



NEWS RELEASE

08-030

Today's Date: Wednesday, April 02, 2008
District: 1 - Eureka
Contact: Julie East
Phone: (707) 441-3998

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CALTRANS FUNDS SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROJECTS

Eureka – Safe Routes to School (SR2S) is an international movement that is becoming popular in the United States. The idea is to encourage children to walk or bicycle to school by funding projects to motivate those healthy behaviors. These projects involve safety improvements and efforts that promote walking and bicycling in communities. Benefits include improved health for children, reduced traffic congestion around schools, and better air quality due to fewer vehicle trips.

Caltrans administers SR2S funds through the Division of Local Assistance. Across the state, 139 projects have been funded this year. Locally, four agencies have been funded for SR2S: the City of Rio Dell (Eagle Prairie and Monument Middle Schools), the County of Humboldt (Freshwater and Garfield Elementary Schools), the City of Arcata (Sunset, Laurel Tree, and Saint Mary's Elementary Schools and Coast Grove Charter School), and the City of Lakeport (Lakeport and Terrace Heights Elementary Schools, Terrace Heights Middle School, and Clear Lake High School).

The Caltrans Division of Local Assistance oversees more than \$1 billion statewide each year available to cities, counties, and regional agencies for improvements to transportation services and infrastructure. The Division of Local Assistance funds over 1,200 projects across the state annually.

The Caltrans District 1 Division of Local Assistance assists Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino, and Lake Counties and the cities and regional agencies therein. Currently, there are more than 230 active Local Assistance projects in District 1. Approximately 150 of the active projects are Emergency Relief projects, for example the administration of funding for Martins Ferry Bridge and Old Arcata Road for the County of Humboldt.

For more information on the Caltrans District 1 Division of Local Assistance, contact Jan Bulinski, District Local Assistance Engineer, at (707) 445-6399 or Jan_Bulinski@dot.ca.gov.

More information on SR2S Programs is available at <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/saferoutes/saferoutes.htm>.

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