



San Mateo County **SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL**

Healthy Kids • Green Communities • Safe Journeys



2012-2013 Annual Report



Program Goals

San Mateo County Safe Routes to School (SR2S) of the San Mateo County Office of Education (SMCOE) is a countywide program made possible with funding from the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG) and federal transportation funds provided by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Regional Safe Routes to School Program. The overall program goal includes encouraging and enabling school children to walk, bicycle, carpool, and utilize transit as means of getting to school. To facilitate achievement of this goal, schools are supported with the implementation of projects and activities that decrease traffic congestion around school sites, reduce school-related travel emissions, and improve the health, well-being, and safety of student participants. Specific support to participants includes a grant award program, facilitation, professional development, outreach, and countywide event coordination.



"This is a great, 'feel' good program."

-Peter Burchyns
Retired Administrator

Safe Routes to School Program

The San Mateo County Safe Routes to School is a partnership between the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG) and the San Mateo County Office of Education (SMCOE). During the 2012-2013 year, other partners and collaborators included: San Mateo County Health System; the Sequoia Healthcare District; the Peninsula Health Care District; and the San Mateo County Sheriff.

Additional active partners included cities and unincorporated areas of:

- Daly City
- Brisbane
- South San Francisco
- San Bruno
- Pacifica
- Millbrae
- Burlingame
- Hillsborough
- Menlo Park
- Atherton
- Woodside
- County of San Mateo
- Montara
- Half Moon Bay
- San Mateo
- Foster City
- Belmont
- Redwood City
- San Carlos
- East Palo Alto
- La Honda
- Pescadero
- Portola Valley



"I love walking to school. It's healthy and fun because you can visit with your friends."

-Third Grade Student
Beresford Elementary School
San Mateo, CA

The Safe Routes to School program provides training, resources, and customized support at no cost to participating schools, while working together with district and school administration, wellness coordinators, parents, teachers, and local community based organizations to encourage students to be active, have a healthy start to the school day, reduce traffic congestion, and improve the environmental health of our communities.

The program is based on the comprehensive 5 E's model: Education, Encouragement, Engineering, Enforcement and Evaluation.



Program Components



"I wish every day was walk to school day."

-Fifth Grade Student
Woodside Elementary School
Woodside, CA



2012-2013 Program Components

Education

- Walk and Roll K-5 Educator Guide in-class Activities and Training
- Parent and Teacher Champion Workshops and Training
- Rodeos and customized education events

Encouragement

- Walking School Bus and Bike Train Programs and Trainings
- Walk and Roll to School Days
- County-wide Events on International Walk to School Day, Earth Day, and Bike to School Day
- Golden Sneaker Contest Workshops and Materials

Engineering

- Walkability and Bikeability Audits
- Traffic Counts with the Support and Assistance

Enforcement

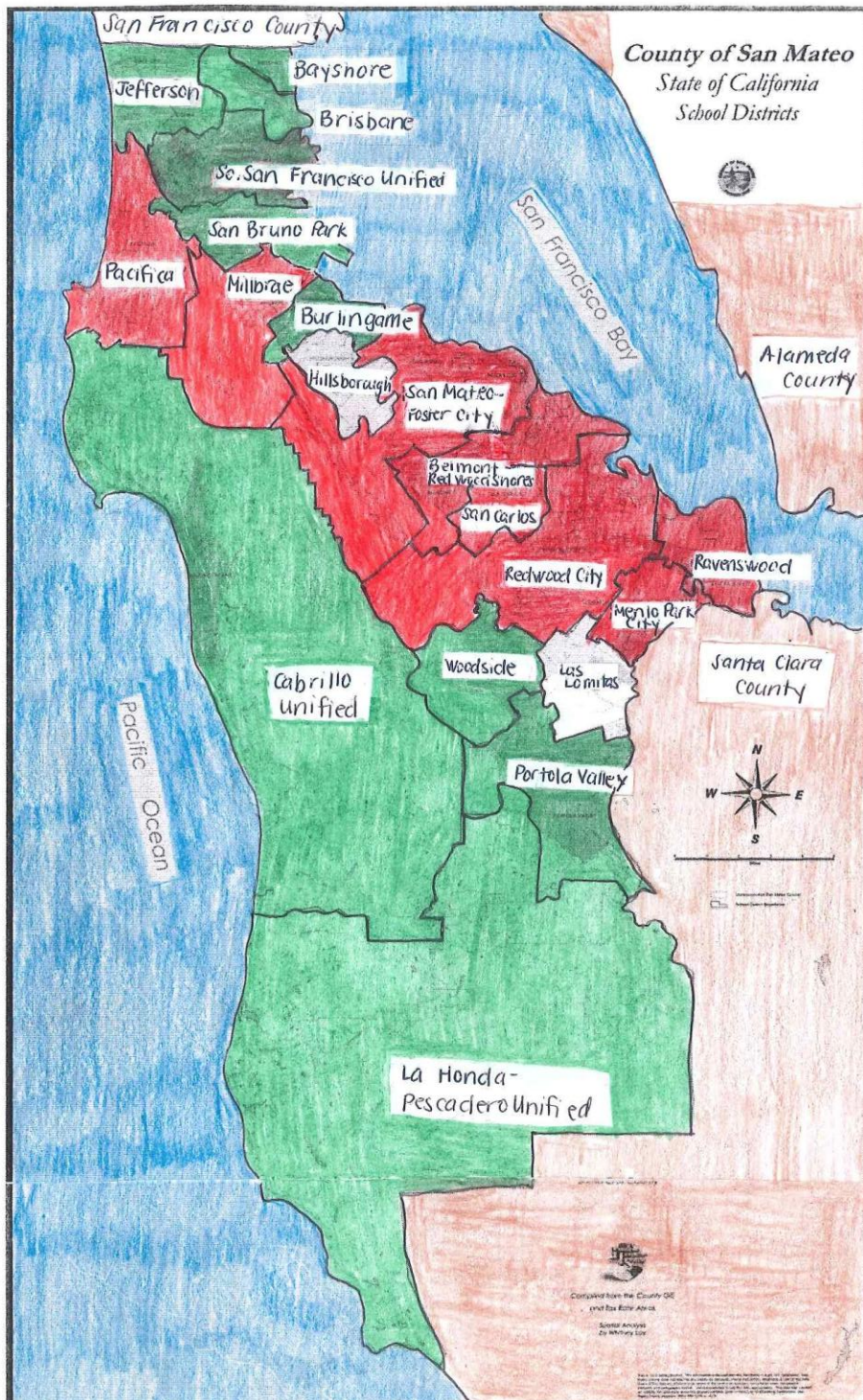
- Partnerships with Local Law Enforcement and the County Sheriff's Office to promote safety around participating schools
- Crossing Guard Workshops
- Traffic Control Program Workshops and Trainings for students and volunteers

Evaluation

- San Mateo County student travel tallies and parent surveys to evaluate the effectiveness of the program
- Event participation and evaluation

Participants

During the 2012-2013 school year, 105 schools from 17 school districts participated in the San Mateo County Safe Routes to School Program. Participating schools included one private school, seventy-eight elementary schools with configurations of K-5, K-6, or K-8, twenty-four middle schools, and two high schools.



Key Accomplishments

Education

San Mateo County students participated in:

- **240** Bike Rodeos
- **352** Bike and Pedestrian Student Education Workshops
- **29** Parent Education Workshops
- **10** Family Fun Education Events
- Development of one Safety Educational Video
- Development of 30 Route Maps
- Development of a Kindergarten through Fifth Grade Educator Guide with alignment to the California Common Core State Standards and the Next Generation Science Standards in collaboration with Transform of Alameda County

“Thank you so much for inviting me to participate in International Walk to School Day. It was great to see all the smiling children.”

-Dr. Gary Waddell
SMCOE

Encouragement

With funding support, San Mateo County students participated in:

- **3** County-wide Events occurring on:
 - October 3: International Walk to School Day
 - 91 Schools participated in event activities
 - April 22: Earth Day
 - 49 Schools participated in event activities
 - May 8: National Bike to School Day
 - 67 Schools participated in event activities
- **18** Encouragement Events organized by vendors
- **627** Volunteer coordinated encouragement events including:
 - Walk/Bike Across California Events
 - Golden Sneaker Contest Events
 - Monthly/Weekly Walk and Roll Days



Enforcement

Funding facilitated the training and materials necessary for the implementation of:

- **15** Kiddie Valet/Student Valet programs to encourage safe driver behavior at pick-up and drop-off locations

Engineering

With funding support, San Mateo County Schools participated in:

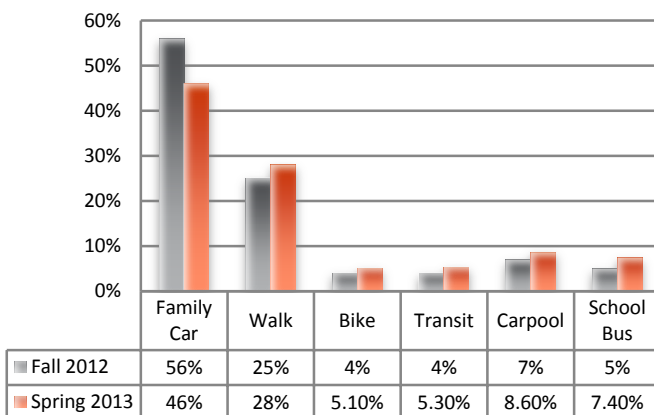
- **19** Walkability/Bikability Audits

Key Accomplishments Cont.

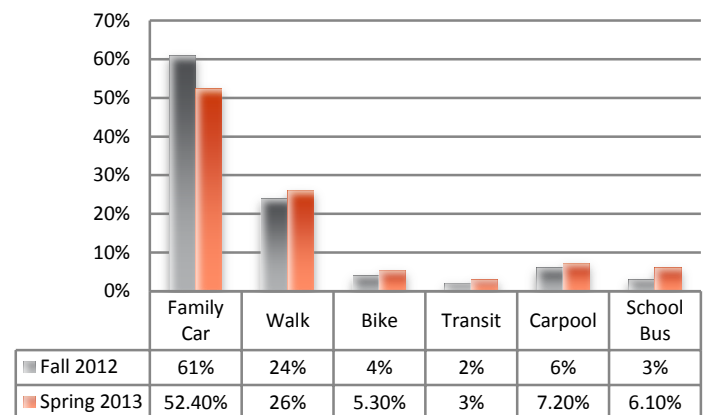
Evaluation

Program evaluation was conducted in the Fall of 2012 and again in the Spring of 2013. Program evaluation results suggest that education, encouragement, enforcement, and engineering efforts are increasing parental awareness of the Safe Routes to School program and participation in program activities. For instance, awareness of the San Mateo County Safe Routes to School Program increased from 32% to 36.9% from the Fall of 2012 to the Spring of 2013. Evaluation data also suggests that while speeding, traffic volumes, unsafe intersections, and stranger danger continue to be concerns of parents, program activities are facilitating some positive changes in driver behaviors and the development of supportive communities. Charts are included below for reference.

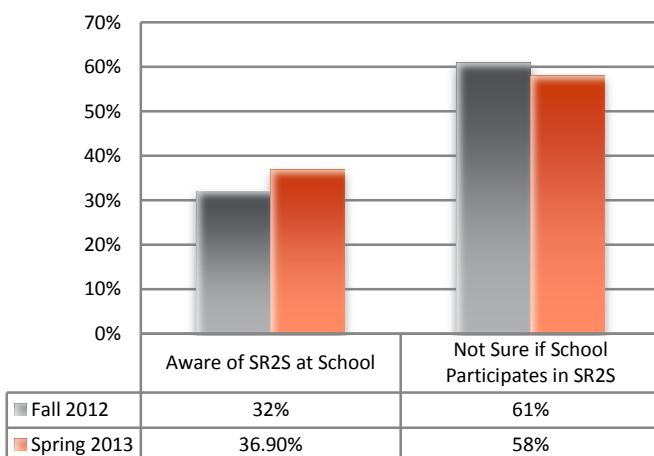
Mode Split FROM School



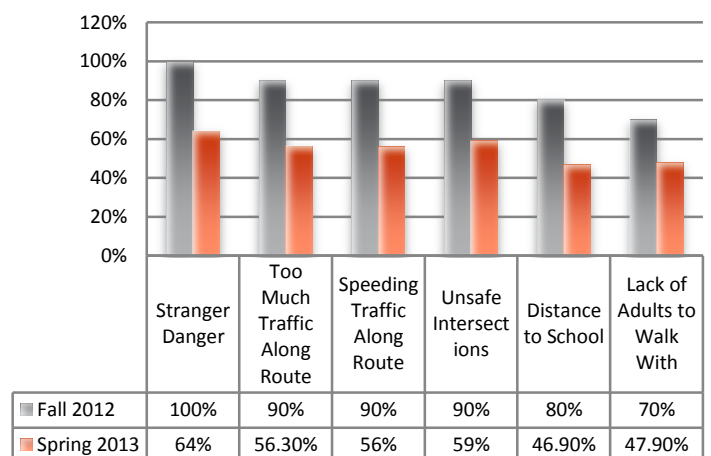
Mode Split TO School



Awareness of Program



Key Parental Concerns



"My daughter and I would have never considered walking to school before Safe Routes. Now we walk at least once a week and we both love it!"

-Third Grade Parent
Westlake Elementary School
Daly City



San Mateo County Office of Education Safe Routes to School

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www.smcoe.k12.ca.us/sr2s