

High School Programming

CASE STUDY

Lexington High School

EDUCATION **ENCOURAGEMENT** ENGAGEMENT **EVALUATION** ENGINEERING EQUITY | URBAN RURAL **SUBURBAN**

Background

In early 2022, new federal funding extended the eligibility of Safe Routes to School (SRTS) partnerships to include high schools (grades 9-12). In the last few years, the Massachusetts Safe Routes to School Program has added events, materials, and opportunities exclusively for high school students, such as the Safe Streets Smart Trips High School Video Contest, the High School Ambassador Program, Car-Free-Campus Day, and more.

Overview

Lexington High School (LHS) has been a partner with SRTS since October 2022. Since then, they have worked with the Program to address drop-off and pick-up concerns by completing an Arrival/Dismissal Observation and administering a Family Travel Survey. High school students are newly able to fill out this survey themselves and LHS students were one of the first groups to do so. LHS has two High School Ambassadors who have participated by volunteering at a town-wide bike rodeo. The high school also promotes the mission of SRTS on their own through their Revolutionary Riders Club, a club that seeks to encourage bike safety both within the high school and the Lexington community. The group organizes themed rides, morning rides, and teaches history and bike safety along the way.

Lessons Learned

- ✓ Communicate that only one high school student or parent/guardian per household takes the Family Travel Survey
- ✓ Liability concerns may arise when a school club wants to host group rides beyond school property
- ✓ A successful High School Ambassador Program requires a receptive school or community contact



Impacts



Administration and students are simultaneously engaged in transportation safety in getting to and from school



Students gain experience in leadership, event planning, and organization