



## Minnesota Department of Transportation

395 John Ireland Boulevard  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

October 29, 2012

The Honorable Mike Beard, Chair  
House Transportation Policy  
and Finance Committee  
417 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Frank Hornstein,  
Ranking Minority Member  
House Transportation Policy and  
Finance Committee  
213 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Joe Gimse, Chair  
Senate Transportation Committee  
303 State Capitol  
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Scott Dibble,  
Ranking Minority Member  
Senate Transportation Committee  
115 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Senators and Representatives:

I am pleased to present the first annual report on the Minnesota Safe Routes to School program as required in Laws 2012, Ch. 287 (HF2685), Article 3, Section 45. No state funds are currently used for SRTS, so this report summarizes progress since the inception of the federally-funded program in 2005, under the federal transportation bill SAFETEA-LU.

Through an investment of \$11.5 million, MnDOT has reached 134 schools, serving 63,114 students in grades K-8. SRTS projects at an additional 130 schools will begin in 2013, reaching an additional 67,882 K-8 students through safety improvements, education and encouragement. These projects open up walking and bicycling as an option for more families. In addition to community grants, MnDOT provides statewide resources including:

- SRTS planning assistance
- Bicycle and pedestrian safety curriculum
- Statewide safety mapping
- Training and technical assistance to communities
- Statewide evaluation tools

MnDOT works with a number of local and statewide partners, including the Minnesota Department of Health and the Minnesota Department of Education, to support SRTS. Together, state and local partners are leveraging statewide investments in SRTS to support health, wellness and academic achievement for Minnesota youth, improved air quality, reduced transportation costs and a variety of other locally-identified goals.

Please contact me if you have any questions about this report.

Sincerely,

Thomas K. Sorel  
Commissioner

An Equal Opportunity Employer

