

Frequently Asked Questions

How do interested schools/communities get started?

One of the key elements of a successful local SR2S program is the formation of a **Safe Routes to School Team**. The Team should include school officials such as school nurses, PE teachers and principals, municipal officials such as SelectBoard members, Planning Commissioners and local police, parents, safety advocates and other interested parties. We hope to present Safe Routes to School trainings in the second half of 2007 so that interested schools will have some resources on how to initiate their local programs.

Will more schools be accepted into the program?

At this time, we plan to do another statewide solicitation to schools at the beginning of 2008. The result would be to select schools to receive support with their non-infrastructure activities during the '08/'09 and '09/'10 school years.

Can we use Safe Routes funding to build a sidewalk to our school?

We will be soliciting participating schools in 2007 to submit infrastructure projects for funding. To be eligible for infrastructure funds, a school must be one of those selected in 2006 or one of the schools involved in the pilot program through the Chittenden County MPO from 2004 – 2006. One of the guiding principles of SR2S is that efforts be multi-pronged, with non-infrastructure activities (Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, and Evaluation) coupled with infrastructure improvements (Engineering) to have the biggest chance of success.

On what can participating schools spend their annual \$1500 stipend?

Vermont schools have used the stipend for the following:

- Frequent walker punch cards (card stock, laminating, color copying, hole punches, lanyards, card holders)
- Water bottles
- High visibility vests and hats
- Educational videos regarding bicycle or pedestrian safety
- Reflective items (stickers, zipper pulls, wrist wraps)
- Materials to create walking school bus signs
- Banners
- Postage to mail completed surveys
- Costs for local SR2S team members to attend SR2S related trainings/seminars (mileage reimbursement, registration fees)