



Solano Transportation Authority
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

**Solano Transportation Authority’s Safe Routes to School Program
Awarded Grant From the Office of Traffic Safety for Bicycle and
Pedestrian Safety Program**

Suisun City, CA – The Solano Transportation Authority’s Solano Safe Routes to School (SR2S) Program is the recipient of a \$155,000 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) that will prioritize the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians. Solano County is ranked #6 in California for pedestrian crashes for youth under 15 years old and second in bicycle crashes for this same age group.

“The Solano Safe Routes to School Program provides a variety of educational and encouragement programs and events to promote walking and biking to school, however safety education is paramount for the success of the program,” says STA Board Chair and Mayor of Vacaville Ron Rowlett. “With this grant award, Solano SR2S will be able to expand on much needed safety education through collaborations with stakeholders and educational events at schools and in the community focused on bike and pedestrian safety around schools and neighborhoods during peak traffic times.”

“Our roads are increasingly riskier for people who walk or ride their bike,” OTS Director Barbara Rooney said. “The goal of this funding is to reverse the growing trend of bicyclist and pedestrian-involved crashes by educating the public on safe road behaviors.”

The OTS funds will pay for a comprehensive safety program that will teach valuable skills for all types of road users.

- Bicycle skills and training courses that educate youth on safe riding behaviors.
- Helmet fitting inspections and distribution of helmets to those in need.
- Community and school education presentations on best bike/walking practices.
- Incorporating bicycle safety skills into regular community bike rides.
- Collaboration with local law enforcement agencies to address unsafe pedestrian, bicycle and driver behaviors through safety education.
- Hold Walk or Wheel events that encourage students and families to walk or ride to school.
- Work with school communities and stakeholders to identify programs and improvements to address bicycle and pedestrian traffic safety concerns.

The grant program will run through September 2022.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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SOLANO SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

The Solano Safe Routes to School Program (SR2S), with the goal to encourage children to walk or bike to school regularly as a healthy, safe, and car-free alternative, is a program of the Solano Transportation Authority in partnership with Solano County Public Health. Find out more about the SR2S Program at www.solanosr2s.ca.gov or call (707) 399-3222.

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