

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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*** MEDIA ADVISORY *** MEDIA ADVISORY ***

Solano's Safe Routes to School Program Awarded \$3 Million Grant!

SUISUN CITY, CA - The Solano Safe Routes to School Program was awarded a grant for \$3.067 million by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) under the 2015 regional allocation of the Active Transportation Program on October 28th. Solano Transportation Authority's SR2S program will receive funding for a combined infrastructure and non-infrastructure SR2S project, providing infrastructure improvements at 7 Benicia and Vallejo schools, while providing education and outreach to 26 schools throughout the Cities of Benicia, Rio Vista and Vallejo.

STA Board Chair and Benicia Mayor Elizabeth Patterson stated, "The Solano Safe Routes to School Program has proven to be effective at increasing walking and bicycling to school. Safe streets for walking and biking are essential to ensure our school children are able to get to and from school with active transportation." The STA's SR2S program was one of 11 projects selected out of 107 applications in the Bay Area seeking funding under this highly competitive grant program, aimed at supporting projects that will encourage walking and bicycling.

Seven schools located in Benicia (Benicia Middle, Joe Henderson, Mary Farmar, Robert Semple and St. Dominic's), and Vallejo (Cooper and Lincoln) will receive approximately \$2.6 million in infrastructure improvements. These infrastructure improvements are priority projects identified in the STA's Safe Routes to School Plan completed in 2013. The design and engineering for these projects will take place in FY 2016-17, with construction to start in FY 2017-18.

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SOLANO SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

Safe Routes to School (SR2S) in Solano County is a program of the Solano Transportation Authority (STA) and is run in partnership with Solano County Public Health. The program was launched in 2008, with an aim to increase the number of students that walk, bike, rideshare or take transit to and from school and supports these activities with educational events throughout the year. There are substantial benefits to increasing active transportation to and from school including improving students' health and well-being plus reducing both air pollution and traffic congestion.

Solano Safe Routes to School Sarah Fitzgerald Program Administrator





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