



# Community and Economic Development

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## **Safe Routes to School Infrastructure Grants: Technical Assistance Opportunities for Jurisdictions July 2018 Update**

*Safe Routes to School* (SRTS) is a national movement that promotes bicycle and pedestrian safety, education, encouragement, infrastructure, and equity among elementary and middle school students.



As part of House Bill 2017 (HB2017), Oregon's landmark transportation funding package passed by the Legislature last year, dedicated funding will be available statewide via competitive grants for SRTS infrastructure projects. ***Please see the attached flier from the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) for more details and important dates.*** The purpose of the funding is to build projects within the public right-of-way that promote bicycle and/or pedestrian safety in a one-mile radius of schools. Examples include, but are not limited to, curb extensions and pedestrian crossings. Eligible applicants include Cities, Counties, Tribes, ODOT, Transit Districts, and road authorities.

Community and Economic Development (CED) staff at the Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments (OCWCOG) are available to provide **technical assistance to jurisdictions in the Linn, Benton, and Lincoln County Region** as they prepare to apply. Applications are due to ODOT **October 15, 2018**. Letters of Intent are due **August 31st**.

### **Available Services:**

1. Data collection: *Parent Survey* and *In-Class Transportation Tally* to identify current student transportation modes and parents' perceptions related to transportation.
  - *Fee:* \$750 (Agency billing rate, \$75 x 10 hours OCWCOG staff time)
  - *Deliverables:* OCWCOG will develop a customized data report of survey and tally results, using a portal provided by the *National Center for Safe Routes to School*, and will provide the data report to the grant applicant and the participating school, with a one-page memo summarizing the findings. In advance, OCWCOG will provide enough blank Parent Survey copies (in English and Spanish, as needed) for each student in the school, plus extras, and enough blank copies of the In-Class Tally for each classroom.
  - *Support needed from school:* Approximately 5 hours of school staff time to distribute / collect the survey, administer the tally, and mail documents back to

OCWCOG; includes a brief phone call or email exchange with OCWCOG staff regarding instructions.

2. Mapping:

- *Fee:* \$600 (Agency billing rate, \$75 x 8 hours OCWCOG staff time)
- *Deliverables:* OCWCOG will develop a GIS map showing anonymized student residential addresses in relation to the school location and the proposed infrastructure project location. More details can be discussed after grant application materials become available from ODOT in July 2018.
- *Support needed from school:* Excel file with anonymized student addresses

3. Grant Writing Support:

- *Fee:* \$1,500 (Agency billing rate, \$75 x 20 hours OCWCOG staff time)
- *Deliverables:* OCWCOG will provide support in writing and editing for narrative components of grant application; compiling Letters of Support; and other technical assistance. *Applicant jurisdiction (City, County, etc.) will take the lead on the grant application.*

For more information, please contact Community and Economic Development Planner Tarah Campi at [tcampi@ocwco.org](mailto:tcampi@ocwco.org) or 541-924-8480. Availability is subject to scheduling.

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**MEMBER GOVERNMENTS — COUNTIES:** Benton, Lincoln and Linn **CITIES:** Adair Village, Albany, Brownsville, Corvallis, Depoe Bay, Halsey, Harrisburg, Lebanon, Lincoln City, Lyons, Millersburg, Monroe, Newport, Philomath, Scio, Siletz, Sweet Home, Tangent, Toledo, Waldport, Yachats **OTHER:** Confederated Tribes of Siletz, and Port of Newport

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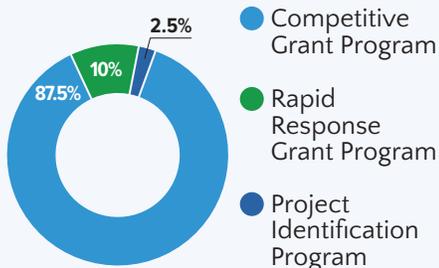
# COMPETITIVE INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM



## THREE PROGRAM OVERVIEW

\$10 million (\$15 million starting in 2023) Safe Routes to School Infrastructure funds are allocated annually to three programs:

- **Competitive Grant Program:**  
87.5% of funds
- **Rapid Response Grant Program:** 10% of funds
- **Project Identification Program:**  
2.5% of fund



This one-pager focuses on the **Competitive Grant Program**. For information about Rapid Response and Project Identification Programs, visit the SRTS Program website.

## COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM

**HOW MUCH FUNDING IS AVAILABLE?** The 2019-20 Competitive Grant cycle will distribute \$16 million. The minimum grant request is \$60,000, and the maximum is \$2 million.

**WHO CAN APPLY?** Cities, counties, ODOT, tribes, transit districts, and other road authorities may apply.

**WHAT KIND OF PROJECTS ARE ELIGIBLE?** Safety projects on the public road right of way, consistent with jurisdictional plans, supported by the school or school district, are within a one-mile radius of a Title I school (school with 40% or more low income students), and that positively affects the ability of children to walk and bicycle to school. Project examples include sidewalks, median refuge islands, rapid flashing beacons, etc.

**WHAT IS THE MATCH REQUIREMENT?** 20% cash match is required. For more information visit the SRTS Program website.

## HOW TO APPLY

### WHERE AND WHEN CAN I APPLY?

All application materials can be found at <https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/Programs/Pages/SRTS.aspx>.

**Solicitation begins:** July 23, 2018

**Letter of Intent due:** August 31, 2018

**Applications due, solicitation ends:** October 15, 2018

**CONTACT:** LeeAnne Ferguson  
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503-986-5805

**SRTS PROGRAM WEBSITE:**  
<https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/Programs/Pages/SRTS.aspx>



# PROJECT SELECTION

## WHAT KINDS OF PROJECTS WILL RISE TO THE TOP FOR FUNDING?

A competitive project will have some of the following criteria:

### High Priority:

- High percentage of students receiving free/reduced lunch
- High posted speed at project location
- Two or more lanes at project location, or crossing distance greater than 30 feet
- High average daily vehicles at project location
- One or more school related crashes near project location

### Priority:

- Affects elementary or middle school students
- Ability for project to be completed in five years
- Project proximity to the school
- Project benefits multiple schools

**The Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee will make final project recommendations to the Oregon Transportation Commission.**

# PROJECT DELIVERY

- Grant Recipients will be reimbursed for project costs by ODOT.
- Monthly progress reports must be submitted by Grant Recipient.
- Projects must be completed within five years.
- Grant Recipient must begin to expend funds ASAP, at least by two years.
- Grant Recipients are highly encouraged to incorporate encouragement programs.
- Visit SRTS Program website for more details.

# PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

All Safe Routes to School Advisory, Oregon Transportation Commission, and Oregon Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public with time allotted for public testimony. Applicants may submit letters of support for projects from committees like local Area Commissions on Transportation and community-based organizations.



## FUNDING FOR SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS

In the spring of 2017 House Bill 2017 passed in the Oregon State Legislature, dedicating \$10 million annually for Safe Routes to School infrastructure, increasing to \$15 million annually in 2023. The purpose of the funding is to build projects within a one-mile radius of schools to make it safer and easier for students to walk and bicycle to school.

### IMPORTANT FACTS:

- SRTS funds are available because of an increase in State Highway taxes and fees and are deposited into the Safe Routes to School Fund.
- There is a 40% cash match for the funds. Cash match can be reduced to 20% when the project is within a city of 5,000 people or fewer, or is near a Title I school, or is within a "Priority Safety Corridor."
- The Safe Routes to School Fund is guided by OAR 737-025.

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