



SRTS Updates

September 2008

Dear Georgia SRTS Supporters,

Georgia's Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program is proud to have dedicated supporters like you, who actively promote SRTS initiatives and non-motorized transportation programs within Georgia's communities. Your commitment to this program is truly appreciated. We are anxious to begin funding projects and programs to enhance safety around schools and encourage more children to bike and walk to school. Therefore in the coming months, several activities will transpire that will allow us to move forward with our plans. The following are updates and upcoming activities of the Georgia's SRTS program.

1. Infrastructure

An engineering firm will design and implement all Infrastructure projects granted funding via the Call for Projects application process. Currently, GDOT is negotiating the contract with the selected firm. This final stage of the contract process is expected to be completed by Fall 2008.



We anticipate that the Infrastructure applications will be made public in Late Fall 2008, upon the establishment of the engineering design firm. At that time, we will proceed with the Call for Projects.

In the interim, we encourage all prospective applicants to establish or maintain their comprehensive SRTS program for their schools/communities in order to encompass the 5 Es of the SRTS program – engineering, education, encouragement, enforcement, and evaluation.

2. Non-Infrastructure



The Non-Infrastructure portion of the program will be implemented through Georgia's SRTS Resource Center. On September 9, 2008, a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) was advertised for the Resource Center. We are excited about this direction and look forward to executing the selection process as expeditiously as possible.

Once the Center is established, any K-8 school in Georgia can enroll and receive SRTS services free of charge. The Center will assist schools with all education, encouragement, enforcement, evaluation, planning and other non-construction related activities.

3. International Walk to School Day

International Walk to School Day is quickly approaching. On October 8, 2008, students, parents, teachers, and communities worldwide will be participating in the 9th annual International Walk to School Day. Let's join the over 42 countries who participated in this event last year!

Last year, 45 schools in Georgia participated in this global event. Our goal this year is to have 50 schools participating statewide. If you know of schools who will be participating this year, please contact Georgia's SRTS Coordinator at srts@dot.ga.gov OR 404-631-1775, so that we can keep an accurate tally of our state's participating schools.



For more information about International Walk to School Day, please visit:

- International website – www.iwalktoschool.org
- USA website – www.walktoschool.org

Georgia's SRTS program will be purchasing Education & Encouragement materials for this festive day, and will distribute these materials to schools registered for International Walk to School Day who have notified GDOT of their participation.

4. Webinars



America Walks hosts FREE Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Webinars every month. The webinars provide strategies to launch, maintain, or improve your community's SRTS program.

The next scheduled webinar is September 23, 2008 at 2pm ET. Mr. John Sweeney, an active board member of PTA (Legislative Committee Chairman and SRTS Program Manager) will present on the topic: "**How to Plan, Organize, and Run a SRTS Event!**". [Click here to register!](#)

5. Helpful Links

For up-to-date information regarding Georgia's SRTS program, please visit our website:

- www.dot.ga.gov/localgovernment/FundingPrograms/srts

Georgia's SRTS Guidebook has recently been updated. It is designed to help you establish a successful and sustainable Safe Routes to School program that may enhance your community's involvement in safe non-motorized transportation.

- www.dot.ga.gov/localgovernment/FundingPrograms/srts/Pages/TrainingandResources.aspx

Additional SRTS guidance and resources can be found on the following websites:

- www.saferoutesinfo.org
- <http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/saferoutes>

