

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM, LAKE ELSINORE

NON-INFRASTRUCTURE | ATP CY 3

Applicant: Riverside County Department of Public Health



PROJECT SUMMARY

ATP PROJECT COST: \$500,000

The Riverside County Safe Routes to School (SRTS) collaborated with schools, the community, and stakeholders to promote walking/bicycling safety to the Lake Elsinore community. Partners included city council, public works, law enforcement, school district, school administration and community partners. The program used bilingual walk/bike to school days, walk audits, pedestrian safety instructor trainings, student led traffic safety education and Go Human media messages. Finally, an Active Transportation Network was developed to provide ongoing stakeholder engagement and resource development opportunities.

The city of Lake Elsinore is in western Riverside County and home to 2.4 million residents. The targeted areas in the proposed project have an average of 85% of students who qualify for Free-and-Reduced-Price-Meals which is indicative of a disadvantaged community. Active travel for short trips to school is not a significant mode of travel, with only a 19% of students who walked and or biked to school. The project selected the elementary schools with the highest injury and fatality rates among children ages 5-15.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY NI PROJECT



Student-led Train-the-Trainer Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Training

Activities

Five pop-up events were held and corresponded with larger community functions and included attendance at events that spanned a cross-section of language, geographic, and demographic groups. The pop-up events increased awareness of the ongoing development of the Lake Elsinore Transportation Plan and collect input from community members on project boards and by taking a handheld or Wikimap survey. Bilingual (English/Spanish) staff manned the events, which were held in conjunction with regular community events such as Día de los Muertos, Winterfest, and Eggapalooza.

Other project activities included:

- 2 bike rodeos at in Lake Elsinore
- 2 school-wide safety and peer-to-peer education campaigns
- 4 walk audits led by program staff
- 5 pedestrian and bike instructor skills training and safety education workshops conducted by program staff
- 26 stakeholder meetings facilitated by program staff for the purpose of networking with other active transportation agencies.

Quick Facts



In lieu of COVID-19, the SRTS program was approved by Caltrans to create alternative activities that would be made due to sudden school closures. These activities included peer-led lawn sign pedestrian/bike safety campaigns, creation of an online physical education curriculum, at-home activity calendar for students, and 3 community bike repair days.



NI Elements

- E** DUCATION
- E** NCOURAGEMENT
- E** NGINEERING
- E** QUITY
- E** VALUATION

Outcomes & Benefits

1. More students encouraged to walk to school;
2. Sustainable walk/bike program created by establishing a highly engaged stakeholder organization;
3. Safer active travel environment created by offering Train-the-Trainer Lake Elsinore Sheriff's Explorer's classes on pedestrian and bike safety;
4. The project demonstrated how pedestrian and bicycle safety can be taught in big or small ways, which can help establish similar programs at other schools in the district and beyond.