

Safe Routes to School

Approaches to Support Children Walking and Bicycling to School



School

School District

Town/City/County

Regional



Arrival/Departure Policies

Schools can use approaches like staggering pick-up and drop-off times to give students time to get clear of car traffic.



Remote Drop-off

Schools can designate a place near school where students can be dropped off or picked up, reducing traffic congestion while encouraging children to be physically active.



Bicycle Parking

Districts can make bicycle parking and security a priority, and they can support storage for other forms of active transportation, like skateboards and scooters.



Safe Routes to School Policies

Districts can implement policies instructing principals to encourage groups of students to walk or bicycle to school together and spelling out how the district and schools support walking and bicycling.



School Wellness Policies

Districts can use these federally required policies to call on schools to set goals and guidelines that support Safe Routes to School.



Shared Use

District agreements can expand access to school facilities like gyms, fields, and playgrounds during non-school hours.



Smart School Siting

Policies that help guide the process of deciding where to locate new schools can make it easier for children to walk or bicycle, while ensuring that neighborhood schools serve a diverse range of residents.



Crossing Guards

Adult patrols at busy intersections can improve safety conditions and make families more comfortable with allowing their children to walk or bicycle to school.



Safe School Zones

A combination of strategies can create safer zones around schools for children arriving or leaving school, particularly during peak hours.



Complete Streets

Local policies can change how streets and trails are designed, allowing people of all ages and abilities to get around safely and easily on foot, bicycle, or public transportation.



General Plans

These basic required plans for local development can call for safety and roadway improvements, traffic-calming measures near schools, and more.



Bicycle/Pedestrian/SRTS/Trail Plans

These plans promote a coordinated approach to enacting strategies that support bicycling, walking, trails, and Safe Routes to School.



Transportation Planning

Communities can work to ensure that transportation funds are directed toward improving street safety for students.

SOME APPROACHES CAN BE USED BY ADDITIONAL JURISDICTIONAL LEVELS.