Love Walk & Roll' Wall Calendar.
- Calendars will be printed and distributed to the winners, principals of winning schools, and to every teacher with a winning student in the challenge.
- If chosen as a winner, Safe Routes to School must be able to contact you, and may need to collect original artwork. Send any questions to saferroutes@sonomasaferroutes.org.

sonomasaferroutes.org SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

WALK & ROLL April GREEN TRANSPORTATION CHALLENGE

SONOMA COUNTY SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL GREEN TRANSPORTATION EARTH MONTH

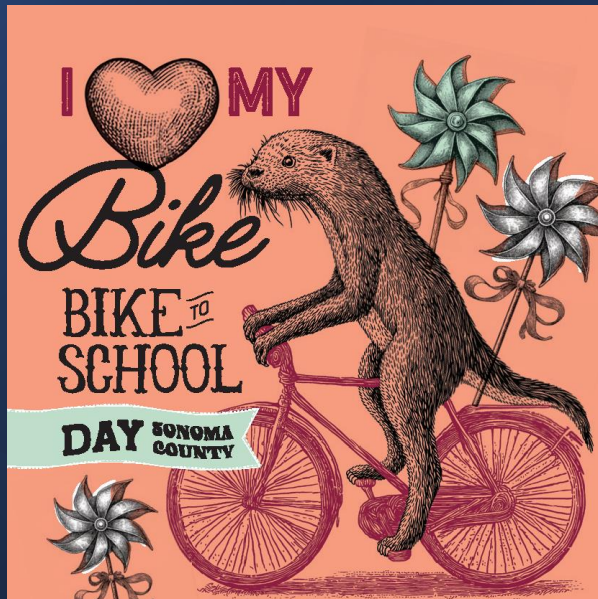
COMPLETE TWO OR MORE OF OUR GREEN TRANSPORTATION ACTIONS TO CELEBRATE EARTH MONTH, and tell us something about it! Submit by Monday, May 5th for entry into our drawing for a \$25 gift card to a local eatery of your choice. Green Transportation Actions can be done at any time during the month of April.

<p>BIKE to a DESTINATION instead of DRIVING</p> <p>A human traveling on a bike at 10-15mph is the most energy-efficient means of human transport available. It's also good exercise, saves money, and is good for the earth. Choose at least one destination to bike to, like school, a local park, a friend's, the store, or anywhere that you typically drive to.</p> <p>Where did you bike and how long did it take? _____</p> <p>Date biked (choose one even if you biked more often): _____</p> <p>One thing you noticed while biking to this destination: _____</p>	<p>CARPPOOL instead of DRIVING in a single family VEHICLE</p> <p>A carpool is when a parent drives their child, and at least one other child from another home, to a destination, such as when your parent picks up your friend on the way to school and you all drive to school together without your friends' parents. Let us know if you carpooled to school, to a sporting event, to a party, class, or anywhere this April, and tell us a bit about it.</p> <p>Where did you carpool? _____</p> <p>Date carpooled (choose one): _____</p> <p>One thing that you like about carpooling: _____</p>	<p>WALK to a DESTINATION instead of DRIVING</p> <p>Walking is free and doesn't require any special equipment or clothing! It's great for our health, can be social, and gets us outdoors. Choose at least one destination to walk to that you normally drive to. If you can't walk all the way from home, park a distance away at least a 10 minute walk from your destination, and walk part-way.</p> <p>Where did you walk and how long did it take? _____</p> <p>Date walked (choose one): _____</p> <p>One thing you noticed while walking: _____</p>	<p>PUBLIC transportation (BUS/TRAIN) or plan a ROUTE</p> <p>Public Transportation has many benefits: It is one of the safest ways to travel. It's less expensive than owning and operating a car, and it reduces air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. Choose at least one destination to take public transportation to OR plan a public transportation route to a destination of your choice if you are unable to take public transportation.</p> <p>Mode of public transportation and route planned (such as, which bus route?): _____</p> <p>How long did it (or should I) take you to get to your destination? _____</p> <p>Tell us one thing about your trip or planned trip: _____</p>
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sonomasaferroutes.org

Bike to School Day

May 7, 2025



School	# Bikes/% increase		# Bikes/% increase
Austin Creek	20 / 150%	Roseland Elem	17 / 325%
Binkley	18 / 125%	SR Charter Arts	16 / 60%
Cesar Chavez Language	25 / 525%	SR French Charter	47 / 488%
Helen Lehman	5 / 25%	Sequoia	85 / 113%
Hidden Valley	15 / 400%	Sheppard	17 / 70%
JX Wilson	8 / 60%	Spring Lake Middle	23 / 91%
Lincoln	5 / 25%	Strawberry	27 / 80%
Madrone	25 / 67%	Village Elem	34 / 325%
Manzanita	36 / 350%	Mark West Elem	13 / 63%
Monroe	17 / 467%	Mark West Charter	12 / 71%
Proctor Terrace	23 / 283%	Summerfield Waldorf	10 / 100%
RL Stevens	7 / 40%	Whited	TBA

505 Students biked to school on Bike to School Day in Santa Rosa. On average, 153% more than on a normal school day! (countywide – 200%!)

Walking School Buses and Bike Trains and/or park & walk “meet-up spots”

- 15 Santa Rosa schools have active Walking School Buses or Bike Trains established (some with multiple routes)!
- An amazing way to build community and engage more families in walking and rolling.

Color-coded, kid-powered, carbon-light: Santa Rosa students roll out creative commute for Bike to School Day

Students at Santa Rosa’s French American Charter School led a colorful, student-organized bike train to campus ahead of Sonoma County’s Bike to School Day celebration.



Student Centered 6th Grade Project for Earth Month & Bike Month

Safe Routes to School Engineering

Partners:

City of Santa Rosa Public Works & Planning Department

Santa Rosa Police Department

Santa Rosa School Site Assessments (AKA “Walk Audits”)

- ✓ Sequoia Elem – 9/11/23
- ✓ Wright Charter – 11/8/23
- ✓ Austin Creek Elem – 12/4/23
- ✓ Lincoln Elem – 1/10/24
- ✓ Brook Hill Elem – 2/23/24
- ✓ JX Wilson Elem – 2/25/24
- ✓ Helen Lehman Elem – 3/11/24
- ✓ Kawana Springs Elem – 4/2/24
- ✓ Steele Lane Elem – 4/23/24
- ✓ Monroe Elem – 5/7/24
- ✓ Comstock Middle – 8/27/24
- ✓ Slater Middle – 9/18/24
- ✓ Taylor Mountain Elem – 10/16/24
- ✓ RL Stevens Elem – 11/19/24
- ✓ Montgomery HS – 12/10/24
- ✓ Burbank Elem – 1/21/25
- ✓ Cesar Chavez – 2/18/25
- ✓ Roseland Elem – 3/26/25
- ✓ Meadow View Elem – 5/13/25
- ✓ Sheppard Elem – 4/8/25

Will continue in 2025-26: Order of sites TBD, may shift from original list

Safe Routes to School Engineering Improvements (23-25)

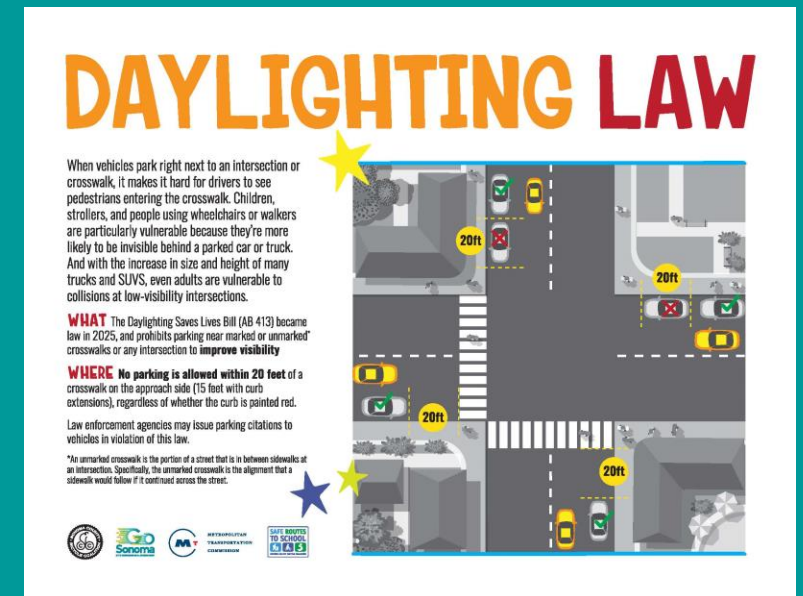
Partners:

City of Santa Rosa Public Works & Planning Department

Santa Rosa Police Department

- Red curb /daylighting 13
- Vegetation removal 2
- Crosswalk install 1
- Sign install/replacement 15
- Protected bike lane 2
- Radar feedback trailer 3
- RRFB install 1
- Install or refresh markings 9
- All way stop installed 1
- Concrete or asphalt repair 3
- Signal repair/ adjustment 5
- Speed reductions 4 (on main roadways in proximity to schools)

Estimate of \$100,000 in improvements (Steele Lane Pilot Study part of the estimate). This year the city plans to start working towards using \$251,210 in TDA grant funding for school infrastructure projects.



SRTS TASK FORCE

Does it feel safe for your kids to walk or bike to school? Tell us about it!

Santa Rosa Safe Routes to School Task Force

Rincon Valley Union School District

Thursday, April 25th, 2024

10:30am-12:00pm

Zoom: <https://rvusd.zoom.us/j/92346101062>

Everyone is invited to give feedback, share concerns, and learn about work underway



- ✓ Task Force Meeting(s) to bring together key SRTS Stakeholders: Reps from School District(s), site(s), SR City Public Works & Planning, Law Enforcement, Community Partners, and more.
- ✓ Regular meetings in 23-24 & 24-25
- ✓ Opportunity to share concerns, programs and projects and connect/collaborate with other stakeholders
- ✓ 25-26 Task Force TBD

E-Bicycle Education

E-BICYCLES WHAT PARENTS MUST KNOW



CONSIDERING an E-BIKE for YOUR CHILD/TEEN? THINK ABOUT THESE QUESTIONS/FACTORS WHEN PLANNING a PURCHASE.

- Does the device fit my child/teen's size and ability?
- Is your child/teen a skilled rider who knows and follows the traffic rules (see sidebar at right)?
- Can your child/teen stand up to peer pressure?
- Is your child/teen committed to wearing a helmet and ensuring their passenger does as well (17 and under are required to do so by law)?
- Buy local so they're guaranteed to be assembled properly and can be taken in for regular maintenance, especially for brakes.
- Check the label (must not exceed 750 watts/20mph).

PRACTICE FIRST: Ride with your child/teen to ensure they are following the rules of the road and can handle the bicycle in various road conditions. They should be riding confidently, responsibly and under control at all times, including switching between gears and speed settings.



TRAFFIC RULES

- ✓ Rides predictably WITH the flow of traffic
- ✓ Rides outside the door zone of parked vehicles (3 ft away)
- ✓ Stops at stop signs and takes turns with vehicles
- ✓ Uses hand signals for turning and scans before merging onto roads and changing lanes
- ✓ Obeys posted speedways on pathways and yields to pedestrians

PROS

- ✓ Allows riders to travel further and faster
- ✓ Allows steep hills to be easily climbed
- ✓ Heavy school books and/or sports equipment may be easier to transport
- ✓ May encourage more independent riding, less vehicles on the road benefits all

CONS

- ✓ Traveling at higher speeds (20mph is twice the speed of a normal pedal bike) makes it harder to control and stop
- ✓ Weigh more than normal bikes. Less maneuverable and difficult to transport/store
- ✓ Maintenance can be challenging & costs higher due to electrical components, battery (\$100-\$300/annually vs. \$0-\$100 for a normal pedal bike)
- ✓ Less cardiovascular benefit than regular bikes
- ✓ More expensive to purchase compared to pedal bikes
- ✓ Target for thieves
- ✓ Environmental considerations related to battery production and disposal

E-BICYCLES WHAT PARENTS MUST KNOW

CLASSES of E-BIKES

Class	Top Assisted Speed	Motor Control
Class 1	20 mph	Pedal only
Class 2	20 mph	Pedal & Throttle
Class 3	28 mph	Pedal only

BUYER BEWARE: Although Class 2 Bicycles have become readily available at a lower price point than Class 1 & Class 3 bikes, they can be easily hacked to speeds exceeding 20mph on throttle power alone, making them illegal to ride on public roads and pathways, and even more dangerous.

According to California Law, legal e-bikes must have:

- Working pedals
- Max of 750 watts
- Throttle that can never, ever be altered or switched to exceed a max speed of 20mph on motor power alone
- A label on the e-bike designating the class

If purchasing a Class 2 e-bicycle for your child/teen, consider disabling the throttle and/or establishing rules about not adjusting the throttle speed under any circumstance.



E-SCOOTER LAWS

- To legally operate an e-scooter in CA, one must be over the age of 16 with a learner's permit, or a driver's license
- California law prohibits riding e-scooters on sidewalks and pathways unless marked otherwise
- Riders must share the road with vehicles; may ride in bicycle lanes

Have questions or need e-bicycle safety training support? Contact the Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition/Safe Routes to School Program at saferroutes@bikesonoma.org or 707-545-0153. www.sonomasaferroutes.org



RESOURCES



Sonoma County SRTS E-Bike FAQ includes information for parents, students, and school administrators



12 Minute E-Bike Safety Video from Pedal Ahead An easy to follow introductory video all about e-bike safety, including including maintenance needs for batteries & brakes



E-Bike Safety Training by CHP 1 hour, comprehensive training, highly recommend youth complete this training with an adult



The Caring Parent's E-Bike Survival Guide by Beth Black (available for purchase)

As cycling advocates, we are committed to prioritizing the safety of children.



What Can Schools/Districts & city partners do?

Develop Policies & Educate



- ✓ Site or District letter to Middle/High School students/parents re: E-bicycles (*template available on SRTS website*)
- ✓ E-Bicycle Parking Registration Policy (*template available on SRTS website*)
- ✓ Letter from Local Law Enforcement to parents, describing illegal devices (*template available on SRTS website*)
- ✓ Implement the SRTS “Drive Your Bike” online modules in all middle school PE classrooms (E-Bicycle module coming soon!)
- ✓ Request an E-Bike education session for groups of parents and/or teens who are riding E-bikes to school

www.bikesonoma.org

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