#### Community Approaches to Sustainability ENGAGING NEIGHBORS IN ATP

prepared by: Brittany Lobo

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### Community-Based Participatory Research

"A collaborative approach to research that equitably involves all partners in the research process and recognizes the unique strengths that each brings. CBPR begins with a research topic of importance to the community and has the aim of combining knowledge with action and achieving social change"

- Community Health Scholars Program



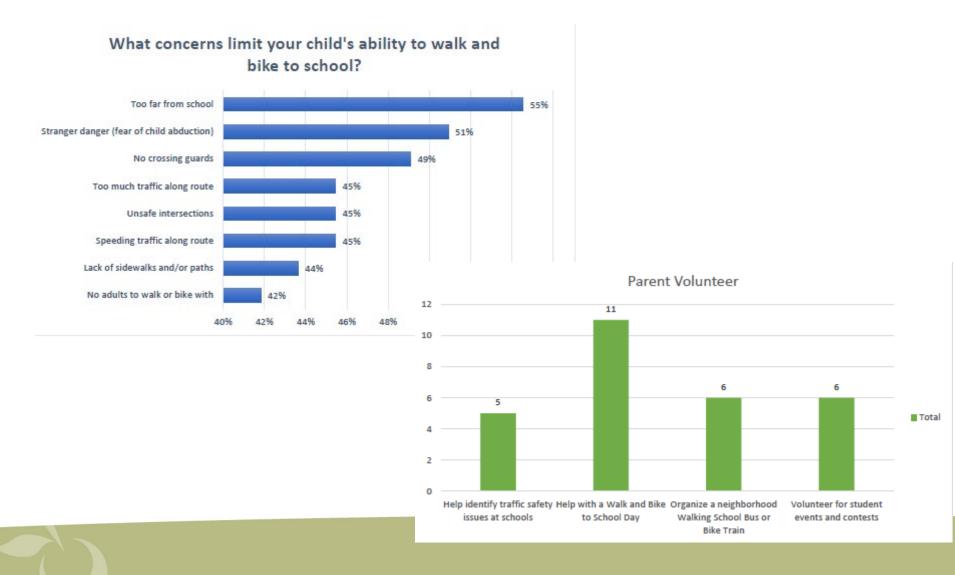
The best way to address social planning is to sit in the community space and listen



## Neighborhood Advisory Teams



#### Ask for Input & Volunteers



#### Get Local Buy-In

Nina Craig, Principal • ncraig@busd.org

June 7, 2018

CALTRANS Division of Local Assistance, Attn: Office of Active Transportation and Special Programs P.O. Box 942874 Sacramento, CA 94274-001

Subject: Moorland Safe Routes to School Project

As Principal of Bellevue Elementary School, I am happy to support the County of Sonoma's Active Transportation Program Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Bellevue Path Project. The proposed project will provide a low-traffic walking path for elementary school students. Right now, students who wish to walk or bicycle to school have to take a long path (average 1.5 miles) to the north end of the neighborhood to get to our school. The proposed path would open up Oasis Drive as a walking path, providing a much more direct route (1.0 mile) between the newly opened community park and our school.

In addition, infrastructure improvements included in the ATP application would affect a large proportion of our student body. Approximately 75% of Bellevue Elementary students live in the Moorland neighborhood. The proposed improvements will help to promote physical activity after school and on weekends, by providing better access to the newly opened Andy's Unity Park on the corner of Moorland Ave and West Robles Ave.

The following public elementary school will benefit from improvements provided by this project:

		Participation in Free or Reduced Price Lunch	Distance from Proposed
SRTS Qualifying School	Enrollment (approx.)	Program	Improvements
Bellevue Elementary	392 students	86%	Less than ½ mile

We have 11 parents interested in co-leading a walking school bus, and 6 parents interested in co-leading a bicycling school bus. In addition, 11 parents have indicated they would help encourage students to use the route by putting up signs and/or beautifying the route. Bellevue Elementary staff are committed to providing safety education in class to support walking and/or biking to school, provide staff to lead the walking school bus to parent volunteer, and provide education to parents in support of this project.

We are excited to support the County's application, and we hope Caltrans will see the health and safety benefits this project will provide for our student community.

nen Cre Nina Craig, Principal

Tel 542-5195 • Fax 542-6083 • 3223 Primrose Ave • Santa Rosa • CA • 95407

- Community SRTS Liaisons
- Incorporate SRTS activities in school day
- Get buy-in from teachers, leadership, community members
- Request technical support from local organizations

# Thank you!



Brittany Lobo MPH/MA brittany.lobo@Sonoma-county.org 707-565-4479