Technical Assistance: Policy and Program Assistance to Get People Walking and Bicycling in Your Community

For more than a decade, Safe Routes to School programs have flourished across the country. Now, communities are boosting walking and bicycling to school and in daily life through sustainable, long-term policy change. The Safe Routes Partnership’s Technical Assistance Team has experience with a wide array of programmatic and policy scenarios, from the challenges of rural communities to making a difference in underserved neighborhoods. Our staff is comprised of national experts who are experienced with the challenges of making change on the local level.

Individualized Technical Assistance

Each community is unique. Through our individualized technical assistance we provide strategic support to local, regional, and state program and policy leaders. Once we understand your needs, our expert staff can help guide your policy and programmatic change efforts.

We can assist by:

• Providing best practices, case studies, and model policies from around the country
• Providing assistance in building bridges between departments of health, planning, transportation, and education
• Helping develop and implement campaign plans, especially around creating coalitions and building capacity
• Facilitating data collection and evaluation
• Bringing a health perspective to planning and funding by identifying successful ways to incorporate health in all policies
• Developing community equity improvement plans including analyses around placement of facilities, access to safe routes, lack of infrastructure, and violence prevention
• Providing guidance on ways to navigate federal transportation fund spending regulations

Reports, Analyses, and Fact Sheets

As part of our technical assistance, we can provide reports, factsheets, or internal memos and analyses. This work can include:

• Conducting policy assessments or scans focusing on topics such as Complete Streets, infrastructure, health impact, transportation planning, strategic and long range planning, shared use, school siting, school wellness policies, and school travel plans
• Identifying existing policies that need to be strengthened or enforced
• Recommending and writing policies that should be implemented
• Developing materials and action plans for grant applications and helping leverage additional funding for programs and infrastructure
Webinars, Workshops and Trainings

Sometimes community leaders need the inspiration and know-how of national experts. Our staff brings best practices from around the country and can help turbo-charge your community into action. We can help you produce and lead inspiring and effective Safe Routes to School and active transportation policy workshops designed to get critical stakeholders thinking about and invested in the big policy picture and community-wide Safe Routes to School efforts. These workshops can include local site visits, customized presentations, participating in or leading stakeholder meetings, and conducting walkabouts at schools to assess infrastructure needs. We can also follow up with individualized technical assistance via phone and email to build upon the meetings with stakeholders, and to develop materials and action plans.

Browse our Safe Routes Learning Center: Workshop and Training Catalog to see course descriptions, suggested lengths and formats, and a menu of suggested course pairings.

We Inspire Change

We bring ideas and offer solutions, and help you to translate them into action. Here are a few examples:

In Birmingham, AL, we provided local leaders engaged in Safe Routes to School and Complete Streets with guidance on best practices related to a number of local initiatives. This included research and memos on tactical urbanism, improving school arrival and dismissal, volunteer engagement, and Complete Streets implementation. With these tools, local leaders have successfully developed strong programs and advocated for continued support for walking and bicycling throughout Birmingham.

In Santa Clara County, CA, we worked with two communities to advance their citywide Safe Routes to School task forces. We provide trainings, facilitated planning sessions, and developed action plans with key steps to grow and sustain each group's initiatives. In addition, we developed a toolkit and provided a workshop to inspire policy change and partnerships to support Safe Routes to School in other communities in the county.

In Cuyahoga County, OH, we worked with local leaders to advance priorities around shared use and Safe Routes to Healthy Food. Through tailored trainings and resource materials, we provided local community organizations with tools to take additional steps in establishing sustainable shared use partnerships. We also provided walk audit training and materials to a local coalition working with residents to improve access to grocery stores. With these tools, numerous organizations will work to create healthy, active communities throughout the county.

In Lawrence, KS, we provided guidance on best practices related to school travel planning, walk audits, and local policy support for Safe Routes to School. We also worked with health, education, and transportation stakeholders to convene and train local Safe Routes to School champions who will lead planning and programmatic activities at schools throughout the city.

Use the Safe Routes Partnership's Technical Assistance to:

• Build partnerships, local leadership, and community support for walking, bicycling, and Safe Routes to School
• Develop quality Safe Routes to School community-wide programs and policies that advance healthy, active lifestyles
• Leverage money that will support walking and bicycling as a permanent part of your community's future

We look forward to working together to get results in your community.

Tap Our Expertise!

Contact us to explore how our team can help. We have worked with communities and school districts throughout the country, developing Safe Routes to School programs, action plans, and policies leading to healthy and active communities.

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