



SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Background on Safe Routes to School in the Olivehurst Community

In 2012, WALKSacramento launched a Safe Routes to School program at Ella Elementary to address the safety and accessibility of walking and biking to school in the Olivehurst community. Programs eventually expanded to surrounding schools and community support for the programs initiated a Safe Routes to School Community Coalition to identify opportunities and funding for long-term bike and pedestrian infrastructure improvements.

As a result of this program, additional funding has been granted to continue Safe Routes to School programming between Fall 2020 - Spring 2022 at Ella Elementary, Olivehurst Elementary, and Yuba Gardens Middle School, as well as, funding for much-needed infrastructure improvements along Eleventh Avenue based on community feedback from the 2012-2014 program.

Program Elements

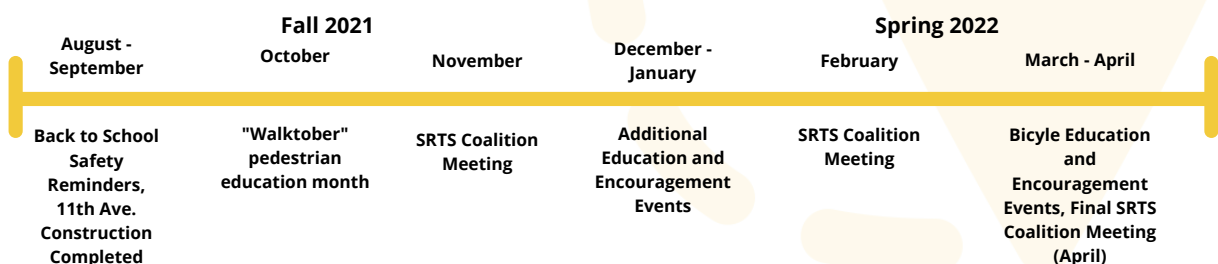
- **Encouragement** - online and in person activities to promote walking, biking, and rolling to and from school and other community destinations, walk/bike maps, pick-up and drop off procedures, frequent walker/biker commuter incentive program, and helmet giveaways
- **Education** - age appropriate pedestrian and bike safety education for students and families
- **Equity** - focus on ensuring safe, healthy, and fair outcomes for all students
- **Evaluation** - student travel surveys, parent surveys, and listening sessions to better understand walking and biking safety perceptions and travel mode decisions
- **Engineering** - Pedestrian and bicycle improvements on Eleventh Avenue between Olivehurst Ave and Powerline Road. Construction is expected to begin in Spring 2021 and will be managed by Yuba County Public Works.
- **Safe Routes to School Coalition** - a Safe Routes to Coalition will be formed to guide community specific safe routes to school programs and recommendations. The coalition will consist of MJUSD staff, community partners, parents, and local government agencies.

Safe Routes to School is an international program that works to address student transportation challenges with two key goals: Improve the safety and accessibility of walking, biking, rolling to school and encourage more families to walk, bike, or roll to school through education and encouragement programs.

BENEFITS OF SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

- **Healthy Habits**
Safe Routes to School supports regular physical activity children need to form lifelong healthy habits.
- **Less traffic congestion**
Reducing the number of vehicles driving to school reduces traffic congestion in the entire community, supports a comfortable biking and walking culture.
- **Builds community**
Students, parents, and neighbors get to know each other better and provide more surveillance on the street.
- **Better school performance**
Research suggests that students who are physically active before school perform better academically.
- **Students learn the rules of the road**
Students learn life-long habits about road safety and responsibility.
- **It's fun!**
Research shows children prefer getting to school by biking and walking.

PROGRAM TIMELINE



Your SRTS Program Coordinator: Jordan Grimaldi, jgrimaldi@walksacramento.org