



**Attendee list is on next slide**

**MINNESOTA SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL**

**BlueCross BlueShield Minnesota** | Center for Prevention

**THE MINNESOTA SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL NETWORK...**

...is approximately 220 dedicated professionals from organizations and agencies that are advancing Safe Routes to School (SRTS) in Minnesota...

...that builds skills in Minnesota communities to successfully implement SRTS, supporting partnerships between state and local agencies, municipalities, and advocacy organizations, and advocating for policy changes to support walking and bicycling to schools and improvements to the built environment...

...and makes Minnesota a state where all students, no matter their race, ethnicity, income level, age, ability, or geographic location, can walk and bicycle on routes that are safe, comfortable and convenient...

...because to be able to walk and bike safely makes health, learning, communities, and independence better for all of us.

*1/09/20 Attendees (Please note this list reflects those who's name appeared or introduced themselves.*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Kelly Corbin, MnDOT                      | Hannah Prichard MnDOT                  |
| Dave Cowen, MnDOT                        | Ellen Pillsbury, MDH                   |
| Dan Edgerton (Vann Associates)           | Tom (Vann Associates)                  |
| Megan Severson (Grand Rapids SRTS Coord) | Sarah Stewart (St Paul Public Schools) |
| Joanne Judge Dietz                       | Sierra Saunders                        |
| Dani Gardner – Rochester SRTS Coord      | Jimmy Shoemaker                        |
| Michelle Keifer, Bike MN                 | Jessica Seide                          |
| Karen Nitzkorski – Partnership 4 Health  | Tina Moen                              |
| Kyle Ten Napel                           | Justin Otsea                           |
| Anna Bohanon                             | Tara Besch                             |
| Luke Ewald                               | Jason W.                               |
| Carmen                                   | Sue (Susan)                            |
| Alison Dudek                             | Amanda Lien                            |
| Will Wlizlo (Richfield Public Schools)   | Tracy                                  |
| Russel Habermann                         | Joanne Moze (Blue Cross)               |
| Janet Bush                               | Wayne Hurley                           |
| Maggie                                   |  |



## AGENDA

- Welcome and Introduction
- Demonstration Project Update
- MN SRTS Strategic Plan
- MnDOT Update
- Announcements

# Safe Routes to School MnDOT Update

Dave Cowan, SRTS Coordinator  
Hannah Pritchard, Ped & Bike Engineer





**DEMONSTRATION PROJECT  
IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE**

A Resource for the Development of Roadways, Low-Cost, Temporary  
Routing Options to Promote and Advance Walking and Bicycling

November, 2019

**MINNESOTA  
SAFE  
ROUTES  
TO SCHOOL**

**Guide Available!**

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/saferoutes/design-engineering.html>

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/saferoutes//documents/mndot-demonstration-project-implementation-guide-final.pdf>



 **Application Online**  
<http://dot.state.mn.us/saferoutes/demonstration-ta.html>

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/saferoutes/documents/mndot-demonstration-project-implementation-guide-final.pdf>

## Demonstration Project: Technical Assistance Application

- Online application
- Closes February 14th at 5pm
- Applicant may be:
  - City, County, School, Tribe, or Non-Profit
- **MUST** be partnered with Roadway Authority
- SRTS Plan is not a requirement, but must describe safety concerns identified through engagement strategies



<http://dot.state.mn.us/saferoutes/demonstration-ta.html>

Info on Technical Assistance opportunity and application:  
<http://dot.state.mn.us/saferoutes/demonstration-ta.html>

## Application sections:

1. School Demographic information
2. Overview of SRTS activities to date
3. Demonstration Project proposal
4. SRTS Team members and roles in project
5. Goals for Demonstration Project
6. Letter of Support



<http://dot.state.mn.us/saferoutes/demonstration-ta.html>



# Questions?

[Hannah.Pritchard@state.mn.us](mailto:Hannah.Pritchard@state.mn.us)



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# Minnesota SRTS Strategic Plan Update

SRTS Network Call  
January 9, 2019

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## I. Project Overview

- Vision, Goals & Values
- Scope & Schedule
- Engagement Framework

Minnesota Safe Routes to School





A couple of unique things related to the application of SRTS in Minnesota:

Might be different or perhaps is the same.

Statewide strategic planning process in 2014 finalized in 2015 by our statewide SRTS committee.

Called out our high level strategies for advancing SRTS.

We use these strategies to guide our day to day work.

2015 Strategic SRTS Plan can be found on the bottom of this page with mission, vision, & values: <http://www.dot.state.mn>

## Minnesotans value...

- that all students have the opportunity to walk and bicycle no matter their race, ethnicity, income level, age, ability, or geographic location.
- the health, academic, community, environmental, and independence-building benefits of walking and bicycling.
- safe walking and bicycling routes that are maintained for use in all four seasons.
- working together to make walking and bicycling an easy choice for students.
- transportation and land use policies, programs, and plans that encourage close proximity of schools, residences, and other youth-friendly destinations.

Minneso

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## SRTS Values

- What is missing from the values statements?
- What would you add?

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I like the academic, community, environmental comment the health, academic, community, environmental, and independence-building benefits of walking and bicycling.

the health, academic, community, ✓  
 environmental, and independence-building ✓  
 benefits of walking and bicycling. ✓  
 All students have the opportunity to walk and bike! ✓

I would like to see ✓  
 something about the culture of walking and biking (in relation to the school siting) ✓

no matter geographic location and all 4 season ✓  
 ★ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓

"Encourage close proximity of schools" ✓  
 youth friendly destinations not just school ✓

I would like that the general public understands that all these values are also good for them as well. ★ ♥ ♥

unlimited opportunity ✓  
 Health Equity ✓

Instead of choice could we use access. ✓ ✓

the values are broad about a walkable community and not ♥

Environment resonated (missing climate change) ♥ ✓ ✓

Not just benefits of more walking and biking, but benefits of reducing auto traffic ✓

k-12 ✓

emphasizing that SRTS is ✓

traffic safety approach or lens ✓

Behavior change - ✓

Challenging ✓

Deaths ✓

Change norms around how we get around ✓

with choice people like opportunity. ✓

I'll bring back finding a new phrase and retire "choice." ✓

More about equal or equitable access ✓

✓ I agree with above. It's not always the student's choice "an easy choice for students". It's their parents. ✓

emphasizing that SRTS is ✓

Find good routes when schools are busy. ✓

on the outskirts of town, crossing major traffic, highways. ✓

Land use policies. Soooo many ✓

schools get built out in the boondocks and then walking ✓

yeah, coordination with MPO to give schools not specifically directed to just walking and biking TO SCHOOL. With this goes educating the public ✓

Mmm on the same topic of this. Many keeping the focus on SRTS the smaller narrow roads without fields etc ✓

Minnesota is a state where all students can walk and bicycle on routes that are safe, comfortable, and convenient.

Increasing Awareness

Brand Identity

Marketing Plan

Awareness Campaign

Supporting Local Efforts

Create Resource Center

Curriculum and Training

Quality and Quantity of Maps

Evaluation

Sustaining Coordination

Knowledge Sharing and Guidance

Funding

Developing Policy

Policy and Planning

School Siting

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## Scope and Schedule

- Project Understanding and Background  
→ October – December 2019
- Engagement  
→ November 2019 – March 2020
- Update MN SRTS Plan  
→ March 2020 – June 2020

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# Engagement Framework

PHASE 1 October – December 2019 Framing the Issues	PHASE 2 December – February 2020 Evaluating Strategies	PHASE 3 February – May 2020 Developing the Plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MN SRTS Steering Committee workshop</li> <li>Practitioner, partner, and SRTS school surveys/listening sessions</li> <li>Technical Advisory Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SRTS network call</li> <li>Practitioner, partner, and SRTS school surveys/listening sessions</li> <li>Steering Committee + Practitioner follow-up surveys</li> <li>Technical Advisory Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Practitioner, partner, and SRTS school surveys/listening sessions</li> <li>Technical Advisory Committee</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Present Background Research – <i>key themes</i></li> <li>Determine target audience and desired behavior changes</li> <li>Explore range of strategies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Present Phase 1 findings</li> <li>Prioritize and expand range of strategies</li> <li>Identify implementation actions – <i>what will it take?</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Present Phase 2 findings</li> <li>Develop plan strategies, action items, and priorities</li> <li>Draft and final strategic plan</li> </ul>

- Stakeholder workshop
- Online Surveys
- SRTS network call
- Stakeholder interviews

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## Opportunities and Challenges

- *What are the barriers that keep people from getting involved? What is keeping communities from taking it to the next level?*

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I think complete streets need to be better educated to cities and counties  
Too many cities and counties I've dealt with think complete streets cost too much and take away from easier motorist traffic.

Feels like one more thing to do and not a solution to daily challenges.  
over burdened and community members wearing too many hats already  
social norms that prioritize driving and impression that it is not safe to walk alone  
therefore we shouldn't be encouraging kids to walk/bike

So many responsibilities. Everyone is spread thin.

Small rural communities with the same people trying to do many things. second Jill and Andrea's comments.

Keeping the champions involved through their time constraints and how do we keep SRTS at the top of the "to do" Parents are too busy to shift habits.

Local leadership not onboard

Lack of capacity at the school level sometimes lack of support from admin at schools.  
Same champions having to volunteer SOOOO much of there time then getting burned out

Parents think routes are not safe, not that students need better skills.

For community members/parents: Perception of safety of walking and bicycling,  
trouble engaging non-English speakers in SRTS programming

students may not walk TO school but they may walk across the street to the gas station for food. The occasional walkers.

And that SRTS can benefit them too

Complexity of transportation systems already in place, adding in new SRTS programming/systems would stress the existing

People are focused on personal situation, not community solutions.

Agree with Kelly. Volume of students walking in certain areas that are unsafe. Doesn't feel like a good ROI to put a crossing guard in an unsafe area that maybe only 20 students walk by but we need to make it safe for all students.

Sometimes seems like making a difference will require effort and time community members, school staff, etc. don't have. It's daunting, so why even get involved to begin with?

When multiple jurisdictions are involved (city and county) its extremely challenging to actually make change. Its frustrating.

Thinking its a school issue and not a community issue

Snow removal lately has been a problem to get kids walking to school

The long timelines for infrastructure projects. Intimidating how long the commitment becomes.

Money... More residents would be on board with sidewalks but its when the money aspect is put into it. Many rural roads by schools don't have sidewalks, a few in Goodhue County, but the residents don't want to pay to have sidewalks put in.

That then gets people away from all of SRTS aspects because it becomes a sidewalk issue

## Steering Committee Workshop

- November 26, 2019
- 26 SRTS professionals
- Purpose was to:
  - Confirm the vision
  - Identify opportunities+ challenges
  - Discuss potential strategies



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## Steering Committee Workshop

- **Confirm the vision**
- *The ideal future for SRTS is one where all Minnesota students can walk and bicycle on routes that are safe, comfortable, and convenient*

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# Steering Committee Workshop

## Challenges

1. Value of vehicle transportation and poor perception of walking and biking
2. Muddled messaging and communication
3. Lack of local capacity
4. Competing priorities and lack of organizational capacity
5. Limits on funding
6. Lack of SRTS standards
7. Limitations of existing transportation status quo
8. Incompatible land use and infrastructure
9. Not engaging the right people in SRTS
10. Incomplete pedestrian and bicycle data

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# Opportunities and Challenges

- *What are the barriers that keep people from getting involved? What is keeping communities from taking it to the next level?*

- Discussion

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[MNSAFEROUTESTOSCHOOL.ORG](http://MNSAFEROUTESTOSCHOOL.ORG)

**WALK AND BIKE TO SCHOOL DAY:**  
OCTOBER 2ND, 2019

**WINTER WALK AND BIKE TO SCHOOL DAY**  
FEBRUARY 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2020

**BIKE AND WALK TO SCHOOL DAY**  
MAY 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2020



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Walk to School Day coming up,

- Winter Walking 101 tips
- Social Media images
- Parent and School Flyers
- Winter Walk to School Day sample text
- Walk Zone postcards
- Winter Walk stickers
- Frequent Winter Walker Punchcard



**Register by  
Jan 31!**

**SEND YOUR  
PHOTOS &  
STORIES IN  
TO WIN THE  
GOLDEN  
SNOW BOOT  
AWARD!**



**Safe Routes to School Meet Up**  
Tuesday April 14, 2020  
Willmar, MN



**Register Today!**

[SafeRoutesMN2020.eventbrite.com](https://SafeRoutesMN2020.eventbrite.com)

*Improve focus and  
academic success*



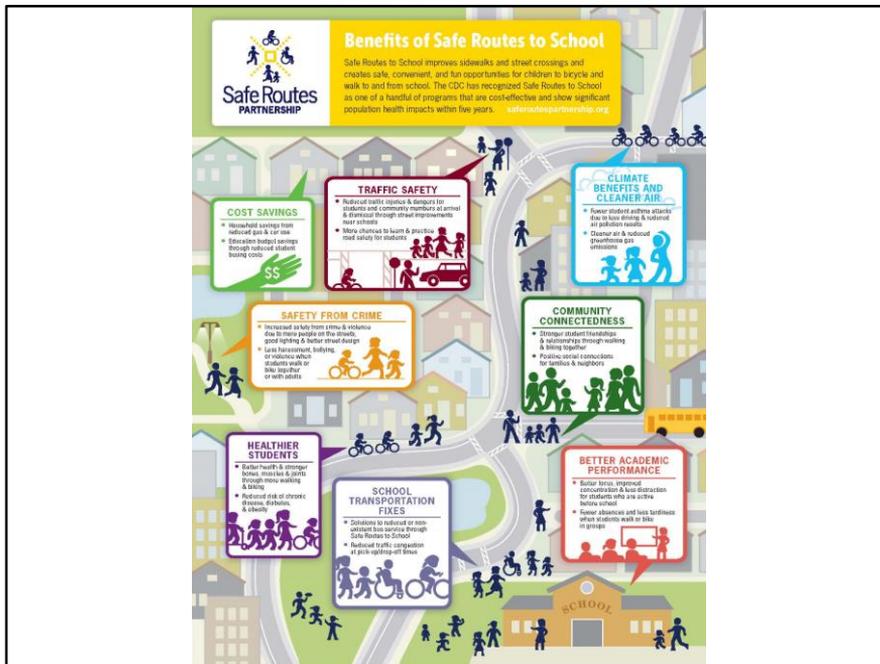
*Reducing busing costs  
and traffic congestion  
at school*

<https://www.saferoutespartnership.org/safe-routes-school/start>



**NEW SRTS Intro Video!**

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## PLANNING AND BOOST GRANT SOLICITATION CLOSE FRIDAY AND WILL BE ANNOUNCED BY APRIL 2020



<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/saferoutes/grants-funding.html>

Questions?



[Mnsaferoutestoschool.org](http://Mnsaferoutestoschool.org)

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## Announcements

- [SRTS Academy Application](#) – To host a Spring workshop, application deadline March 1, 2020
- **Walk! Bike! Fun! Ambassador [Training](#)**  
**Maintenance [Trainings](#)**
- [Phone](#) an Expert!
- **Mini Adaptive Trainings**, reach out directly to Michelle Kiefer via email at [michelle@bikemn.org](mailto:michelle@bikemn.org).

SRTS Academy info:

[http://www.dot.state.mn.us/mnsaferoutes/contact/training\\_request.html](http://www.dot.state.mn.us/mnsaferoutes/contact/training_request.html)

BikeMN and WBF Technical Assistance. <http://www.bikemn.org/education/walk-bike-fun/request-technical-assistance>



## 2020 MEETINGS

~~January 9~~  
February 13  
March 12  
April – Meet Up April 14  
May 14  
June 11  
July 9  
August 13  
September 10  
October 8  
November 12  
December 10

Call Time: 10:00 – 11:00AM



## THE MINNESOTA SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL NETWORK...

**MONTH**

January 9, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

**TOPIC**

- SRTS Strategic Plan
- Demonstration Project Funding

**MONTH**

February 13, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

**TOPIC**

- Walking School Bus: Innovation in Rochester

**MONTH**

March 12, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

**TOPIC**

- Winter Walk To School Day Recap
- Walkable Community Workshops

To join the Minnesota Safe Routes to School Network,  
email [centercommunications@bluecrossmn.com](mailto:centercommunications@bluecrossmn.com)



THANK YOU!



## THE MINNESOTA SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL NETWORK...

**MONTH**

April 11, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

**TOPIC**

- Cancelled in lieu of SRTS Meet Up

**MONTH**

May 14, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

**TOPIC**

- Understanding How School Speed Zones Happen

**MONTH**

June 11, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

**TOPIC**

- TBD

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email [centercommunications@bluecrossmn.com](mailto:centercommunications@bluecrossmn.com)



## THE MINNESOTA SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL NETWORK...

**MONTH**  
July 9, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

**TOPIC**  
• TBD

**MONTH**  
August 13, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

**TOPIC**  
• TBD

**MONTH**  
September 10, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

**TOPIC**  
• TBD.

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## THE MINNESOTA SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL NETWORK...

**MONTH**  
October 8, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

**TOPIC**  
• TBD

**MONTH**  
November 12, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

**TOPIC**  
• TBD

**MONTH**  
December 10, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

**TOPIC**  
• TBD

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