

# **SRTS Workshop**

Elements of a Comprehensive Plan

- Project goals
- Public involvement
  - Parents
  - Neighbors
  - Students
- Analysis of existing conditions
  - Traffic counts
  - Crash analysis
  - Infrastructure assessment
- Recommended strategies
  - Cover all 5 “E”s
- Implementation plan
  - Priorities
  - Funding
  - Responsibilities
- Implementation tools

## Components of a good plan

- Consider why you are developing a SRTS plan?
  - Increasing pedestrian / bike safety
    - Reduce traffic volumes?
    - Reduce traffic speeds?
  - Community building
  - Improving health
- Your values and goals will factor into the decisions you make

## Project Goals

- Involve a variety of people
  - Parents
  - Students
  - Teachers
  - Neighbors
- Consider a steering committee
- Use multiple formats
- Find a champion



**Public Involvement**

- What conditions make it unsafe or uncomfortable for pedestrians and bicyclists?

- Use survey results as springboard
- Use committee to confirm / quantify / document
- Survey or document routes within a 2-mile radius of school
- Use students to photograph or record issues

**How Walkable is Your Neighborhood?**

**Health by Design**  
Creating built environments to better health & living  
at [www.healthbydesignonline.org](http://www.healthbydesignonline.org)

**Instructions:** We suggest that you review the questions, then take a walk around your neighborhood with your camera before completing this questionnaire. Please read each question carefully and answer the questions as best as you can. In this questionnaire, consider your "neighborhood" to be the area that is bounded by the nearest major streets on all sides, which you will list below. Complete the questions, then go back at the end and complete the scoring to determine your neighborhood's walkability score.

What is your zip code? \_\_\_\_\_ City? \_\_\_\_\_ County? \_\_\_\_\_

In order to define your neighborhood, please fill in the nearest major street in each direction of your residence. (By major streets, we mean those streets that people who do not live in your neighborhood routinely travel.)

North: \_\_\_\_\_ East: \_\_\_\_\_  
 West: \_\_\_\_\_ South: \_\_\_\_\_

What is your neighborhood's name (if applicable)? \_\_\_\_\_

**I. Think about the sidewalks or other paved paths in your neighborhood...**  
 (Check "does not apply" as needed if your neighborhood does not have sidewalks or paved paths.)

	Always or usually	About half the time	Seldom or never	Does not apply
Are there sidewalks/paths along the minor/major streets that you listed above?				
Does your neighborhood have sidewalks and/or paved multi-use paths?				
Are the sidewalks/paths in good repair, without areas of uneven or broken pavement?				
Are the sidewalks/paths lighted for use at night?				
Are the sidewalks/paths wide enough for at least two adults to walk side by side?				
Are there curbs to separate the sidewalk/paths from the street?				
Are there trees, parking spaces, or other buffer between the street and the sidewalk/paths?				
Is there a grass strip, trees, parking spaces, or other buffer between the street and the sidewalk/paths?				
Could someone use the sidewalk/paths using a wheelchair, walker, stroller, or other mobility aide without difficulty?				
Are the sidewalk/paths free of items that might block free walking such as hydrants, light poles, signs, etc. in?				
Are the sidewalks/paths and the area next to them clear of weeds, brush, broken glass and unsightly garbage?				
Are there any benches or other places to rest along your sidewalk/paths?				
Do any of the sidewalks or paths connect to major streets or other neighborhoods?				
Total marks in this column:				
Multiplied by points per item:				X 2
Sidewalk Walkability points:				X 1

[www.healthbydesignonline.org](http://www.healthbydesignonline.org)

# Analysis of Existing Conditions

- Review and Document:

- Crash rates
- Traffic speeds
- Traffic volumes
- Intersection operations
- Condition of routes /crossings
- Condition and extent of signage



- Focus first on the streets and intersections that were identified as concerns in the parent surveys
- Tools are available to assist!

## **Analysis of Existing Conditions**

# 5 E's : Comprehensive Recommendations



## Encouragement

- Participate in National Walk to School Day
- Implement Walking School Buses



## Enforcement

- Appoint school rep. to attend Neighborhood Crime Watch meetings
- Institute No Helmet, No Ride policy for all students



## Engineering

- Improve sidewalk condition along 4000 block of Jackson Ave
- Update curb ramps on Tier 1 routes to ADA standards



## Education

- Train safety patrol
- Conduct bicycle rodeo



## Evaluation

- Conduct student survey annually
- Conduct targeted infrastructure assessment twice/year

# Recommended Strategies

- Recommendations:
  - Consider grouping by “E” category – want a good mix of all types
  - Low-cost, easy to implement solutions
  - Larger, more expensive projects
  - Short term and longer term

**Recommended Strategies**



## Identify Safe Routes

- Plot student addresses
  - ArcGIS
  - ERSI online
  - Google Earth
- Route each household to school
  - Controlled intersections
  - Safe paths
  - Lower traffic volumes / speeds
  - Community specific concerns
- Identifies needs and serves as implementation tool



# Recommended Strategies

## Identify Priorities

- Identify routes that connect most households
- Set tiers for prioritization
- Goal: to serve the greatest number of students



## Implementation Plan

- Identify responsible parties
  - Engineering department
  - Parent groups
  - SRTS partners
- Identify potential funding sources
  - SRTS
  - CMAQ
  - Private Agencies / Partners

## **Implementation Tools**

- Walking School Bus Route Map
- Preferred Walking / Biking Map
- Implementation Guides
- Student / Parent Handbook
- Education / training resources



# Implementation Tools

- Single school plan:
  - Heavy on engineering
  - Specific intersections and roads will be identified for improvement
- Multiple school or community-wide plan:
  - Lean more towards policy, education, enforcement and encouragement pieces
  - Engineering may tend towards standard practices
- Online resources on [saferoutesinfo.org](http://saferoutesinfo.org)

**What a plan should look like**

# **SRTS Workshop**

Selecting a Consultant

- LPA = Local Public Agency = you
- RFP = Request For Proposal
- LOI = Letter of Interest
- DBE = Disadvantaged Business Enterprise
- Scope of work = description of what you want your consultant to accomplish

## **Posting your RFP**

# Pre-qualification categories

## Infrastructure:

- 5.2 CE preparation
- 6.1 Topographic survey
- 8.1 Non-complex roadway design
- 10.1 Traffic signal design
- 13.1 Construction Inspection

## Non-infrastructure:

- 3.1 Non-complex Traffic and Operations Analysis
- 4.1 Traffic Safety Analysis
- 8.1 Non-complex roadway design

**Posting your RFP**



- What to look for in an LOI:
  - Firm should provide descriptions of projects completed that are similar to your project
  - Firm should demonstrate that they understand what you need / what you want
  - If you are a school...look for someone with extensive local experience – you'll want the help!
  - It should follow the requirements of the RFP exactly - 12 pages, turned in on time, description of approach, etc
  - Cost cannot be a factor in selection

## Evaluating Proposals

- Cost estimate is negotiable
  - Can shift hours among staff members
  - Consider costs of travel expenses carefully
  - Are their hours/costs consistent with your priorities?
- So is scope of work
- Multiple Contracts are required
- Don't start without NTP

**Negotiating with a Consultant**

- Trust them. They want to do their best for you... But also ask a lot of questions.
- Give timely responses. Expect the same of them.
- Give feedback and input. It makes for a better product.
- Process invoices in a timely manner. Ask for progress reports each month.
- Have fun!

## **Working with a Consultant**

**Jennifer Pyrz, PE**  
Supervising Engineer  
***Parsons Brinckerhoff***

317-287-3411 (direct)  
317-224-9529 (mobile)

[pyrz@pbworld.com](mailto:pyrz@pbworld.com)

**Questions?**