



Greetings from the California Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Technical Assistance Resource Center (TARC)! TARC is a program of California Active Communities within the University of California, San Francisco in partnership with the California Department of Public Health. 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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TARC NEWS

Learn more about data resources on TARC's website

TARC's website hosts a wealth of data resources with a California-focus to help plan for and carry out a SRTS program. These different data sources have been used in preparing SRTS award applications and in guiding communities in prioritizing their efforts. [Read more](#) to learn about the resources on our website and how they can help you with your program!

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Active Schools Acceleration Project Grant

First Lady Michelle Obama announced a new national competition that will identify and reward the most creative, impactful, and scalable school-based programs and technological innovations that promote physical activity for children. The contest is sponsored by the Active Schools Acceleration Project in collaboration with the Partnership for a Healthier America and will award a total of \$500,000 in prizes, with individual awards of up to \$100,000. Top winners will participate in funded pilot studies aimed at expanding the reach and impact of the projects. Applications are due April 2, 2012. Find out more about the competition at the [Active Schools Acceleration Project website](#).

Office of Traffic Safety Grant Applications due April 6th!

The California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) has announced its 2012 grant cycle. OTS administers traffic safety funds to local and state public agencies for programs that help enforce traffic laws, educate the public in traffic safety, and provide varied and effective means of reducing fatalities, injuries and economic losses from collisions. Bicycle and pedestrian safety programs are included. The deadline for submission is April 6, 2012. Learn more at [OTS' grant application page](#).

Bicycle Transportation Account Call for Projects

Caltrans has announced its 2012-13 Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) Call for Projects. The BTA is an annual program providing state funds for city and county projects that improve safety and convenience for bicycle commuters. Projects must be designed and developed to achieve commuting and safety needs of all bicyclists. Applications are due April 27, 2012. Please visit the [Caltrans' Division of Local Assistance website](#) for detailed instructions on submitting applications. You can learn more about the BTA at [Caltrans' program website](#).

School Grants for Healthy Kids

Through partners such as Kellogg's and the Walmart Foundation, Action for Healthy Kids is pleased to release its *School Grants for Healthy Kids* opportunities for the 2012-2013 school year. Over 500 schools will be awarded funds that will range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 with significant in-kind contributions from Action for Healthy Kids in the form of people, programs, and school nutrition expertise. Applications are due May 5, 2012. For more information, please visit the [Action for Healthy Kids website](#).

NEW RESOURCES

Local Success Stories on the California Walk to School Headquarters Website

There are *many* leaders and paths to create a successful Walk to School Day. California Active Communities spoke with five event organizers about what worked as they organized 2011 Walk to School Day in their respective communities. These vignettes highlight overcoming barriers such as lack of parent volunteers and funding, as well as how organizers used media and community relationships to build a successful event. Read more about these local success stories on TARC's sister program website, [California Walk to School Headquarters](#).

SRTS Programs that Reduce Speeding and Distracted Driving

The National Center for SRTS has released a new report highlighting how Safe Routes to School programs have measured success in reducing the numbers of speeding cars and distracted drivers. To view the report, please visit the [National Center for SRTS website](#).

Public Health Law & Policy Guide: Putting Business to Work for Health

Public Health Law & Policy has released a new guide which looks at how local government incentives can help improve community health. It explains a variety of different types of incentives that promote access to healthy food and physical activity space, and outlines the steps involved in developing and carrying out these policies and programs. Download the free guide [here](#).

Mineta Transportation Institute Report: Integration of Bicycling and Walking Facilities into the Infrastructure of Urban Communities

The Mineta Transportation Institute (MTI) has published a free report that highlights best practices and identifies program characteristics associated with high levels of non-motorized travel, with an emphasis on bicyclists and pedestrians in selected California urban communities. The complete report is available for free download at the [MTI website](#).

WEB FORUMS AND WORKSHOPS

March 28 – Dialogue4Health: School Policies and Physical Activity Web Forum

Public Health Institute's Dialogue4Health Improving School Policies and Settings to Increase Physical Activity Web Forum is a free, interactive forum that will discuss strategies to improve the quality of physical education, recess, and other school policies, programs, and environments to support physical activity. This Web Forum will showcase national leaders summarizing the science behind the role that schools play in supporting physical activity. To register, please visit the [Public Health Institute website](#).

April 24 – Safe Routes Coaching Action Network Webinar

In this sixty minute webinar, *Leaving No Stone Unturned: Tips and Tricks for Funding Your SRTS Program*, presenters will help make fundraising for your SRTS program less intimidating by providing tips and tricks on where to find funding and how to go about obtaining it. This webinar is part of the Safe Routes to School Coaching Action Network Webinar Series, developed by America Walks and the National Center for Safe Routes to School. Register for the webinar [here](#), or contact Michelle Gulley at mgulley@americawalks.org for more information.

May 3 and 4 – Pedestrians Count! 2012 Workshop

Join California WALKS and their partners for *Pedestrians Count! 2012* in Los Angeles on May 3 and 4, 2012. *Pedestrians Count! 2012* promotes pedestrian safety, transit access, healthy environments and sustainable communities coordinating with cutting edge research and explores latest best practices in pedestrian data collection and analysis with strategic community advocacy. Professionals, academics and community leaders will share their current and most promising work. For more information and to register, please visit the [California Walks website](#).

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