

Greetings from the California Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Technical Assistance Resource Center (TARC)! This monthly email provides a summary of news, research, and training opportunities to support your SRTS work here in California. For more information on SRTS in California, to view our monthly E-News archive, or to find out when your next regional network teleconference call is, check out our website at www.CAsaferoutestoschool.org.



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NEWS

Four California Communities Receive National Center for SRTS Mini-Grants!

Please join us in congratulating the California recipients of the National Center for Safe Routes to School spring 2011-2012 mini-grants! Of the 26 schools, municipalities and organizations from across the country that will receive \$1,000 to support local SRTS projects, four are located in the California communities of Chatsworth, North Hollywood, San Diego, and Santa Barbara. [Visit our website](#) for a summary of these four California mini-grant projects.

Green Ribbon School Award Application Available

The US Department of Education has established a Green Ribbon Schools Award to recognize schools taking a comprehensive approach to greening their school by integrating environmental learning while maximizing positive environmental and health impacts. The application is due on Friday, February 17, 2012 and can be found on line at the [California Department of Education \(CDE\) website](#). On Friday, January 20, 2012, at 11 a.m., CDE will host a webinar to explain the application process, which can also be accessed at the [CDE website](#).

NEW RESOURCES AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

New Resources on the California Walk to School Headquarters Website!

[How to Include Students Riding Buses in Walk to School Events](#) summarizes the importance of including students riding buses in Walk to School events and details ways that event organizers and school administrations can include these students in Walk to School events. [Walk and Roll to School Tally Posters](#) are a fun way to track how many students walked, biked, or rolled to school. This resource summarizes

how to create tally posters for Walk and Roll to School events, and includes visual examples. Both resources are available on TARC's sister program website, the [California Walk to School Headquarters](#).

US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Environmental Justice Small Grants Program

The Environmental Justice Small Grants Program supports and empowers communities working on solutions to local environmental and public health issues. The program assists recipients in building collaborative partnerships to help them understand and address environmental and public health issues in their communities. Successful collaborative partnerships involve not only well-designed strategic plans to build, maintain and sustain the partnerships, but also working towards addressing the local environmental and public health issues. The grant application deadline is February 29, 2012. For more information, please visit the [EPA website](#).

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Transportation Planning Grant Program

Transportation Planning Grant funds are available for planning projects that improve mobility and lead to the planning, programming, and implementation of transportation improvement projects. Caltrans is now accepting applications for Fiscal Year 2012-2013. Applications are due via email by 5:00 p.m., Monday, April 2, 2012. Learn more about this funding opportunity at [Caltrans' Division of Transportation Planning website](#).

State and Federal Funding Wizard Prototype Released

Several California state agencies, including the Strategic Growth Council, Air Resources Board, the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, and the University of California, Davis have partnered on developing the [CoolCalifornia Funding Wizard](#), a searchable database to locate funding across state and federal agencies for reducing the impacts of climate change and supporting sustainable communities. The prototype, which will be expanded throughout the year to include additional resources, can be accessed at the [CoolCalifornia website](#).

County Health Roadmaps Grants Program

The County Health Roadmaps project includes several efforts to build connections with local communities and national partners and leaders: grants to improve community health; a prize program to recognize communities taking action likely to lead to better health; and resources to help groups working to improve the health of people in their communities. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is collaborating with the University of Wisconsin's Population Health Institute to bring this program to cities, counties and states across the nation. For more information and to learn about future funding opportunities, please visit [County Health Rankings website](#).

US Department of Transportation Traffic Safety Report

US Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood recently announced [updated 2010 fatality and injury data](#) showing that highway deaths fell to 32,885 for the year, the lowest level since 1949. The report also shows that pedestrian fatalities and injuries increased while bicyclist fatalities decreased. For a list of other data sources, including California-specific bicycle and pedestrian collision data, please visit [TARC's Gather Data webpage](#).

WEBINARS

January 31 – Safe Routes Coaching Action Network Webinar

Communities initiate SRTS programs for a variety of reasons. In an attempt to reduce the barriers for students to walk and bicycle to school, some programs focus on reducing traffic congestion and the number of cars around schools. This sixty minute webinar takes a brief look at the problem of traffic congestion as it relates to SRTS and two SRTS programs that have had success in reducing congestion and measuring traffic reductions. This webinar is part of the SRTS Coaching Action Network Webinar Series, developed by America Walks and the National Center for SRTS. For more information and to register, please visit the [National Center for SRTS website](#).

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