



SOLANO SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT

2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR



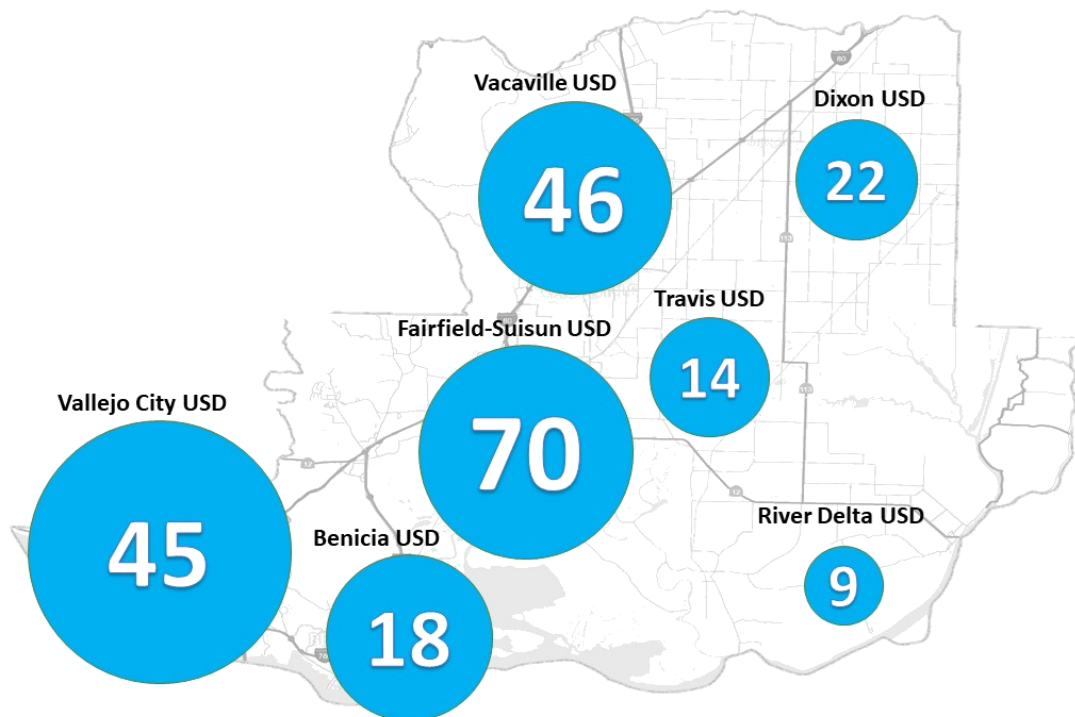
SOLANO TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY One Harbor Center, Suite 130, Suisun City

Solano Safe Routes to School

The Solano Safe Routes to School (SR2S) Program works to increase the number of students walking and bicycling to school by helping to make the journey safe, fun and healthy. Using a comprehensive approach, the program includes 6 "E's": **Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, Engineering, Engagement and Evaluation.** The program is available to all schools countywide and focuses on activities and programs that educate students on safety, health awareness and identifying improvements within communities countywide to enhance active student travel safety.

In 2008, the STA Board adopted Solano's first Safe Routes to School Plan (Plan) and authorized STA staff to create a Safe Routes to School Program in Solano County. This Plan provided the direction for the SR2S Program through 2012 when the STA and the various SR2S Advisory Committees began the process of updating the 2008 Plan. The updated Plan was adopted by the STA Board in October 2013 and the SR2S Program has continued to grow increasing participation of schools each year. STA Staff, along with its partner agency, Solano Public Health, are currently engaging the Safe Routes to School Community Task Forces in each city including the school district to update the 2013 Plan and engage with them on the Program's 5-year vision which includes evaluating the effectiveness of the Program. One of the Program's primary goals is to work with pilot schools to invest in changing the culture to a more walkable and bikeable school.

The Solano SR2S Program had another successful school year in 2018-2019, with 359 total events reaching 21,731 students through education and encouragement programs, school and community events. This included several new pilot activities and programs in several school districts.



Map shows number of school events per district

Safe Routes to School 2018-2019 Highlights

EDUCATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT

Walking and Biking Events and Programs

On October 10, 2018, 48 schools (8,654 students) across Solano County participated in **International Walk to School Day**.

Suisun Elementary hosted a ½ mile walk with several hundred students. Participating students were escorted by an officer from the Suisun City Police Department and were greeted as they arrived at the school by cheering parents and staff members.

Students at Suisun Elementary (Suisun City-FSUSD) arrive to school on Walk to School Day 2018.



Students at Nelda Mundy Elementary (Fairfield-FSUSD) arrive to school on Bike to School Day 2019.

On May 8, 2019, 28 schools (1,786 students) biked to school to participate in **National Bike to School Day**.

In Vacaville, Fairmont Charter, Foxboro and Callison Elementary schools expanded the yearly one-day event into a weeklong challenge, encouraging their students to skip the car and ride to school each day.

In Suisun City, Crystal Middle School organized a "Bike Mob" event to encourage middle school students to

participate in Bike to School Day festivities. In April, the school also held a Bike Mobile event for students. The Bay Area Bike Mobile and Solano Public Health along with SR2S staff attended the event and provided bike repair and helmets for students.

Several Solano County Schools continued their existing regular walking and Walk or Wheel (WOW) Programs. Mary Farmar Elementary (Benicia USD), Dixon Montessori Charter School (Dixon-Private), and Rolling Hills Elementary (Fairfield-Suisun USD) each launched a weekly walking or Walk or Wheel (WOW) Program during the school year. These programs encourage students to walk and bike to school, reinforcing walking and biking safety lessons. Callison Elementary (Vacaville USD) continued their daily staff led Walking School Bus in January 2019, with 2 designated routes that serve students in the morning and afternoon with funding from the SR2S Program.

The SR2S Program also continued the partnership with the Bay Area Bike Mobile to provide free bike repair at schools and community events. Schools in Suisun City, Vallejo, and Vacaville held Bike Mobile events. Attendees at Vacaville's "Night out on the Rocky Hill Trail", Vallejo Police Department's "Carnival with the Cops", and the Fairfield Civic Center Library were provided free bike repair at these community wide events.

Educational Programs and Events



Bay Area Children's Theatre "Rock the Block" at Hemlock Elementary (Vacaville-VUSD)

of wearing a helmet and how to wear it properly while riding a scooter, skateboard, or bike.

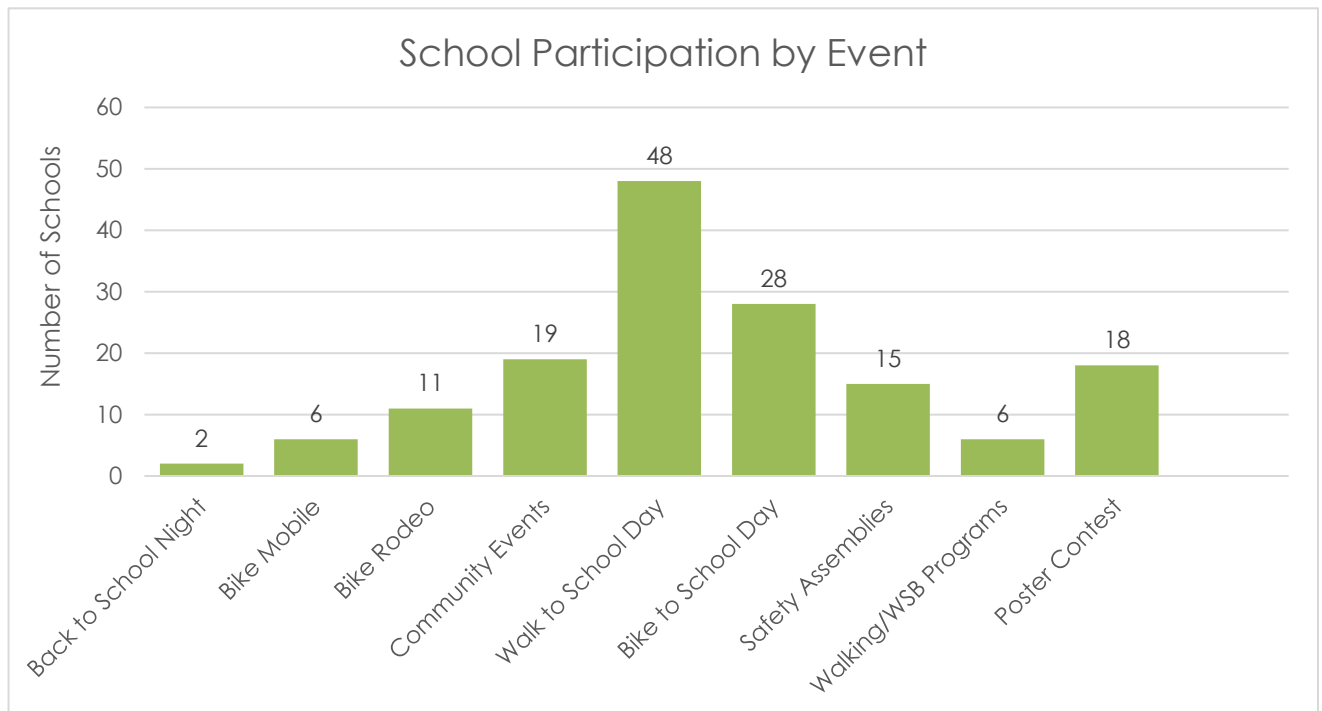
The 5th Annual Safe Routes to School Poster Contest was held in spring of 2019. This year the SR2S program focused on pedestrian safety and students were asked to incorporate one or more bike/ped safety tips in their illustration. A total of 198 students from 18 schools submitted artwork in each of the 4 grade categories. Winners were chosen from 1st through 4th place and the artwork of each winner will be printed in a 2020 Safe Routes to School Calendar. Each winner will receive a framed poster featuring their artwork and the first-place winner in each category, will also receive a gift certificate to a local bike shop.

The SR2S Program continued the partnership with the Bay Area Children's Theatre to provide Walk and Bike Safety Assemblies to schools across Solano County. The "Rock the Block" school safety assemblies reached more than 8,000 elementary school students.

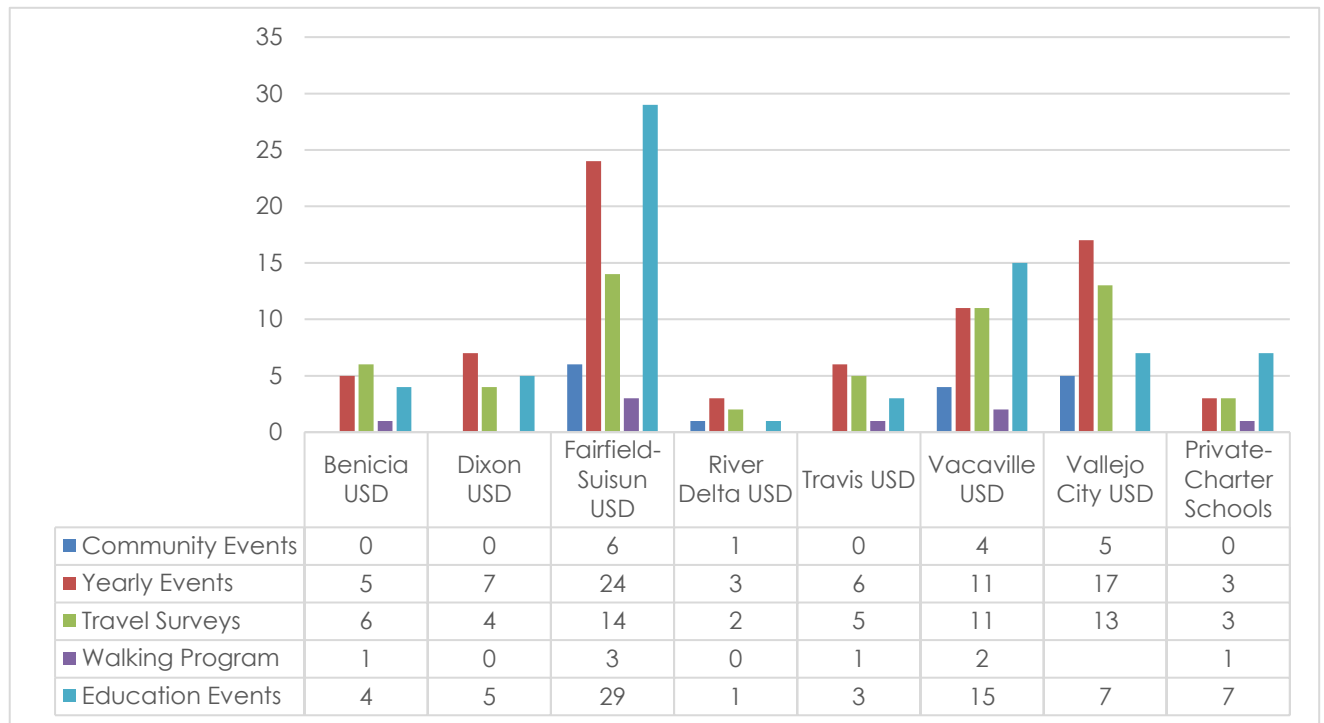
Solano Public Health staff along with SR2S staff provided helmet fitting and education events to students at school and at community outreach events. Students were provided a free helmet and learned the importance



Poster Contest artwork submitted by Lyla S. (Foxboro Elementary-Travis USD)



EDUCATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT EVENTS



ENFORCEMENT

2018-2020 Law Enforcement Education and Enforcement Grant (Cycle 4)

In June 2018, the SR2S Program awarded the Benicia Police Department \$150,000 for FYs 2018-2020, to hire a non-sworn Community Service Officer to partner with the SR2S Program at Benicia schools.

In addition to working with Benicia PD, the SR2S program extended the work with the Suisun City Police Department supporting a part-time non-sworn School Safety Traffic Officer (SSTO). The SSTO will work with the SR2S Program at Suisun City schools, continue to provide parking enforcement, and encouragement for walking and biking programs.

The City of Rio Vista Police Department's 2-year Enforcement and Education Grant (FYs 2016/18) ended in December 2018. During the grant period, the police department provided directed enforcement around the schools to encourage safe driver behavior at peak times for student travel. In September 2018, the Rio Vista Police Department, hosted a Safety Fair, providing support for a bike rodeo, helmet fitting, and SR2S information outreach, reaching 77 youth in attendance.



A young rider practicing hand signals during the bike rodeo at the Rio Vista Safety Fair (Sept. 2018)

ENGINEERING

Since 2008, the Solano SR2S Program, working with city public works departments, has completed 29 pedestrian infrastructure projects across the county (see attachment A).

As part of the SR2S Program and Evaluation Project, walkability assessment audits were held at 12 schools in Solano County (see chart below) and more walk assessments are planned for the next year. Potential project recommendations were developed and provided to cities for possible inclusion in the update of the 2013 Safe Routes to School Master Plan. The list of potential projects is shared with cities and schools for discussion at SR2S Community Task Force meetings in each city jurisdiction.

Benicia USD	Dixon USD	Fairfield-Suisun USD	River Delta USD	Vacaville USD	Vallejo City USD
Mary Farmar Elementary	Anderson Elementary	Armijo High School	Riverview Middle School	Callison Elementary	Cooper Elementary
		Cleo Gordon Elementary		Padan Elementary	Lincoln Elementary
		Dan O Root Health & Wellness Academy			Pennycook Elementary
		Fairview Elementary			

ENGAGEMENT

2018-2019 California Office of Traffic Safety Grant

The SR2S Program received a 2nd OTS grant for \$85,000 to collaborate with Solano Public Health (SPH), the Solano Pedestrian Advisory Committee, Schools and School Districts, City Police and Public Works Departments, California Highway Patrol (CHP) and additional stakeholders to host five Community Pedestrian Safety Workshops in 2018-2019. At each of these events in varying cities, the SR2S Program engaged the community around pedestrian safety education, distracted walking, distracted driving and addressed student travel safety in nearby schools. At the local meetings, STA also provided a safety analysis of the area (based on data from STA's 2018 Safety Plan) and shared potential infrastructure projects in these areas to increase pedestrian safety.

During FY2018-19, the SR2S Program and STA held Community Task Force Meetings and Pedestrian Workshops in the cities of Vallejo, Suisun City and Vacaville. The Program will continue to meet with these cities and develop a prioritized list of potential SR2S infrastructure projects. SR2S staff will also reach out to the other cities' community task forces will be organized to discuss pedestrian safety and potential SR2S Projects.



Participants at the Countywide Pedestrian Symposium listen to speaker Jennifer Green, Feb. 2019

Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee (SR2S-AC)

The Solano Safe Routes to School program is guided by the SR2S Advisory Committee comprised of community members from cities and disciplines within Solano County. The committee meets quarterly and gives recommendations for funding projects and programs to the Solano Transportation Authority (STA) Board. This school year, the SR2S Advisory Committee held quarterly meetings and provided direction for development of a Micro Grant Program scheduled to launch in January 2020. The SR2S Advisory Committee recommended the continuation of providing safety assemblies in which 15 schools participated during the 2018-2019 School Year. The SR2S-AC also recommended funding for the Benicia Police Department and the Suisun City Police Department for the 4th round of the SR2S Law Enforcement Education and Enforcement Grant (FYs 2018-2020).

Evaluation

SR2S Program Evaluation and Intervention Project

The Solano SR2S Program worked with a consultant to evaluate the program's overall effectiveness especially in relation to how it ties to Safe Routes to School infrastructure projects. The work also included 12 walk audits at Solano County schools. These audits will also be shared and discussed at SR2S Community Task Force meetings attended by city engineering staff, school district representatives, transit providers, school administrators, community stakeholders, and SR2S staff to help identify and prioritize projects that will be included in an update of the SR2S Plan with the goal of engaging the community on pedestrian and bike safety, SR2S activities, and mitigating traffic around schools.

The Evaluation Project also included piloting new program elements at targeted schools and evaluating the effectiveness of these new programs. The Project will conclude at the end of 2019 with the written evaluation and potential improvements intended to increase program effectiveness.



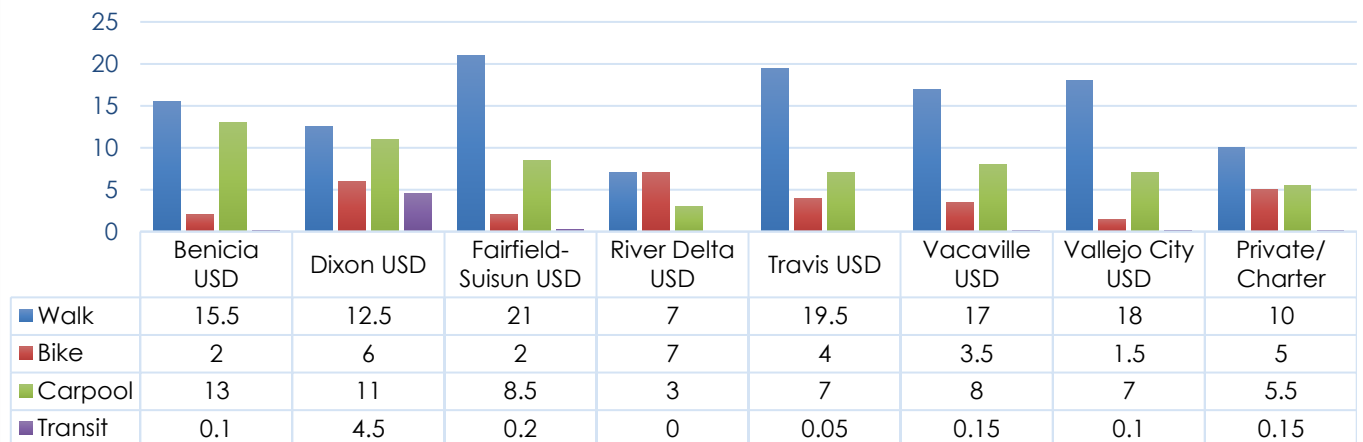
Students participate in the Resource Fair Pilot, Dan O Root Health & Wellness Academy (Suisun City, FSUSD)

Student Travel Tally Surveys

Each year in October and May, the SR2S Program works with school to collect travel data from students. Students are asked how they travel to and from school over a two-day period. These surveys are held in the classroom and provide travel options such as: walk, bike, carpool, public transit, and single-family vehicle. This data is used to help identify potential education and encouragement programs that will benefit students at each school, as well as any mode shift in school travel. Travel tally survey data shows Solano County schools average 20% walking and 2% biking. These numbers have been consistent over the years and are higher than the national average of 13% of students walking and biking combined.

In the Fall 2018 and Spring 2019 data collection periods, 58 Solano County schools participated and provided survey data from 689 classrooms.

2018-2019 Student Travel Tally Survey Results



**Solano Safe Routes to School Projects
as of 6-30-2019**

	Plan/Year	City	School/Project	Project Description
1	2008	Benicia	Benicia High School	Sidewalk gap closure at W 10th and W 11th Streets
2	2014	Benicia	Benicia Middle School	Flashing Beacons at Southampton/Turner
3		Benicia	St. Dominic's	Curb Extensions and High Visibility Crosswalk
4		Benicia	Matthew Turner	Sidewalk Bulbouts, Landings, High Visibility Crosswalks (Dempsey Dr.)
5		Benicia	Robert Semple	Sidewalk along El Bonito Way/Linda Vista
6	2014	Dixon	West B St. Undercrossing	Pedestrian crossing tunnel under the railroad tracks
7	2018	Dixon	Green Bike Lanes	Green Bike Lanes along Rehrmann Drive between CA Jacobs MS and Tremont Elementary
8		Dixon	Anderson Elementary	Curb Extensions
9		Dixon	Tremont Elementary	4 Way stop and Rehrmann Dr/Pitt School Rd
10		Fairfield	David Weir	
11		Fairfield	Laurel Creek	
12		Fairfield	Nelda Mundy	
13		Fairfield	Vanden High	
14	2013	Rio Vista	DH White	School Zone Signage
15	2014	Rio Vista	HWY 12 at Gardiner Way Pedestrian Crossing	
16	2013	Suisun City	Grizzly Island Trail	Class 1 path along South side of HWY 12 connecting Marina Blvd/Grizzly Island Rd
17	2018	Suisun City	Crystal Middle School	Driftwood Drive Sidewalk
18		Suisun City	Dan O Root	Crosswalks
19	2013	Vacaville	Will C Wood	Hume Way fencing discouraging mid-block student crossing
20	2014	Vacaville	Will C Wood	Pedestrian landing/crossing at Peabody/Marshall Rd
21	2015	Vacaville	Rocky Hill Trail	Class 1 path between Rocky Hill Rd/Markham Ave
22	2016	Vacaville	Vacaville High School	Road Diet along E. Monte Vista
23		Vacaville	Vacaville High School	Striping and Overhead Pedestrian Crossing Signage
24		Vacaville	Foxboro Elementary	Crosswalks
25		Vacaville	Padan Elementary	Padan Road extension to Vacaville Christian HS
26	2013	Vallejo	Hogan MS	Curbramps, Crosswalks, Signage, Pedestrian Countdowns @ Georgia/Oakwood and Springs St./Oakwood, painted intersection with school mascot
27	2015	Vallejo	Wardlaw Road Diet	
28		Vallejo	Steffan Manor	Sidewalk Extension, Repainting Loading Zones, Speed Feedback Signage
29		Vallejo	Elsa Widenmann	Striping for Loading Zones