



# Virginia's Safe Routes to School Program 20 Fun Facts to Know and Tell

## Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program Purpose

1. Purpose is to enable and encourage children to walk and bike from home to school, to do so safely, and to reduce traffic, fuel consumption and pollution near schools

## General Information

2. Funded programs and projects serve elementary and middle school students (K-8)
3. Programs use collaborative and comprehensive "5E" approach: Education, Enforcement, Encouragement, Engineering and Evaluation
4. Two steps needed to apply for funding: 1) School Travel Plan and 2) application (competitive)
5. Locally-administered reimbursement program
6. Federal legislation, [SAFETEA-LU, Section 1404](#), created Safe Routes to School Program
7. 100% Federal funding does not require local or state match
8. Virginia Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program begun in 2006
9. Virginia apportionment totals \$13.3M over 5 years; \$5.7M has been awarded (see below)
10. SRTS Advisory Committee provides guidance to the VA SRTS Program
11. Best place to start: SRTS Program Guidelines on Virginia SRTS Program website

## Non-infrastructure Programs

12. Local programs include activities that: promote walking and bicycling to school; improve enforcement; raise public awareness; train students and parents in bicycle and pedestrian safety, health, and environmental benefits; and improve SRTS planning efforts
13. Thirty-one local SRTS *non-infrastructure* programs awarded \$720K in funding (2007-2009)

## Infrastructure Projects

14. Projects include treatments such as: sidewalks; on-street & off-street bicycle facilities; crossing improvements; traffic calming; and speed reduction
15. VDOT SRTS District Coordinators assist local managers of funded projects
16. Project located in public right-of-way within 2 miles of K-8 school with SRTS program
17. Nineteen local SRTS *infrastructure* projects awarded \$5.0M in funding (2007-2009)

## Contact Information

18. VA SRTS Program website includes previous funding: <http://www.virginiadot.org/saferoutes>
19. National Center for SRTS (FHWA) website: <http://www.saferoutesinfo.org>
20. SRTS Coordinator: [Sarah.Weisiger@VDOT.virginia.org](mailto:Sarah.Weisiger@VDOT.virginia.org); (804) 371-4868; Address: VDOT-TMPD / 1401 E Broad St / 1<sup>st</sup> Floor / Richmond VA / 23219

