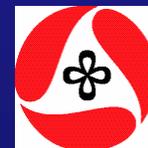


# SAFE



ROUTES TO SCHOOL

*Iowa*



Iowa Department  
of Transportation

# Iowa Safe Routes to School

Federal funding program to increase the number of children safely bicycling and walking to school



# Iowa Safe Routes to School

## Key Points

- ❖ **SAFETEA-LU funding**
- ❖ **Minimum of \$1 million per year**
- ❖ **Elementary and middle schools (both public and private)**
- ❖ **Both infrastructure and noninfrastructure projects**
- ❖ **Requires following strict federal regulations**

# Iowa Safe Routes to School

## Program Purposes

- ❖ Enable/encourage children to walk/bicycle to school
- ❖ Make bicycling/walking more appealing = more active lifestyle
- ❖ Improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption and air pollution near schools

# Iowa Safe Routes to School

## Five Program Components

- ❖ Engineering
- ❖ Education
- ❖ Enforcement
- ❖ Encouragement
- ❖ Evaluation



# Iowa Safe Routes to School

## Funding Framework

- ❖ Based on # of students in K thru 8
- ❖ Minimum of \$1 million each year
- ❖ Reimbursement, not cash up front
- ❖ Noninfrastructure projects: 10-30%
- ❖ Funding available until spent
- ❖ No local match required

# Iowa Safe Routes to School

## Eligible Recipients

- ❖ **State, local or regional agencies**
- ❖ **Nonprofit organizations**
- ❖ **Schools or community-based groups**
  - **Individual schools or cluster of schools**
  - **School district, multi-district, city, county or regional**

# Iowa Safe Routes to School

## Eligible Infrastructure Projects

- ❖ Sidewalk improvements
- ❖ Pedestrian/bicycle crossings
- ❖ On-street bicycle facilities
- ❖ Off-street bike/ped facilities
- ❖ Secure bicycle parking facilities
- ❖ Traffic calming/speed reduction
- ❖ Traffic diversion improvements



# Iowa Safe Routes to School

## Eligible Noninfrastructure Projects

- ❖ Public awareness campaigns
- ❖ Traffic education and enforcement
- ❖ Sessions on bicycle and pedestrian safety, health and environment
- ❖ Funding to develop a plan



# Iowa Safe Routes to School

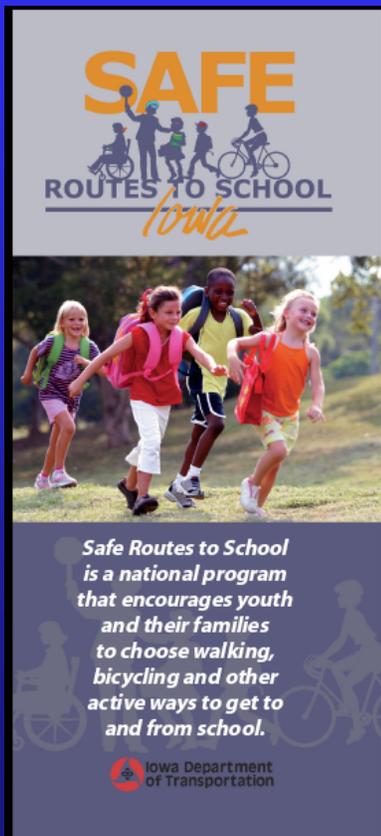
## Ineligible Uses of Funding

- ❖ Recurring costs
- ❖ Improvements primarily for drivers
- ❖ Bus safety education
- ❖ Bus stop improvements



# Iowa Safe Routes to School

## Development of Iowa SRTS



- ❖ Organized Advisory Committee
- ❖ Developed application forms and scoring criteria
- ❖ Developed logo and brochure
- ❖ Created Web site [www.iowadot.gov/saferoutes](http://www.iowadot.gov/saferoutes)

# Iowa Safe Routes to School

## Development of Iowa SRTS (con't.)

- ❖ Notified all school administrators and cities
- ❖ Application forms available July 1
- ❖ Held one-day training course



# Iowa Safe Routes to School

## Development of Iowa SRTS (con't.)

- ❖ Applications due October 1
- ❖ 97 applications submitted
- ❖ Funding awards to be announced in February 2007

# Iowa Safe Routes to School

## Applications

- ❖ Two forms – infrastructure and noninfrastructure
- ❖ All projects must address both infrastructure and noninfrastructure
- ❖ Infrastructure projects
  - > \$25,000 < \$250,000
- ❖ Noninfrastructure projects
  - > \$3,500



# Iowa Safe Routes to School

## Application Contents

- ❖ Problem
- ❖ Proposed Project
- ❖ Schedule
- ❖ Partners
- ❖ Evaluation
- ❖ Cost Estimate

# Iowa Safe Routes to School

## Application Approval Process

- ❖ Scoring Committee reviews applications
- ❖ DOT staff provides funding recommendations
- ❖ Transportation Commission approves projects



# Iowa Safe Routes to School

## Applications Submitted

### ❖ Noninfrastructure

- 16 applications
- Requesting \$1.19 million

### ❖ Infrastructure

- 81 applications
- Requesting \$12.37 million

### ❖ Amount available: \$2 million



# Iowa Safe Routes to School

## Applications Submitted (con't.)

- ❖ Applicants: cities, schools, counties, planning agencies
- ❖ Infrastructure: sidewalks, over/under passes, trails, bike racks
- ❖ Noninfrastructure: school audits, statewide education program, regional studies
- ❖ Amounts Requested:  
\$3,500 to \$400,000



# Iowa Safe Routes to School

## Future Plans

- ❖ Develop statewide encouragement and education program
- ❖ Provide transportation engineering assistance
- ❖ Make program adjustments after first funding cycle



# Iowa Safe Routes to School

## How to Get Started

- ❖ Form a local SRTS team
- ❖ Identify problem areas
- ❖ Review Iowa Web site [iowadot.gov/saferoutes](http://iowadot.gov/saferoutes) and National Center Web site [saferoutesinfo.org](http://saferoutesinfo.org)
- ❖ Watch video at [pacollaborative.org/resources/video.html](http://pacollaborative.org/resources/video.html)



# Iowa Safe Routes to School

## How to Get Started (con't.)

- ❖ Develop a plan
- ❖ Identify needs in bicycle/pedestrian safety education
- ❖ Start encouragement programs
- ❖ If necessary, apply for funding



# Iowa Safe Routes to School

For more information

[www.iowadot.gov/saferoutes](http://www.iowadot.gov/saferoutes)

[www.saferoutesinfo.org](http://www.saferoutesinfo.org)

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