



*Safe Routes to School* (SRTS) is a national and international movement to enable and encourage K-12 students to walk and bicycle to school. Our regional SRTS program has reached over 26,500 students since SLO Regional Rideshare began it in 2009. Today the Regional SRTS Task Force, which is a collaborative oversight committee comprised of representatives from each of the 10 school districts, local planning agencies, regional health agencies, law enforcement, and regional transportation agencies, oversees the program.

*The Mission* of the SRTS program is to educate and empower school communities with data on safety, how-to tools and incentives for K – 12 students and parents so as to encourage the use of active transportation choices and create change in family/student commuter habits.

*Funding* was collapsed into a larger more competitive fund source, Active Transportation Program. Because of this change it has been recommended that collaborating with other agencies, supporting non-infrastructure SRTS programs, and having a comprehensive data picture will help us better compete for grants.

#### OLD FUNDING



State and Federal SRTS Funds

#### NEW FUNDING



Active Transportation Program Fund - \$129M



## How to Get Involved

### 1) Encourage School Leadership to Apply for a Mini Grant

This year, Rideshare is offering 20 mini grants for schools county-wide ranging from \$800 - 100. The purpose of these grants is to help offset the costs for San Luis Obispo County schools developing ongoing Safe Routes to School programs so that schools can focus on getting students to and from school safely while reducing traffic congestion around their campus. Applications are due **September 19<sup>th</sup>**!

### 2) An International Walk to School Day Event

All over the globe, children, families, schools officials and community members will join forces and participate in the annual walk to school day on **October 8<sup>th</sup>**. By encouraging biking and walking, Safe Routes to School Program increases the health and safety of our children by improving air quality around the school, integrating exercise into their daily routine and reducing traffic congestion. Students who walk and bike to school are also more prepared to tackle their daily school tasks. Last year, 25 schools participated and this year we are hoping to increase participation with your help!

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