

SUSTAINABILITY AND THE MASSDOT SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

Vision: To positively impact student safety and student active transportation through a sustainable and community-wide approach.



PARTNER SCHOOL

Develop and distribute individual school arrival/dismissal plans. Post on each school's website. Ideally, each plan will contain a map, text, and school hours.

Develop adequate and signed bus lanes, bike rack areas, and pedestrian plazas.

Ensure that regulatory and informational signage is utilized properly on school property.

Encourage regular walking and biking to school.

Develop Walking School Buses/Bike Trains from walking/biking route maps.

Organize Park and Walk or remote drop-off locations to alleviate family vehicle congestion.

Educate caregivers and students on the safe way to enter/exit a vehicle.

MUNICIPALITY

Increase school zone visibility: Uniform signage and crosswalk markings across a community help to identify school zone areas and have a traffic calming effect

Increase pedestrian visibility: Partner with the public works department to remove vegetation obstructions and mark crosswalks with in-road portable pedestrian signage.

Formally train all Crossing Guards and applicable individuals. Provide proper attire and materials.

Improve school air quality: Install "No Idling" signage around school buildings, parks, libraries, and public buildings. Encourage all schools to join the Department of Environmental Protection Green Team to be eligible for their free air quality resources including signage.

Address snow removal: Work with private contractors and local public works departments to ensure that snow does not block sidewalks, driveways, crosswalks, or bus stops. Prioritize snow removal on popular walking routes.

Promote Complete Streets and wellness policies. Communicate policy changes to the school district on a regular basis.

Attend Safe Routes to School workshops, seminars, and webinars to stay informed of current approaches, technologies, and funding opportunities.

SCHOOL DISTRICT

Include pedestrian and bike safety education as part of PE/Wellness curriculum in all schools.

Include Safe Routes to School and active transportation in school wellness policy. Consider codifying school transportation safety and mitigation into policy.

Ensure that operators of pupil transportation vehicles understand and comply with the use of flashing lights for loading/unloading as well as rules of the road.

Work with the police department to enforce regulatory signage.

Enhance school grounds to create a safe pedestrian plaza for caregivers and students by incorporating benches, trees, planters, murals, and trash removal.

Evaluate lighting around all schools.

Conduct a Safe Routes to School Parent/Guardian Travel Survey every two years.

STATEWIDE

Understand and comply with all ADA regulations.

Maintain signage, sidewalk, and general infrastructure in a state of good repair.

Work with your regional Metropolitan Planning Organization to support safe and active student transportation.

Work with Safe Routes to School Alliance Partners to support active transportation efforts.