



Florida SRTS Updates  
By Pat Pieratte  
Florida SRTS Coordinator  
December 5, 2008



## Florida Updates: State

**Call for Applications Update:** As stated in the last Update, the Call for Infrastructure Applications is now open, and interested applicants should begin their school-based planning processes as soon as possible. You can get the new Guidelines and other information from your District SRTS Contact. However, I suggest you wait a little while before you actually start filling in your applications. I am working on a sample application which will give applicants a clearer idea of what we are looking for. In the process of filling in the sample application, I am finding and fixing a few remaining formatting glitches. We hope to have the final Application on the website within a few weeks.

## News from Other States and Countries

**Seattle Area Community Mapping Kit:** King County, Washington, with funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, has created a *Community Mapping Kit: Healthy Eating and Active Living* program and instruction guide for teachers or community members. This pilot project of the Feet First program allows people in King County to map resources for healthy eating and active living in their neighborhood: <http://www.feetfirst.info/mapping/community-mapping-kit>. Of special interest to SRTS programs are curriculum ideas on page 14 of the Community Mapping Kit: <http://www.feetfirst.info/mapping/community-mapping-kit-1/Community%20Mapping%20Kit.pdf>

**Human Factors Guideline for Safer Road Infrastructure:** This research report from Europe explains how basic human factors can be applied to make roads safer and help drivers to think 6 seconds ahead and react to changing conditions such as bends in the road, or areas where pedestrians and bicyclists are likely to be: [http://publications.piarc.org/ressources/publications\\_files/5/3240,2008R18WEB.pdf](http://publications.piarc.org/ressources/publications_files/5/3240,2008R18WEB.pdf)

## National News

**American Public Health Association (APHA) Publishes Report on Health and Transportation:** The APHA has just published a report called *At the Intersection of Public Health and Transportation: Promoting Healthy Transportation Policy*. The introduction, written by Executive Director Dr. Georges C. Benjamin, begins with a reference to SRTS issues, and reads in part:

*In many neighborhoods, kids are bused to school because the main route to school is not safe for walking... The convergence of these 2 problems—poor community design and a rising rate of preventable diseases—creates an important opportunity to improve our health as we redesign our communities for the next century... Current research demonstrates that how we build our transportation systems, how and on what modality we use them, and how we get people and things from one place to another affects our health...*

Dr. Benjamin urges the public health community to get involved in the development of the next federal transportation bill and make sure it includes policies that promote health and safety. Here are two more quotes relevant to SRTS:

*Children who live where they can walk or bike safely to school are generally happier and healthier.*

*A notable and very beneficial public health and safety program in the transportation law... is Safe Routes to Schools. Safe Routes to Schools provides funds to states and localities to enable and encourage children to walk and bike to school. The program facilitates planning and development of projects that improve safety; increase physical activity; and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in and around schools.*

Read the excellent 16-page report at:

<http://www.apha.org/NR/ronlyres/43F10382-FB68-4112-8C75-49DCB10F8ECF/0/TransportationBrief.pdf>

**Information on Use of GIS for Pedestrian and Bicycle Planning Sought:** Over about the last eight years, many communities in Florida have used GIS tools to map their pedestrian and bicycle crashes so they can better analyze the factors causing these crashes and develop better countermeasures. For about five years, the University of Florida (UF) Department of Urban and Regional Planning was funded by Highway Safety grants to work with the counties which have the highest pedestrian and bicycle crashes, to help them gather the necessary information and map their crashes. Drs. Ruth Steiner and Ilir Bejleri developed software to help in this process, and Dr. Bejleri also taught GIS Pedestrian/Bicycle Crash Mapping courses through the Technology Transfer Center at UF, to help locals in this process. Florida has come a long ways in using GIS to help with pedestrian and bicycle issues, including SRTS projects. After receiving training from UF, the Miami-Dade MPO has mapped their pedestrian and bicycle crashes for years, and the information gathered helps them to identify problems, propose solutions and prioritize projects. This information is used by the WalkSafe Program, for instance, to identify which elementary schools to target first with their pedestrian education program.

Gabe Rousseau, Pedestrian/Bicycle Coordinator with FHWA in Washington, D.C. sent this e-mail last week:

*I've been talking with FHWA/DOT colleagues who work on GIS about hosting a peer exchange on GIS best practices related to walking and bicycling. The FHWA Office of Interstate and Border Planning (which houses the GIS program team) will sponsor this peer exchange sometime next year. Right now we're trying to gather information about what communities are currently using GIS for related to walking and bicycling. I've attached a questionnaire that will be used to identify best practices and potential participants.*

*I would appreciate it if you would:*

- 1) Complete the questionnaire and also*
- 2) Share the questionnaire with others you know that might be able to provide helpful information.*

*Please return the questionnaire to Alisa Zlotoff, [Alisa.Zlotoff@dot.gov](mailto:Alisa.Zlotoff@dot.gov) by December 12<sup>th</sup>.*

Please share how your community is using GIS to help with SRTS or other pedestrian and bicycle issues. The questionnaire is attached to this e-mail, or you may receive it from Gabe by e-mailing [Gabe.Rousseau@dot.gov](mailto:Gabe.Rousseau@dot.gov)

**Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities Call for Proposals Released; Application Deadline: Feb. 3, 2009:** This is a new national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) whose primary goal is to implement healthy eating and active living initiatives that can support healthier communities for children and families across the United States. The program places special emphasis on reaching children who are at highest risk for obesity on the basis of race/ethnicity, income and/or geographic location. This initiative will advance RWJF's efforts to reverse the childhood obesity epidemic by 2015.

Through this call for proposals (CFP), RWJF will award approximately 60 grants to help local community partnerships across the United States increase opportunities for physical activity and improve access to affordable healthy foods for children and families. Special consideration will be given to communities in 15 states where the incidence of or risk for childhood obesity is the greatest (including **Florida**). Approximately half of the grants under this CFP will be awarded to communities in these states

Many SRTS programs are addressing nutrition along with SRTS activities, to make the most progress on obesity issues. If your SRTS Non-Infrastructure program has not yet been funded, here is another opportunity to get it funded. Or it may be possible to use these funds to supplement an existing SRTS program. For more information, see: <http://recp.rm02.net/ctt?m=1291244&r=Mjk5Njk4MDU0MAS2&b=0&j=MTQzNTg5MTAwS0&k=Link1&kt=1&kd=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.rwjf.org%2Fapplications%2Fsolicited%2Fcfp.jsp%3FID%3D20603%26c%3DEMC-FA138>

**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Releases New Data:** NHTSA's 2007 Traffic Safety Facts Sheets and other recent NHTSA data reports are listed at: <http://www.nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/cats/listpublications.aspx?id=24&ShowBy=Category>. See especially:

Bicyclists and other Cyclists: <http://www.nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/810986.PDF>

Pedestrians: <http://www.nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/810994.PDF>

Children: <http://www.nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/810987.PDF>

School Transportation Related Crashes: <http://www.nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/810997.PDF>

The Fatality Analysis Reporting System General Estimates System 2006 Data Summary is available at: <http://www.nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/2006%20DATA%20SUMMARY.PDF>

## Florida & National Calendar of Events & Training Opportunities

(repeated in future updates until events are held)

### December, 2008:

- **Until December 10, 2008: Presentation on Modern Roundabouts will be available at this link:** <http://t2.ce.ufl.edu/assets/media/roundabouts.mp4>. After that, contact Janet Degner [jdegn@ce.ufl.edu](mailto:jdegn@ce.ufl.edu), 352-273-1676 to request a DVD. You can also contact Janet for a link to the PowerPoint presentation. Note: the video presentation takes 10-15 minutes to download, and about an hour to view. Roundabouts may be appropriate treatments near some schools to calm traffic speeds yet keep the traffic moving. One or two school examples are shown in the presentation. Background: On October 17, 2008 Ken Sides, PE, PTOE, AICP, City of Clearwater, FL presented a seminar in Gainesville, FL titled: *Modern Roundabouts for Modern Times*. The seminar was co-hosted by the University of Florida's Student Chapter of the Institute of Transportation Engineers and the Florida Technology Transfer (T2) Center along with UF's Transportation Research Center's *Center for Multimodal Solutions for Congestion Mitigation (CMS)*.
- **December 17th, 2008: Webinar on Smart Trips Program, 3:00-4:00 pm EST:** Linda Ginenthal and Jessica Roberts will present "Bring Smart Trips Home," for the next Professional Development Webinar on December 17th, 2008, from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. EST. A case study concerning Portland's SmartTrips program prepared by Ms. Ginenthal won a 2007 Best Case Study award from the APBP, and is available on the Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center website at: <http://www.walkinginfo.org/library/details.cfm?id=3961>. The SmartTrips program, which uses individualized marketing to change trip behavior, includes ideas which can be adapted to use with SRTS programs. The webinar series is presented jointly by the National Center for Bicycling & Walking (NCBW), the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP) and Cullbridge Communications. You can register for this webinar (\$50 for APBP members; \$60 for non-members) at: <http://www.bikewalk.org/webinar.php>. Check out future webinar topics and presenters in this series at: <http://www.bikewalk.org/webinarsfuture.php>.
- **December 18, 2008: Webinar on Intersections and Prioritizing Safety Improvements, 1:00-2:30 pm EST:** Amy Olay and Lily Lim-Tsao from the San Jose (CA) Department of Transportation, are the guest speakers, and will be available for a question and answer session following their presentation. The City of San Jose, CA is the 10th largest city in the US with a population of 973,672 and 2,310 miles of paved roadway. This webinar focuses on a case study where the City of San Jose prioritized the most cost effective transportation safety improvement projects, and how they are implemented within the principles of context sensitive solutions. This webinar is part of a series of NHI webinars on Real Solutions, with special guest speakers presenting solutions to issues faced in the field and how those problems were solved.

This webinar may be helpful to those involved in SRTS, who are trying to decide which problems to address first, in the most cost effective manner. Register here:

[http://www.nhi.fhwa.dot.gov/resources/webconference/web\\_conf\\_learner\\_reg.aspx?webConfID=15358](http://www.nhi.fhwa.dot.gov/resources/webconference/web_conf_learner_reg.aspx?webConfID=15358)

### January, 2009:

- **January 5-6, 2009: FHWA Pedestrian Safety Design/Planning workshop: Miami-Dade County.** Contact Dennis Scott ([dennis.scott@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:dennis.scott@dot.state.fl.us), 850-245-1527) for more information.
- **January 22-24, 2009: 8<sup>th</sup> Annual New Partners for Smart Growth Conference: Albuquerque, New Mexico.** Visit [www.NewPartners.org](http://www.NewPartners.org) to get more conference details and to register for the conference, which is packed with topics of interest to those interested in SRTS, such as:
  - Safe Routes to School: Changing the Habits of an Entire Generation
  - School and Local Government Collaboration: Achieve More Together
  - The Impact of Higher Fuel Costs and School Bus Cuts: New Transportation Opportunities at Our Schools
  - Transportation, Climate Change and Land Use: Finding the Nexus
  - The Smart Growth, Bicycle/Pedestrian Connection
  - Planning Ahead: School Closings, New Schools & Demographic Change
  - The Power and Potential of School District and Local Government Joint-use Partnerships
  - Safe Growth: Improving Community Health & Safety through the Built Environment

### Early 2009:

- **An FHWA Pedestrian Safety Design/Planning workshop is being planned for FDOT District 3 (the Florida Panhandle) for early 2009.** Contact Dennis Scott ([dennis.scott@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:dennis.scott@dot.state.fl.us), 850-245-1527) for more information.
- **Additional FHWA Pedestrian Safety Design/Planning workshops:** There is a possibility of holding additional workshops in 2009. If you are interested in hosting such a workshop, contact Florida's Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator Dennis Scott ([dennis.scott@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:dennis.scott@dot.state.fl.us), 850-245-1527). Holding a workshop like this is an excellent way to start your local SRTS planning. You will be taught what to look for, who to work with, and many solutions to pedestrian problems, which translate easily to the school and neighborhood environment for SRTS programs.

**Ongoing:**

- **Pro Walk/Pro Bike Presentations Now Available On-Line:** Good news for those who missed Pro Walk/Pro Bike National Conference in Portland, Oregon: The National Center for Bicycling and Walking has begun to post some of the workshop presentations on their conference Web site. Not all are there, but you may find the one you really hoped to see. Visit <http://www.bikewalk.org/2008conference/vconference/schedulefull.html> and look for live links in red.



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December 12, 2008



## Florida Updates: State

**New Florida SRTS Forms now on Website:** Updated forms for the new Call for Infrastructure Applications have been placed on our website: [www.srtsfl.org](http://www.srtsfl.org). Still to come: a Sample Infrastructure Application and corrected Infrastructure Application. In the process of writing the sample application, I discovered a few formatting problems, which I am fixing on the application. Look for these on our website by the end of the year.

**Producer Price Index and Construction Costs Decline:** Over the last four years, Florida's road construction prices have been increasing, so it has been increasingly hard to predict what construction costs would be for SRTS and other projects in the year they will be constructed. However, like diesel prices, the construction costs have declined dramatically over the last quarter. So one bright spot in this tough economy is that our SRTS funds will go farther. For more information, see: <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/planning/policy/costs/indicators1008.pdf>

**Unintentional Injury Reports Released:** The World Health Organization and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports on Child Injury Prevention have just been released. The press release regarding these reports is at: [http://www.who.int/violence\\_injury\\_prevention/child/injury/world\\_report/en/](http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/child/injury/world_report/en/).

National data of interest to SRTS proponents show that (with proper facilities and education) walking or bicycling to school can be safer than travelling in a motor vehicle:

- Injuries due to transportation were the leading cause of death for children.
- The highest death rates were among occupants of motor vehicles in traffic.
- There were also a substantial number of pedestrian and pedal cyclist deaths among children.
- For children 5 to 19 years of age, the most injury deaths were due to being an occupant in a motor vehicle traffic crash.

Information on Florida Statistics is at: <http://www.cdc.gov/safecchild/states/fl.html>. In Florida, transportation-related injuries caused a higher death rate among children 0 to 19 years of age than any other cause (11.4 per 100,000 population). Florida is aggressively addressing traffic safety, but we obviously still have a lot of work to do.

## Florida Updates: Local

**Lee County SRTS Projects (District One) make national news:** The December 10 issue of the National Center for Bicycling and Walking's *Centerlines* electronic newsletter includes an article about two schools in Lee County which have received sidewalk grants from Florida's SRTS Program. Both the Cape Coral and Ft. Myers projects are scheduled to be built in 2010. Read the article (last one on the page) from the Ft. Myers News Press at: <http://www.news-press.com/article/20081209/NEWS0104/812090347/1006>.

## News from Other States and Countries

**Yield to Heels Campaign at University of North Carolina (UNC):** While this campaign is aimed toward college students, the principles are still the same and could be used or easily adapted to a SRTS educational campaign. UNC's campaign centered on four common pedestrian mistakes to avoid:

1. Seeing a "walk" signal and then automatically assuming that it is safe to walk.
2. Crossing at multi-lane, mid-block locations without checking to make sure that drivers in each lane are aware of their presence. Sometimes drivers in one lane can block the view of pedestrians so that motorists in other lanes cannot see them.
3. Darting unexpectedly into the street.
4. Failing to understand that at night, pedestrians are virtually invisible to motorists. Research studies have

proven that even pedestrians wearing white can only be seen between 100 and 200 feet away by motorists in vehicles with low beams on. At speeds above 30 miles per hour, this does not allow sufficient time for a motorist to stop after seeing a pedestrian on the road.

UNC also used a 3-part message: *Be Aware \* Be Safe \* Be Considerate*, as well as tips for pedestrians and motorists for each message. For more information on this campaign, see: <http://www.hsrc.unc.edu/y2h/>

## National News

**2008 James L. Oberstar Award winner announced:** Bear Creek Elementary School in Boulder, Colorado was announced this week as the 2008 recipient of the James L. Oberstar SRTS Award, named for Congressman Oberstar, the national champion for SRTS. Bear Creek Elementary has moved beyond prizes, to taking pride in their accomplishments toward car-free commuting. The principal, teachers, parents and students challenge each other in their goal to establish daily car-free habits. During Walk to School Day this fall, there were no cars in the parking lot, truly a huge accomplishment! Students logged 4,800 miles from 6,600 Car-Free Commute trips in a single month (September 2008)! Congratulations to Bear Creek Elementary, which gives us a good role model, and new ideas to duplicate in Florida. To find out more about the activities which make Bear Creek Elementary an exemplary SRTS model, see: [http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/case\\_studies/pdfs/CO.bearcreek.pdf](http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/case_studies/pdfs/CO.bearcreek.pdf)

**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Bicycle Helmet Fitting Flyer:** This two-page flyer describes in detail how to fit a bicycle helmet properly, and is easy to print for bicycle rodeos and education programs: <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/injury/pedbimot/bike/EasyStepsWeb/images/EasyStepsEngColor.pdf>

**Intelligent Transportation (IT) Pedestrian Safety Countermeasures:** The report to Congress on this topic which was required by SAFETEA-LU is available at: [US Secretary of Transportation's report to Congress on Pedestrian Safety](#). The bad news:

*The report found that nearly all of the technologies and improvements assessed are in some stage of development and are not yet market ready. They almost universally require additional research and extensive field testing to demonstrate and evaluate the benefits and feasibility of deploying the systems in a live environment.*

The pedestrian countdown signal is one of the few new IT countermeasures which have been included in the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). This report, which provides a good overview of the pedestrian safety problem and the state of advanced technology developed to address these factors, may be helpful to those considering using these technologies to address SRTS problems.

## Florida & National Calendar of Events & Training Opportunities

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- **December 15-16, 2008: ADA/Accessibility Requirements for Hwy Design and Pedestrians, Sebring:** This course will be taught by FDOT ADA Coordinator, Dean Perkins, and may be helpful for those designing SRTS sidewalk projects. For complete details, see: <http://t2.ce.ufl.edu/workshops.asp?workshop=ADA>.
- **December 17th, 2008: Webinar on Smart Trips Program, 3:00-4:00 pm EST:** Linda Ginenthal and Jessica Roberts will present "Bring Smart Trips Home," for the next Professional Development Webinar on December 17th, 2008, from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. EST. A case study concerning Portland's SmartTrips program prepared by Ms. Ginenthal won a 2007 Best Case Study award from the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP), and is available on the Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center website at: <http://www.walkinginfo.org/library/details.cfm?id=3961> The SmartTrips program, which uses individualized marketing to change trip behavior, includes ideas which can be adapted to use with SRTS programs. The webinar series is presented jointly by the National Center for Bicycling & Walking (NCBW), APBP and Cullbridge Communications. You can register for this webinar (\$50 for APBP members; \$60 for non-members) at: <http://www.bikewalk.org/webinar.php>. Check out future webinar topics and presenters in this series at: <http://www.bikewalk.org/webinarsfuture.php>.

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- **January 22-24, 2009: 8<sup>th</sup> Annual New Partners for Smart Growth Conference: Albuquerque, New Mexico.** Visit [www.NewPartners.org](http://www.NewPartners.org) to get more conference details and to register for the conference, which is packed with topics of interest to those interested in SRTS, such as:
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  - The Smart Growth, Bicycle/Pedestrian Connection
  - Planning Ahead: School Closings, New Schools & Demographic Change
  - The Power and Potential of School District and Local Government Joint-use Partnerships
  - Safe Growth: Improving Community Health & Safety through the Built Environment
- **January 27-29, 2009: FHWA Pedestrian Safety Design/Planning workshop: FDOT D-3 in Chipley.** The workshop will start on Tuesday morning between 8:00 and 8:30 am and end on Thursday afternoon by 4:30. Contact Hussein Sharifpour, ([Hussein.Sharifpour@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:Hussein.Sharifpour@fhwa.dot.gov)), 850-942-9650 x 3024, for more information.

**Additional FHWA Pedestrian Safety Design/Planning workshops:** There is a possibility of holding additional workshops in 2009. If you are interested in hosting such a workshop, contact Florida's Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator Dennis Scott ([dennis.scott@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:dennis.scott@dot.state.fl.us), 850-245-1527) or Hussein Sharifpour, ([Hussein.Sharifpour@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:Hussein.Sharifpour@fhwa.dot.gov)), 850-942-9650 x 3024, for more information. Holding a workshop like this is an excellent way to start your local SRTS planning. You will be taught what to look for, who to work with, and many solutions to pedestrian problems, which translate easily to the school and neighborhood environment for SRTS programs.

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By Pat Pieratte  
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December 19, 2008



## Florida Updates: State

**Happy Holidays!** I will be taking a little time off in the next two weeks, and I hope you are also. I plan to combine news from the next two weeks, and issue one last 2008 Update on December 30. As this is the last Update before the holidays begin, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all happy and safe holidays, and thank you for your support of Florida's SRTS program. Together we have made tremendous progress. For the fourth quarter Tracking Report for the National Center for SRTS, I calculated that so far, 209 SRTS projects and programs have been selected statewide for funding, with a minimum of 900 schools benefiting. Also, 28 local SRTS projects are far enough along to have received almost \$3.5 million in reimbursements from the Federal Highway Administration. Many more projects should begin construction soon, so we can all be proud of the work we have done this year, and in the first 2.5 years of the Florida SRTS program.

**Bike Florida Launches Electronic Newsletter:** The *Share the Road* December e-newsletter is now available on request by e-mailing Dave Milliman ([dmilliman@bellsouth.net](mailto:dmilliman@bellsouth.net)), and asking to be added to the distribution list. An article of interest to SRTS advocates in this issue is the report on the bicycle and pedestrian safety workshop held in Volusia County on December 5-6, to teach elementary teachers how to administer and teach the Florida Traffic and Bicycle Safety Education Program (FTBSEP). Fifteen teachers from Volusia and Flagler County attended the 10-hour workshop, which focused on Florida's Safe Routes to School Elementary Traffic Safety Education curriculum.

Other articles of interest are the announcements that American Trails has named Florida the Best Trails State in the nation, and has named Linda Crider, Executive Director of Bike Florida and long-time director of the FTBSEP, as the Best Trail Advocate for the State of Florida. Florida's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has long been a leader in developing trails, some of which are or can be used by children on their routes to school. And Linda Crider has long been one of the nation's leaders in bicycle and pedestrian education and SRTS issues. So congratulations, DEP and Linda!

## Florida Updates: Local

**District Two Welcomes New District Safety Engineer:** The FDOT District Two office announced this week that Scott Lent, P.E. has been appointed the new District Safety Engineer. Scott is located in the Jacksonville Urban Office and will have responsibility for the Infrastructure SRTS projects throughout District Two, which covers Jacksonville, Gainesville, Lake City and many other areas. Still to be filled is the Assistant District Safety Engineer, who will have responsibility for bicycle and pedestrian issues, and help CTST Coordinator Andrea Atran with Non-Infrastructure SRTS programs throughout the District. Scott can be reached at (904) 360-5541 or [Scott.lent@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Scott.lent@dot.state.fl.us). Welcome to the Florida SRTS team, Scott!

## National News

**Walk to School Day 2008 Feedback:** A complete report on the feedback from more than 600 event coordinators will be included in the National Center for SRTS's March progress report. More than 20% of the 3,000 Walk to School Day organizers provided feedback, a phenomenal participation rate! One advance finding is that 75 percent of Walk to School events led to long-term changes in policies or infrastructure, the highest percentage ever reported.

You can still give feedback on your Walk to School Day 2008 event, by calling the National Center at (919) 809-7777, and leaving your name, city, state and message. See <http://www.iwalktoschool.org/photos/index.htm> for photos of Walk to School activities from eight Florida cities (sort by state), the U.S. and the world. You can also still submit your pictures to the website, from this year's Walk.

**SRTS National Partnership (SRTSNP) Requests Documentation of Need for SRTS funding:** The SRTSNP is

requesting help to document the need for SRTS funding as part of the Federal Economic Recovery Bill, with a deadline of December 30.

Read the first page of the survey carefully to make sure your project fits the bill. It is also important to note that this is not an application for funding and this is not part of Florida's existing Safe Routes to School application process. They are simply documenting the need for SRTS projects, to hopefully create a funding pot for SRTS in the bill. Note that these requests should come from SRTS advocates, not agency personnel. See the Partnership's explanation below, and for any questions, contact Margo Pedroso, Policy Manager, Safe Routes to School National Partnership at [margo@saferoutespartnership.org](mailto:margo@saferoutespartnership.org):

*In early November, the Safe Routes to School National Partnership collected more than \$50 million worth of ready-to-go Safe Routes to School projects from organizations around the country to document the need for SRTS funding to Congress as they work on an economic stimulus bill. As the economic situation has worsened, Congress is now considering an economic stimulus or recovery bill that could include two types of funding for infrastructure projects- short-term funding for projects that can start construction in three months, and longer-term projects that can be built in less than two years. Since the timeframe for these projects has lengthened, we need your help once again-please share information about your Safe Routes to School infrastructure projects that need funding to be completed. Please go to [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=mBJC8Oleo6s3ffElyfA9ww\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=mBJC8Oleo6s3ffElyfA9ww_3d_3d) to access our survey collection form to provide information about your Safe Routes to School infrastructure project.*

**National SRTS Conference Call for Proposals, Feb. 2, 2009 deadline:** The second Safe Routes to School National Conference, which will be held in Portland, Oregon on August 19-21, has opened its Call for Proposals, with a deadline of February 2, 2009. To see complete instructions, key subjects and thematic tracks, and to submit your presentation or poster proposal, please visit <http://www.saferoutesconference.org>.

The Conference will be co-presented by the National Center for Safe Routes to School and the Safe Routes to School National Partnership, with hosting and coordination by the Bicycle Transportation Alliance in Portland, Oregon. The conference theme is "Two Steps Ahead." As reported in the December 17 Safe Routes Matters E-newsletter:

*Presentations and posters should exemplify Safe Routes to School programs' ability to address a range of issues that affect our society, and give school children the tools to change habits and stay two steps ahead of health issues, environmental problems and traffic congestion. The conference will offer 90-minute workshops and interactive 180-minute training opportunities that allow for more in-depth discussion and hands-on events. Presenters should focus their messages on a single age group (K-5 or middle school) or geographic location (urban, suburban, or rural).*

**Pedestrian Focus State Webinar Focused on Pedestrian/Bicycle Enforcement:** This week representatives from our office attended the FHWA-sponsored webinar on Pedestrian/Bicycle Enforcement Workshops. A workshop instructor (Louis Malenfant) and New Jersey coordinator of the workshops (Ranjit Walia) gave excellent summaries of the workshops and how they were implemented in Florida and New Jersey. Limited phone lines prevented my advertising this ahead of time, but see the last item under Training to see/hear the recorded workshop.

## Florida & National Calendar of Events & Training Opportunities

(Items repeated in future updates until events are held)

### January, 2009:

- **January 5-6, 2009: FHWA Pedestrian Safety Design/Planning workshop: Miami-Dade County.** Contact Hussein Sharifpour, ([Hussein.Sharifpour@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:Hussein.Sharifpour@fhwa.dot.gov)), 850-942-9650 x 3024, for more information.
- **January 20-22, 2009 (Note corrected dates) FHWA Planning and Designing for Pedestrian Safety Workshop: FDOT D-3 in Chipley.** The workshop will run from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm each day. Contact Zena Riley, ([zena.riley@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:zena.riley@dot.state.fl.us)), 850.415.9656 to register.

**Additional FHWA Pedestrian Safety Design/Planning workshops:** There is a possibility of holding additional workshops in 2009. If you are interested in hosting such a workshop, contact Florida's Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator Dennis Scott ([dennis.scott@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:dennis.scott@dot.state.fl.us), 850-245-1527) or Hussein Sharifpour, ([Hussein.Sharifpour@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:Hussein.Sharifpour@fhwa.dot.gov)), 850-942-9650 x 3024, for more information. Holding a workshop like this is an excellent way to start your local SRTS planning. You will be taught what to look for, who to work with, and many solutions to pedestrian problems, which translate easily to the school and neighborhood environment for SRTS programs.

- **January 22-24, 2009: 8<sup>th</sup> Annual New Partners for Smart Growth Conference: Albuquerque, New Mexico.** Visit [www.NewPartners.org](http://www.NewPartners.org) to get more conference details and to register for the conference, which is packed with topics of interest to those interested in SRTS, such as:
  - Safe Routes to School: Changing the Habits of an Entire Generation
  - School and Local Government Collaboration: Achieve More Together
  - The Impact of Higher Fuel Costs and School Bus Cuts: New Transportation Opportunities at Our Schools
  - Transportation, Climate Change and Land Use: Finding the Nexus
  - The Smart Growth, Bicycle/Pedestrian Connection
  - Planning Ahead: School Closings, New Schools & Demographic Change
  - The Power and Potential of School District and Local Government Joint-use Partnerships
  - Safe Growth: Improving Community Health & Safety through the Built Environment

**January 27, 2009, 2 pm EST, SRTS Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Education Webinar:** America Walks and the National Center for Safe Routes to School present this as the next topic in the Safe Routes Coaching Action Network. The presenter will be Somilia Smith, Project Coordinator, Mayor Daley's Ambassadors. To reserve your webinar seat, go to <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/470361295>.

**February, 2009:**

**February 24, 2009 at 2 p.m. EST, Turning Walk to School Day into a Year-Round Pedestrian Program Webinar:** This is another in the America Walks/NCSRTS series. The presenter will be Sonja Atkins, Coordinator, Safe Kids Greater Sacramento. To reserve your webinar seat, go to <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/259123751>. For more information on these FREE webinars, please visit [http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/training/can\\_webinars.cfm](http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/training/can_webinars.cfm).

**Ongoing:**

- **National Pro Walk/Pro Bike Presentations Now Available On-Line:** Good news for those who missed the Pro Walk/Pro Bike National Conference in Portland, Oregon: The National Center for Bicycling and Walking has begun to post some of the workshop presentations on their conference Web site. Not all are there, but you may find the one you really hoped to see. Visit <http://www.bikewalk.org/2008conference/vconference/schedulefull.html> and look for live links in red.
- **T-Square's 2009 Professional Training Portfolio:** The Florida Transportation Technology Transfer Center (T-Square), based at University of Florida, has published its *2009 Professional Training Portfolio*, available at: <http://t2.ce.ufl.edu/nl/2008-11-catalog.pdf>. This catalog is packed with training of interest to SRTS proponents, including:
  - A Community Approach to Safe Routes to School Programs
  - Community Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Programs
  - Pedestrian/Bicycle GIS Crash Mapping
  - Pedestrian/Bicycle Law Enforcement
  - Teamwork: Together Everyone Wins
  - Road Safety Assessment courses; Common Sense Solutions for Intersection Safety Problems
  - ADA/Accessibility Requirements for Highway Design and Pedestrians
  - Various asphalt, concrete and cement courses
  - Various design courses
- **America Walks/NCSRTS Webinar series:** If you missed any of these webinars, please go to [http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/training/can\\_webinars.cfm](http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/training/can_webinars.cfm) to download and view the webinar.
- **Pedestrian Focus States Webinar on Pedestrian/Bicycle Law Enforcement:** There were limited lines available for this webinar, which took place on December 17, so I couldn't announce it ahead of time on the Update. However, the Powerpoint and the audio portions of the webinar were recorded, and should be able to be viewed by signing in as a guest (first name and last name) at: <http://fhwa.na3.acrobat.com/pedfocus/>. In the bottom right hand corner, click on the two *Enforcement Workshop for Webinar* files and select "Save to My Computer". Disclaimer: You may need a computer expert to help you find the files and view/hear them once you save them.



Florida SRTS Updates  
By Pat Pieratte  
Florida SRTS Coordinator  
December 29, 2008



## Florida Updates: State

**School-Based SRTS Committees:** Since there is a new requirement to form school-based SRTS Committees which meet at least once before an Infrastructure application is submitted, I have been getting a lot of questions about these committees. They can go by different names, but basically they are groups made up of both school representatives and community representatives representing the 5E's of SRTS. The Florida Safe Ways to School Toolkit calls them School Traffic Safety Teams (STSTs), and lists these potential members on page 16 (see: <http://www.hhp.ufl.edu/safety/Documents/Safe%20Ways%20to%20School%20Tool%20Kit.pdf>):

- Community Traffic Safety Team (CTST) representative(s)
- Principal of the school
- School District Transportation Director (*if possible*)
- Local transportation/traffic engineer
- School Crossing Guard or representative of their employing agency (Sheriff Dept., Police Dept., City or County agency)
- School Resource Officer or Law Enforcement Representative
- 1-2 Teachers at school
- 1-2 Parents of children attending school
- 1-2 Student Representatives

The Safe Routes to School Guide from the National Center for SRTS also provides a list of potential members of a SRTS Coalition in Step 1: <http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/guide/steps/index.cfm>. They recommend starting with an existing group which is already interested in SRTS issues, and adding any missing representatives. For instance, the Community Traffic Safety Team, Safe Kids Coalition, School Safety Team, Parent Teacher Organization or Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee may be interested in taking the lead and bringing together the right people to discuss problems and solutions at the school for which an Infrastructure application will be submitted. It's best not to let the group get too large, so a subcommittee of one of the above groups could be the best approach. If a county plans to apply for several SRTS projects (up to the maximum of five applications per applicant), they could form a core group of community members from the 5 E's, and have meetings at the various schools, with representatives of the schools, as their SRTS Committee.

As you can see by the examples given above, the group could begin with a school or community group (or a new group could be formed if there is no existing group interested in taking the lead), but the important point is that both school and community representatives must be involved. In the past, most of the applications we have received were written by city, county or MPO planners or engineers, or consultants hired by one of these agencies. While planners and engineers are of course important to the development of a SRTS plan, they should not be deciding the plan by themselves. Often local governments and schools in Florida have not communicated well on planning issues, but schools are now required to be a part of the local comprehensive planning process, and this could be the first step toward this goal. Representatives from the school may have different priorities, or have information not available to the planners or engineers, which will change the direction of the plan. Remember, SRTS projects must be comprehensive, involving all 5 E's; they are not just engineering projects. The school community must be involved in the decisions and on board to promote SRTS using the other E's, in order to have a successful SRTS program.

**Trends and Conditions Report – 2008:** This new report, subtitled *Transportation System: The Roadway System*, gives an overview of Florida's roadway system. The fact that 88% of the roadway system in Florida is composed of county and city roads, coupled with the fact that most elementary and middle schools are located along these local roads, makes this report of interest to SRTS advocates. View the full report at: <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/planning/trends/tc-report/roadway121808.pdf>

**Florida EMS Grant Deadlines Approach:** Florida county governments must submit their county grant applications by

January 9, 2009, while Matching Grant applications are due by February 6, 2009. The Matching Grants are a great source of funding for injury prevention programs. To read more and find out about at training opportunity, see: <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/demo/EMS/Grants/Grants.html>.

## News from Other States and Countries

**San Francisco Bicycle Coalition Offers Tips for Biking with Kids:** Topics included are Family Biking 101, Choosing Equipment, Teaching Kids to Ride, Freedom from Training Wheels, the Biking Parent, and A Parents' Guide to Youth Cycling: <http://www.sfbike.org/?kids>. Young children will follow the lead of their parents, so these tips can introduce your children to biking as a normal way to get to school, to visit friends, or to do errands.

**St. Peter, Minnesota Embraces SRTS:** Several SRTS projects have been completed and well received by this Minnesota community: <http://www.stpeterherald.com/news.php?viewStory=687>

### A Few More Walk To School Day 2008 Links:

- Forbes Magazine article on Walk to School Day: [http://www.forbes.com/prnewswire/feeds/prnewswire/2008/10/02/prnewswire200810021608PR\\_NEWS\\_USPR\\_DC36729.html](http://www.forbes.com/prnewswire/feeds/prnewswire/2008/10/02/prnewswire200810021608PR_NEWS_USPR_DC36729.html)
- Great morning tv news story from Vienna, VA: <http://www.wusa9.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=76952&catid=158>
- Story and pictures from Los Angeles (see the great Walking Audit and Walk to School Day photos in the middle of the story too): <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-walk9-2008oct09,0,7390483.story>
- Story and great photo from Grand Haven, MI: <http://www.grandhaventribune.com/paid/292871464963407.bsp>
- Story and picture from Portsmouth, NH: <http://www.seacoastonline.com/articles/20081009-NEWS-810090415>
- Story from Ann Arbor, MI: [http://www.mlive.com/annarbornews/news/index.ssf/2008/10/cheaper\\_by\\_the\\_foot\\_and\\_health.html](http://www.mlive.com/annarbornews/news/index.ssf/2008/10/cheaper_by_the_foot_and_health.html)

### News Stories on SRTS:

- (GA) DOT Safe Routes program starts project in Macon: <http://www.times-herald.com/education/DOT-Safe-Routes-program-starts-project-in-Macon-568140>
- Off the School Bus, Onto the Sidewalks (Washington Post): <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/10/15/AR2008101500099.html?tid=informbox>
- Video featuring "big checks" for SRTS projects in Flint, MI: <http://abclocal.go.com/wjrt/video?id=6448933>
- Story from Norman, OK: [http://newsok.com/walk-to-school-initiative-gets-support/article/3311685?custom\\_click=pod\\_headline\\_education](http://newsok.com/walk-to-school-initiative-gets-support/article/3311685?custom_click=pod_headline_education)
- And an article from Los Angeles, CA for our Spanish speaking readers: <http://www.impre.com/laopinion/noticias/la-california/2008/10/8/ir-caminando-a-la-escuela--una-85978-1.html>

**Introduction to Multi-Modal Transportation Planning: Principles and Practices:** This new booklet by Todd Litman from the Victoria (British Columbia) Transport Policy Institute, outlines the basics and advantages of Multi-Modal Transportation Planning over conventional transportation planning. The starting-point is to consider all modes of transportation, not just personal motor vehicle transportation, when planning any new or modified transportation facility. This makes all the difference between a transportation system which works just for drivers, and one which works for all roadway users, including children, pedestrians and bicyclists. View the 13-page report at: [http://www.vtpi.org/multimodal\\_planning.pdf](http://www.vtpi.org/multimodal_planning.pdf).

**English Elementary Students Learn About Safety:** Cheshire County Council road safety teams are running special Look Out! workshops at primary schools so children can learn how to interact more safely with traffic on the high-crash road near their school. Since most of the motorists involved in crashes on this road are from this area, it is also hoped that students will share safety messages with their parents and help increase driver safety as well. See: <http://www.thisisstaffordshire.co.uk/education/Youngsters-safe-driving-message/article-488303-detail/article.html>

### Canadian Health Department and School District Cooperate in Active and SRTS Initiatives:

Eight elementary schools in Halton have implemented School Buses and other Active and Safe Routes to School (ASRTS) initiatives such as Walking Wednesdays, in an effort to increase physical activity, independence and friendship among students. According to Canada's Report Card on Physical Activity for Children and Youth for 2008: [www.activehealthykids.ca/upload/AHKC-Long-Form-EN.pdf](http://www.activehealthykids.ca/upload/AHKC-Long-Form-EN.pdf) ), Canada again gets a D grade in physical activity, and less than half of children across Canada are regularly using 'active' transportation to get to school. Read the news story at: <http://www.burlingtonpost.com/news/article/212576>.

**More on Canadian Active and SRTS Programs:** In a webinar held in early June, several local Canadian ASRTS programs shared how they got started and are keeping their momentum going. These presentations include lots of good ideas we can all use and benefit from, but I found the first presentation on Social Marketing the most interesting. It discusses how to change the current social norms (like few children walking and biking to school), to the norms you would like to see (like more children asking their parents if they can join in the fun of walking and biking to school). These ideas are critical to the long-term success of any SRTS program, and I recommend you take a look: [http://www.saferoutestoschool.ca/downloads/Jun\\_6\\_08\\_Webinar\\_Slides.pdf](http://www.saferoutestoschool.ca/downloads/Jun_6_08_Webinar_Slides.pdf). The main website for Green Communities: Active and Safe Routes to School is: <http://www.saferoutestoschool.ca/>. From there you can also view issues of their newsletter *Walkolution News for Schools*.

**Even The Netherlands Has School Transportation Problems:** Traditionally the Netherlands has been far ahead of the US and most other countries in active transportation for children as well as adults. But according to an article in the NRC Handelsblad newspaper:

*A quarter of all schoolchildren are now taken to and from school by car, according to research by mobility advisors Soab. And the number is growing.*

Read the article at:

[http://www.nrc.nl/international/article2039676.ece/Taking\\_the\\_kids\\_to\\_school\\_by\\_car\\_is\\_dangerous](http://www.nrc.nl/international/article2039676.ece/Taking_the_kids_to_school_by_car_is_dangerous).

## National News

**Distribution of SRTS Funds for Federal Fiscal Year 2009 announced:** Funding for federal fiscal year 2009 (the last year of funding under SAFETEA-LU) has now been distributed to the states. Florida's allotment is \$9,725,359, a little more than was originally projected. We expect that the SRTS program will continue in the next Transportation Act, but we will just have to wait and see what develops. Since Florida DOT works on a 5-year Work Program, funding for 2009 and expected funds for future years have already been programmed based on the first two Calls for Infrastructure Applications. The third Call for Applications will be for any un-programmed Infrastructure funds expected through fiscal year 2014. Remember that you can apply for Non-Infrastructure programs at any time, until your District's Non-Infrastructure funds are all allocated. Contact your District Non-Infrastructure contact for more information.

**New SRTS Podcasts Available from National Center for SRTS:** The Safe Routes Podcast is a monthly show that highlights ways to get kids up and active on their way to school and features interviews from Safe Routes to School programs across the country. Podcasts are audio (MP3) files that you may listen to on your computer or download to an iPod or other portable player. The first three podcasts are: *Park and Walk Programs*, *Co-Promoting with the Media*, and *Remote Pick Up and Drop Off*. Download or listen to the podcasts at: <http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/podcast/>, and sign up to be notified when new podcasts are available, at: <http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/podcast/podcasts.xml>.

**SRTS National Partnership (SRTSNP) Publishes Three New Reports for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:** These new reports, along with previous reports by the SRTSNP, showcase the effectiveness of SRTS programs in meeting various national SRTS goals, and make a case for continuing the program so more communities and states can experience these benefits.

The first report is ***Safe Routes to School--Steps to a Greener Future***: This report focuses on how walking and bicycling to school reduces carbon emissions and air pollutants, and includes case studies from five US communities. Read the report at: [http://www.saferoutespartnership.org/media/file/SRTS\\_GHG\\_lo\\_res.pdf](http://www.saferoutespartnership.org/media/file/SRTS_GHG_lo_res.pdf)

The second report is ***Safe Routes to School Improves the Built Environment*** and includes state case studies. Read the report at: [http://www.saferoutespartnership.org/media/file/SRTS\\_built\\_environment\\_12-08\\_lo-res.pdf](http://www.saferoutespartnership.org/media/file/SRTS_built_environment_12-08_lo-res.pdf)

The third report is ***Safe Routes to School Leads to Greater Collaboration with Public Health and School Officials*** and includes four state case studies. Read the report at: [http://www.saferoutespartnership.org/media/file/SRTS\\_Collaboration\\_Public\\_Health\\_School\\_Officials\\_lo\\_res.pdf](http://www.saferoutespartnership.org/media/file/SRTS_Collaboration_Public_Health_School_Officials_lo_res.pdf)

**Another SRTSNP Report for CDC: *Safe Routes to School Increases Physical Activity and Improves Health*** includes examples of local US programs which have had success in increasing activity and health. Read the report at: [http://www.saferoutespartnership.org/media/file/SafeRoutes\\_Health\\_Sept08\\_lowres.pdf](http://www.saferoutespartnership.org/media/file/SafeRoutes_Health_Sept08_lowres.pdf)

**CDC Report *Investment in Safe Routes to School Projects: Public Health Benefits for the Larger Community*:** This report states that an estimated 65.5 million people in urban areas could benefit from SRTS projects, with 26.5% to

39% of land area of small or large urban areas within .5 mile of a public school. The report concludes in part:

*Results suggest that SRTS projects in urban areas can improve the walking and bicycling environment for adults as well as for children, the target users. Investment in SRTS can contribute to increased physical activity among children and adults.*

Read the report at: <http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/articlerender.fcgi?artid=2483559>

**Department of Health and Human Services Report Recommends New Physical Activity Guidelines:** New recommendations find that children benefit from an hour or more of physical activity a day, including walking and biking. Read the news release at: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2008pres/10/20081007a.html> and the full reports at: <http://www.health.gov/paguidelines/>.

**President-Elect Obama Selects Representative Ray LaHood as Secretary of Transportation:** Representative LaHood will play a major role in overseeing the huge public works program the administration plans to implement to stimulate the flagging economy, and in developing the next Transportation Act. Rep. James Oberstar, D-MN and chairman of the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee, said during a teleconference with the media Thursday afternoon that he feels LaHood will be "an excellent, superb in fact, secretary of transportation" who brings effective management skills to a department sorely in need of new leadership...Ray LaHood's service in the House is a legacy of civility, decency, of bringing people together and reaching consensus across party lines. He offers that linkage between Obama and House and Senate Republicans." The League of Illinois Bicyclists has praised Representative LaHood's support of bicycling and Complete Streets on their website: [http://www.bikelib.org/political\\_state/lahoodappointment.htm](http://www.bikelib.org/political_state/lahoodappointment.htm).

**Design Issues for ADA: Accessible Sidewalks** is a four-part video developed by the Access Board to illustrate access issues and considerations in the design of sidewalks, intersections, and other areas where pedestrians with disabilities need consistent, good design. The series covers access for pedestrians with mobility impairments, including those who use wheelchairs or other mobility devices, and those who have low vision or are blind. View the four segments online at: <http://www.access-board.gov/prowac/video/index.htm#> or order the DVD free by sending a request for the "Accessible Sidewalks DVD" with your mailing address to [pubs@access-board.gov](mailto:pubs@access-board.gov) or calling the Board at (202) 272-0011 (v) or (202) 272-0082 (TTY). There are many good illustrations of bad sidewalk design, and why good sidewalk designs that meet ADA criteria are so important. Since all SRTS projects must meet ADA criteria, viewing these videos will help you to create SRTS projects which are accessible to all pedestrians.

**New Research Illustrates The Health Benefits Of Active Transportation:** New research involving 17 industrialized countries in Europe, North America and Australia show that countries with the highest levels of walking, biking and public transportation used to get to work, school or shopping, generally had the lowest obesity rates. The low rates of active transportation in non-European countries ranged between 12% (US) to 19% (Canada) and are associated with 21-33% obesity rates. High rates of active transportation in European countries ranged from 52% (Netherlands) to 67% (Latvia), and are associated with 9%-14% obesity rates. Overall, researcher David Bassett said, "*Europeans walk three times as far and cycle five times as far as Americans.*" Two of the main goals of SRTS are to encourage children to be more active and decrease childhood obesity levels. Read more about this research at: <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jEGRAoOGYlh9C9ASr-XyTiaVwnAD9534IJG0>.

**Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to Promote Public Health and Recreation Signed:** The Departments of Health and Human Services, Agriculture, Interior, Army, and Transportation signed a Memorandum of Understanding to Promote Public Health and Recreation ([HTML](#) / [PDF](#) 54 KB). This MOU establishes a general framework to promote uses and benefits of the Nation's public lands and water resources to enhance the physical and mental health and well being of all Americans, through sound nutrition, physical activity, and recreation in America's great outdoors. This MOU may have implications for SRTS programs, and in any case shows the willingness of multiple agencies to cooperate on a national level to meet goals similar to SRTS goals.

**Bicycle Training Video Clips Available Online:** Effective Cycling Instructors (certified by the League of American Bicyclists) show how an effective cyclist operates in different traffic situations, on the Cyclist View website. While most of the clips deal with techniques which young students would not be attempting, these clips are good training for those who want to teach bicycle safety to students. More mature students who practice the techniques demonstrated (in simulated, then neighborhood settings) can work up to handling some of the more complex traffic situations demonstrated. One clip on the ABC Quick Check (for inspecting your bicycle before riding it) will be of benefit to riders of all ages. See the clips at: <http://cyclistview.com/innertube/index.htm>

**Another Bicycle Maintenance & Education Link:** Youth Education Sports (YES), based in California, has this tool to use with bicycle checking and maintenance: <http://www.yesports.org/maintenance.htm>. The website also has

information on bicycle education and encouragement programs run by YES, and you can order more information at: <http://www.yesports.org/> (click on Publications, then select the programs you want more information on).

**New Urbanism: Comprehensive Report & Best Practices Guide:** Those interested in the Planning issues which determine whether children can walk to school or not, may be interested in ordering this new Guide. See ordering information at: <http://www.newurbannews.com/emails/compPage2.html> and the table of Contents at: <http://www.newurbannews.com/TableofcontentsBPG.pdf>

**Planning and Environment Linkages Implementation Resources:** The FHWA's Office of Planning, Environment, and Realty has released a report that provides information on implementation of planning and environment linkages. According to the report planning and environment linkages (PEL) represent an approach designed to help bring about a collaborative and integrated transportation decision-making process. PEL occurs at points early in the transportation process when decision-makers consider environmental, community, and economic goals and carry these goals through to the project development and environmental review process, and on to design, construction, and maintenance. View the PDF or purchase the report at: [http://trb.org/news/blurb\\_detail.asp?id=9587](http://trb.org/news/blurb_detail.asp?id=9587)

**Americans Want Huge Transportation Funding Shift; More Transit and Active Transportation Funding:** According to an article in the Oct. 27th edition of Smart Growth Online (see: <http://tinyurl.com/6o3wbh>:

*Even before gas prices spiked high above \$4 per gallon this spring and summer, a Harris Interactive poll found last December that 81 percent of Americans would radically change federal outlays of the 1998 Transportation Efficiency Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) from 79 percent for roads, 20 percent for mass transit, and 1 percent for biking and walking, to 37, 41, and 22 percent, respectively, in its 2009 replacement bill.*

## Florida & National Calendar of Events & Training Opportunities

(Items repeated in future updates until events are held)

### January-March, 2009:

- **January 5-6, 2009: FHWA Pedestrian Safety Design/Planning workshop: Miami-Dade County.** Contact Hussein Sharifpour, ([Hussein.Sharifpour@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:Hussein.Sharifpour@fhwa.dot.gov)), 850-942-9650 x 3024, for more information.
- **January 20-22, 2009 (Note corrected dates) FHWA Planning and Designing for Pedestrian Safety Workshop: FDOT D-3 in Chipley.** The workshop will run from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm each day. Contact Zena Riley, ([zena.riley@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:zena.riley@dot.state.fl.us)), 850.415.9656 to register.
- **January 22-24, 2009: 8<sup>th</sup> Annual New Partners for Smart Growth Conference: Albuquerque, New Mexico.** Visit [www.NewPartners.org](http://www.NewPartners.org) to get more conference details and to register for the conference, which is packed with topics of interest to those interested in SRTS. See the list in previous Updates.
- **January 27, 2009, 2 pm EST, SRTS Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Education Webinar:** America Walks and the National Center for Safe Routes to School present this as the next topic in the Safe Routes Coaching Action Network. The presenter will be Somilia Smith, Project Coordinator, Mayor Daley's Ambassadors. To reserve your webinar seat, go to <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/470361295>.
- **February 2, 2009: Deadline for SRTS Conference Call for Proposals:** The 2nd Safe Routes to School Conference is taking place August 19-21, 2009 at the Hilton Portland in Portland, Oregon. A call for proposals is currently open with a February 2, 2009 deadline. To submit your presentation or poster proposal, please visit: <http://tinyurl.com/4s2cvz>
- **February 5-6, 2009, Building Healthy Lifestyles Conference, Mesa, AZ.** Info: Barbara Mattingly at (480) 727-1959, or visit: <http://tinyurl.com/7jo2zq>
- **February 18-20, 2009, Active Living Research Annual Conference, San Diego, CA.** Info: <http://tinyurl.com/5qh4jc>
- **February 24, 2009 at 2 p.m. EST, Turning Walk to School Day into a Year-Round Pedestrian Program Webinar:** This is another in the America Walks/NCSRTS series. The presenter will be Sonja Atkins, Coordinator,

Safe Kids Greater Sacramento. Register at: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/259123751>. For more information on these FREE webinars, please visit [http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/training/can\\_webinars.cfm](http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/training/can_webinars.cfm).

- **March 1-4, 2009, National Main Street Conference, Chicago, IL.** Info: <http://tinyurl.com/8da44p>
- **March 25-28, 2009, Health and Fitness Summit and Exposition, Atlanta GA.** Info: American College of Sports Medicine: <http://tinyurl.com/5unah6>
- **March 31-April 4, 2009, American Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AAHPERD) National Convention and Exposition, Tampa, FL.** Info: <http://www.aahperd.org/convention/>. Dan Connaughton and I will be giving a presentation on how SRTS helps meet the goals of physical education teachers, and how the FTBSEP is the ideal program for PE teachers to implement to meet those goals.

#### April-June, 2009:

- **April 2nd & 3rd, 2009, Streets as Places Training Course, New York, NY.** Info: Craig Raphael, Project for Public Spaces, <[craphael@pps.org](mailto:craphael@pps.org)> or: <http://tinyurl.com/3cgdja>
- **April 16th & 17th, 2009, How to Turn a Place Around training course, New York, NY.** Info: Craig Raphael, Project for Public Spaces, <[craphael@pps.org](mailto:craphael@pps.org)> or: <http://tinyurl.com/57bfgk>

#### July-September, 2009:

- **August 19-21, 2009, Second Safe Routes to School National Conference, Portland, Oregon.** Deadline for Call for Proposals: February 2, 2009. More Info: [http://www.bta4bikes.org/at\\_work/saferoutes\\_conference.html](http://www.bta4bikes.org/at_work/saferoutes_conference.html)

#### October-December, 2009:

- **October 7-9, 2009, 10th Annual Walk21, New York City NY.** Info: <http://tinyurl.com/67kk4m>

#### Ongoing:

- **National Pro Walk/Pro Bike Presentations Now Available On-Line:** Some of the presentations from the Pro Walk/Pro Bike National Conference in Portland, Oregon are now posted at: <http://www.bikewalk.org/2008conference/vconference/schedulefull.html>; look for live links in red.
- **America Walks/NCSRTS Webinar series:** If you missed any of these webinars, please go to [http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/training/can\\_webinars.cfm](http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/training/can_webinars.cfm) to download and view the webinar.
- **Pedestrian Focus States Webinar on Pedestrian/Bicycle Law Enforcement:** This December 17 webinar has been archived and can be viewed at: <http://fhwa.na3.acrobat.com/pedfocus/>. Sign in as a guest (first name and last name). In the bottom right hand corner, click on the two *Enforcement Workshop for Webinar* files and select "Save to My Computer".
- **T-Square's 2009 Professional Training Portfolio:** The Florida Transportation Technology Transfer Center (T-Square), based at University of Florida, has published its *2009 Professional Training Portfolio*, available at: <http://t2.ce.ufl.edu/nl/2008-11-catalog.pdf>. This catalog is packed with training of interest to SRTS proponents (see the December 19 Update for the list).
- **Additional FHWA Pedestrian Safety Design/Planning workshops:** Contact Florida's Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator Dennis Scott ([dennis.scott@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:dennis.scott@dot.state.fl.us), 850-245-1527) or Hussein Sharifpour, ([Hussein.Sharifpour@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:Hussein.Sharifpour@fhwa.dot.gov)), 850-942-9650 x 3024 if you are interested in sponsoring a workshop in 2009. This is an excellent way to start your local SRTS planning. You will be taught what to look for, who to work with, and many solutions to pedestrian problems, which translate easily to the school and neighborhood environment for SRTS programs.