



San Francisco Safe Routes to School 2021–2022 Program Evaluation Highlights

Prepared by:



SFMTA

Letter of Introduction

Summer 2022

Dear San Francisco Safe Routes to School Supporters,

Over this past year, our Safe Routes to School Program has helped students and families experience joy in their school commutes, while also improving their safety as they walk, bike and take Muni to school. This has been a year of re-building, and the SFMTA and Safe Routes to School have been proud to re-build alongside San Francisco's school communities.

As students returned to classrooms in August 2021, the SFMTA supported school communities by prioritizing access to schools in transit service changes and expanding our Free Muni for Youth program to encompass all youth under the age of 19. We also welcomed our inaugural Youth Transportation Advisory Board (YTAB) members, who developed and delivered outreach, service and budget recommendations directly to me and the SFMTA Board and Directors.

Meanwhile, the Safe Routes to School program went to work re-building connections with school staff and families as they resumed in-person events, classes and activities. Safe Routes to School responded to evolving community needs, expanded its reach and stayed true to its focus on equity. We expanded in-language offerings, incorporated adaptive bicycles into Bicycle PE classes and continued to provide virtual programming to communities that remained cautious about in-person activities.

Even as we celebrated many successes with our school communities, we also shared grief and loss. A school we work with directly lost a beloved teacher in a car crash, a tragic reminder of how much work still needs to be done to keep teachers, students, parents and school staff safe on San Francisco streets. As a city, San Francisco is dedicated to eliminating all traffic deaths and proactively improving safety on our streets, particularly around schools where some of our most vulnerable road users walk, bike and play.

As we head into next year, we look forward to continuing to re-establish our connections and deliver in-person Safe Routes to School programming, creating safe, fun experiences that foster San Francisco's next generation of multimodal walkers, bikers and transit users. We hope you'll join us.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey P. Tumlin
Director of Transportation



Contents



Program Overview	4
Our Partners	6
Focus Areas	7
Continued Engagement with Deep Dive Schools	8
Commitment to Equity	10
By the Numbers	12
Activities	
Participation	
Context for SF-SRTS Programming in 2021–2022	14
Key Evaluation Findings—2020–2021	17
Finding 1: Generated excitement for continued programming	18
Walk & Roll to School Week	
Bike & Roll to School Week	
Bike & Roll to School Week: Elementary School Art Contest	
Desire for More Programming	
Finding 2: Empowered students and families to use the Four Fun Ways	30
Increased Confidence to Walk/Bike to School and Sense of Safety	
Bike PE Empowers Students	
Finding 3: Fostered community building	36
Parent/Caregiver or School Staff Volunteer Leaders are Key to Participation	
Connecting Students to Schools through Transit	40
2030 Goals	42
Recommendations	44
Looking Back on 2019–2021	46

Program Overview

The San Francisco Safe Routes to School (SF-SRTS) partnership was created to help make walking and bicycling to school safer and more accessible for children, including those with disabilities, and to increase the number of children who choose to walk, bicycle, take public transit or ride in parental carpools. On a broader level, SF-SRTS programs strive to enhance children's health and well-being, and improve the daily life of all members of our community.

SFMTA is the lead for SF-SRTS core programming, which focuses on:



Education



Encouragement



Environmental Safety

All members of the SF-SRTS partnership implement the core SF-SRTS programming. The SFMTA is also responsible for transportation services and engineering and for maintaining and improving school-adjacent infrastructure in order to reduce school-related collisions and reduce single family vehicle trips.

Four Fun Ways

are the priority modes of transportation San Francisco Safe Routes to School promotes:



Walking



Biking



Transit



Carpool

Primary SF-SRTS Objectives

- 1 Increase students/families using the Four Fun Ways to get to school
- 2 Increase awareness of the Four Fun Ways among school staff and policy makers
- 3 Increase capacity + knowledge of how to use the Four Fun Ways

2030 Goals for SF-SRTS

The SF-SRTS partnership has two long-term goals:

Goal 1—Mode Shift

By 2030, the program will reduce single family vehicle trips from 48% in 2018 to 30%.

Goal 2—Safety Support

By 2030, the program will reduce school-related collisions by 50% from an annual average of two severe and 32 total injury collisions per year, which aligns with the city's Vision Zero initiative to eliminate all traffic deaths in San Francisco.

Our Partners

SF-SRTS partners from across the city work collaboratively to lead annual events, support outreach and engagement and provide expertise in urban bicycling, pedestrian safety and environmental and personal safety.



Focus Areas

Core Programming



Encouragement

Communications, events and support provided to families and students outside of the school day.



Environmental Safety

Programs and efforts to improve street safety and the perception of safety for families traveling to school.



Education

In-school, student-focused education on transportation safety and multi-modal transportation options.

Adjacent Infrastructure Support



Engineering

Physical engineering and planning work. Includes: traffic operations, traffic engineering, traffic calming and walk audit program.



Transportation Services

Public transportation options. Includes Muni and school trippers, yellow school bus and Free Muni for Youth.



“This was like a joy...We’ve had such a rough year for education and educators in general this year. And when they were able to go to these field trips or have the bikes on campuses, it just made a world of difference for them, shifting and uplifting their spirits of teaching.”

– School Staff Member

Continued Engagement with Deep Dive Schools

When the SFMTA became the lead agency for the SF-SRTS partnership it used data on mode choice, traffic collisions and student demographics to identify 33 schools to focus on as “Deep Dive” schools. Deep Dive Schools were identified as one of two Kinds (see below). Additionally, for the 2021-2022 school year, SF-SRTS was funded to reach 75 SFUSD public, non-charter schools.

Support, selected because the schools have the highest percentages of students eligible for the National Free and Reduced Meal Program, and schools that are located in areas with a high proportion of collisions within one-quarter mile.

Mode Shift, selected because a high proportion of students lived within walking distance of the school but very few students traveled to/from school using any of the Four Fun Ways (walking, biking, transit or carpool).

Of the 33 Deep Dive schools, 31 had students, families and/or school staff who participated in SF-SRTS activities during 2021-2022.



Deep Dive Schools: Support

- Bessie Carmichael School (K-5 Campus)
- Bessie Carmichael School (6-8 Campus)
- César Chávez Elementary School
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Academic Middle School
- Edwin and Anita Lee Newcomer School (K-5; formerly the Chinese Education Center Elementary)
- Jean Parker Elementary School
- John Yehall Chin Elementary School
- Marshall Elementary School
- Phillip And Sala Burton Academic High School
- Redding Elementary School
- Spring Valley Science Elementary School
- Tenderloin Community Elementary School
- Thurgood Marshall Academic High School

Deep Dive Schools: Mode Shift

- A.P. Giannini Middle School
- Abraham Lincoln High School
- Alvarado Elementary School
- Argonne Elementary School
- Balboa High School
- Claire Lilienthal Alternative School
- Commodore Sloat Elementary School
- Dianne Feinstein Elementary School
- Dr. Charles R. Drew College Preparatory Academy (K-5)
- E. R. Taylor Elementary School
- El Dorado Elementary School
- Francis Scott Key Elementary School
- Herbert Hoover Middle School
- Hillcrest Elementary School
- James Denman Middle School
- Lowell High School
- Monroe Elementary School
- Paul Revere School (K-8)
- Presidio Middle School
- Sunnyside Elementary School



Program Evaluation Highlights

Commitment to Equity

SF-SRTS has a longtime commitment to advancing equity and promoting inclusive programming for all students and families in the San Francisco Unified School District. The following activities are a few of the core ways SF-SRTS is achieving this goal during the past fiscal year.

- ➔ **Prioritizing Engagement with Deep Dive Schools.** Deep-Dive “Support” schools are SFUSD schools with the highest percentages of students eligible for the National Free and Reduced Meal Program, and schools that are located in areas with a high proportion of collisions within one-quarter mile. By prioritizing SF-SRTS support, time and resources to these schools, SF-SRTS is working to address long-standing inequities.
- ➔ **Ensuring Programming is Multilingual and Culturally Responsive.** The SF-SRTS partnership has always recognized the importance of providing information (oral and written) in languages other than English. Bilingual and bicultural employees at SF-SRTS partnership member organizations ensure that families are welcome and can fully participate in in-person SF-SRTS activities and programming. This past school year, SF-SRTS offered in-person and online programming and translated materials in the following languages: Spanish, Cantonese, Mandarin, Arabic and Tagalog.
- ➔ **Helping Families Meet Basic Needs.** The SF-SRTS partnership supported SFUSD and city department efforts to ensure that food and other resources reached the families who most needed support. To meet families’ immediate needs for food, the SF-SRTS partnership supported 16 meal distribution events in the Chinatown and Tenderloin neighborhoods.





- ➔ **Responding to Anti-Asian Harassment through Personal Safety Trainings.** In response to the national and local increase in anti-Asian hate crimes and harassment, SF-SRTS partners organized and hosted personal safety trainings in both English and Cantonese. They conducted extensive outreach to the Chinatown and Tenderloin communities to publicize the trainings and also advertised them online to the broader San Francisco community. The trainings focused on increasing people’s skills and confidence in keeping themselves safe, especially for students and family members traveling to and from school by foot, bicycle and other forms of active transportation.
- ➔ **Ensuring Physical Accessibility in Bike Physical Education.** In order to expand accessibility, SF-SRTS offers adaptive bicycles for students with mobility challenges as part of the Bike P.E. program. The handcycles, recumbent bicycles and adult-sized tricycles ensure that students who struggle with balance or who are unable to pedal with their legs can participate in SF-SRTS programming and have access to therapeutic exercise opportunities.
- ➔ **Addressing Economic Barriers.** SF-SRTS partnered with the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition’s Bike It Forward program to organize a Bike It Forward event at Monroe Elementary in the Excelsior. Families with limited resources participated in a bicycle education class and received a free refurbished bicycle fitted to their needs. Free childcare was provided and the half of event participants who spoke Cantonese or Spanish as their primary language were supported by bilingual SF-SRTS and SFBC staff.
- ➔ **Offering Bike P.E. in Spanish** at Mission Education Center. This past school year, SF-SRTS coordinated a Bike P.E. unit at Mission Education Center, which serves Spanish-speaking immigrant students. SF-SRTS worked closely with SFUSD staff at the school to implement the program so that students had access to bicycle education without encountering language barriers.

“Most importantly, my special ed kids that were able to join the Bike P.E. class...we hear stories [from the parents/caregivers]: ‘Oh my gosh, my son! He talks nothing but the bikes...he just looks at the bikes, and he’s just loving it.’ And also, this student has Tourette syndrome, so his episodes have decreased completely. It [Bike P.E.] has helped so much.”

– High School Staff

By the Numbers

Activities



More than 5,000 outreach efforts to SFUSD schools through email, video conferencing and/or in-person in 2021-2022

Partnered with and developed meaningful connections with more than 40 non-profit and local community based organizations



More than 270 helmets and over 100 bicycle bags awarded to SF community members



More than 9,000 bike lights and 10,000 stickers distributed to schools during Bike & Roll to School Week



10 in-person trainings



16 webinars and training videos facilitated on six topics



114 webinar views as of June 30, 2022



More than 140 participants in virtual trainings

“I love the partnership! I gotta say, I love working with [SF-SRTS]. It’s been very smooth, easy and there’s been flexibility, which is nice.”

– School Staff Member

Participation



11,197 student participants in any type of SF-SRTS programming



More than 2,400 parent/caregiver participants in any type of SF-SRTS programming



More than 1,200 SFUSD families engaged in SF-SRTS programming.

Schools

119 schools, including private and charter, participated in SF-SRTS programming

83 SFUSD schools engaged through SF-SRTS programming

31 Deep Dive Schools participated in SF-SRTS programming

2021 Walk & Roll to School Day



More than 150 classrooms participated in Walk & Roll to School Day



More than 1,800 students participated in Walk & Roll to School Day

2022 Bike & Roll to School Week



More than 5,200 students participated in Bike & Roll to School Week



More than 1,300 parents and school staff participated in Bike & Roll to School Week

Safe Passage



1,150 students were supported in walking to school in the Tenderloin and SOMA

Safe Passage provided safety support on 98% of school days (or 176 school days) at the Tenderloin Community School

Learn to Ride Events



More than 350 children and 300 parents/caregivers attended 10 Learn to Ride classes

Context for SF-SRTS Programming in 2021-2022

Navigating Return to In-Person Schooling

Because of COVID-19 concerns, many SFUSD schools suspended all or most in-person programming, including on-site SF-SRTS activities. During the 2021-2022 school year, schools began transitioning back to in-person programming. Many schools are still rebuilding programming and reimagining future SF-SRTS opportunities, given the ongoing challenges with the pandemic. In many schools, for example, there is a need to recruit staff and volunteers to lead SF-SRTS programming.

Quotes from community members:

“COVID put a stop to almost everything. The fact that we were able to have a Bike PE program or a Bike to School Day this year at all was actually quite an accomplishment...We’re in a rebuilding phase.”

“I’m trying to get more [SF-SRTS] volunteers for next year. This was a rebuilding year for us. We lost most of our PTA during the pandemic to either other schools or graduation.”



Existing Barriers to Using the Four Fun Ways

Below are common barriers to using the Four Fun Ways, which were identified through a series of stakeholder interviews with parents/caregivers and school staff.

Time and Finances

Many working parents/caregivers have limited time in the morning to get their child to school before work, and walking and bicycling are perceived as incompatible with their daily schedules and routines. Moreover, for many families, the financial cost of purchasing a bicycle or scooter for their child is cost-prohibitive, and the worry of having a child's bicycle or scooter stolen is a high concern.

Relationships and Trust

Although carpooling is viewed as an excellent low-carbon alternative to walking, bicycling or taking transit, there are concerns among parents/caregivers about not being able to trust other families or caregivers with their children.

Traffic Safety

Across the city, students and families are deterred from walking or riding to school by perceptions around vehicle speed and intersection safety. Local stories of close calls or collisions involving pedestrians and bicyclists increase fear among community residents.

Neighborhood Safety

For specific neighborhoods, experiences with verbal and physical harassment have led to concerns related to physical safety, reducing many families' confidence in walking or riding to school. Additionally, there is a perceived safety concern regarding the presence of unhoused individuals, homeless encampments and waste on the sidewalks and streets.

San Francisco Safe Routes to School programming seeks to address these barriers and help make walking, bicycling, taking transit and participating in carpools safer and more accessible for all students and families.

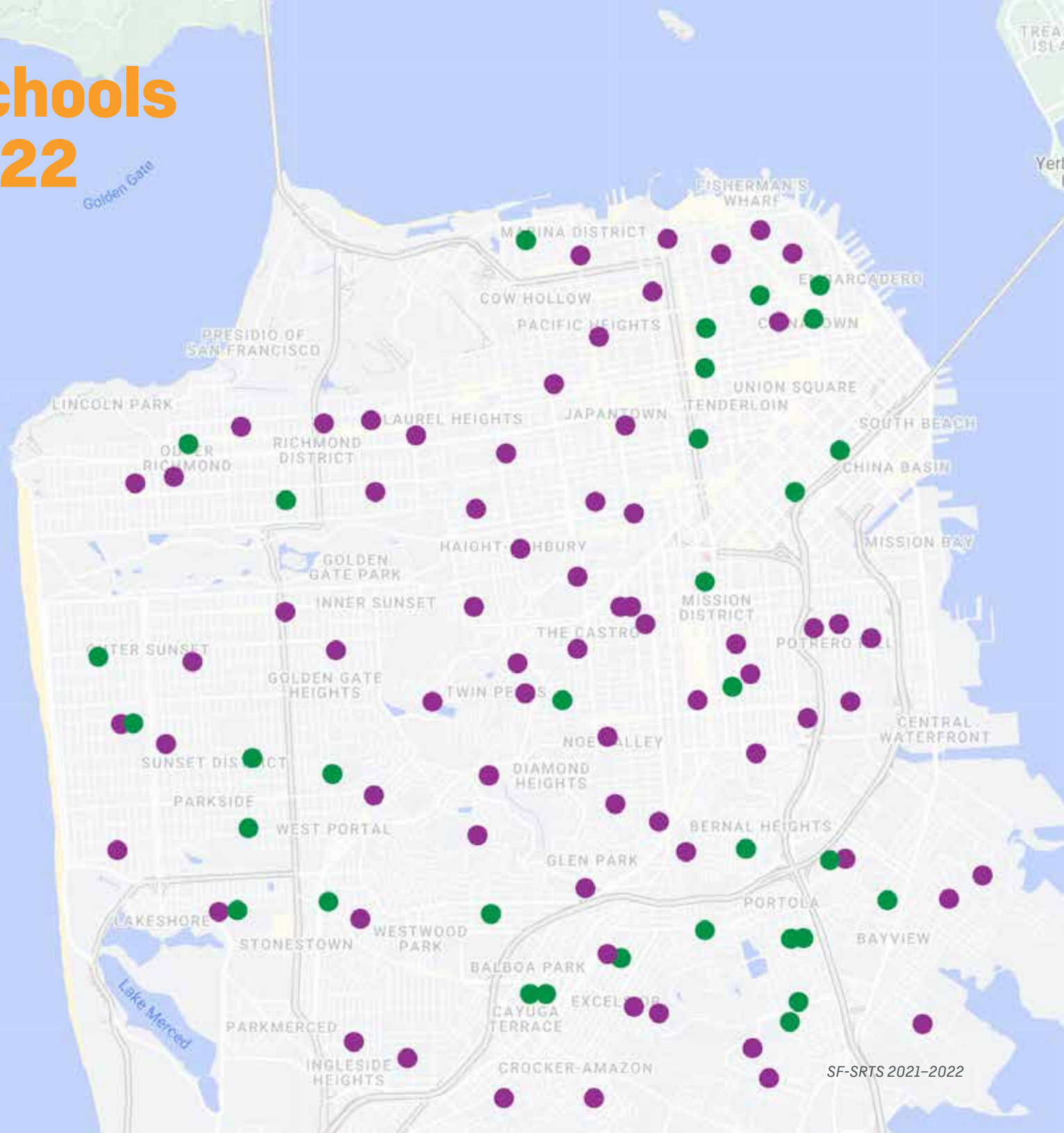
SF-SRTS Schools in 2021–2022

● Deep Dive Schools
(33 Schools)

● Other SFUSD Schools
(70 Schools)

For the 2021-2022 school year, the SF-SRTS program was funded to reach 75 SFUSD public, non-charter schools.

Includes all grade levels.



Key Evaluation Findings Fiscal Year 2021–2022



Program Evaluation Highlights

In fiscal and school year 2021-2022, the SF-SRTS partnership:



Generated excitement for continued programming



Empowered students and families to use the Four Fun Ways



Fostered community building

Finding 1: Generated Excitement for Continued Programming



“We’re definitely repeating next year. Better, stronger and hopefully with more participants. So we’re excited about it and we’re going for it!”

– Elementary School Parent/Caregiver



In fiscal and school year 2021-2022, students, parents/caregivers and teachers and other school staff consistently expressed a high level of excitement and interest for more in-person SF-SRTS programming. This type of excitement included enthusiasm for using the Four Fun Ways in the 2021-2022 academic year, which was the first year of in-person programming since the pandemic, as well as excitement for programming in future years.





Student, Parent/Caregiver and School Staff Reactions:

“How fun it really is when you finally learn [to ride a bike]!”

– Middle School Student

“My kids are so happy when they’re done...It’s fun to see their positive energy. I really enjoyed the Bike P.E. unit!”

– Middle School Staff

“We had a pretty large group. Kids were stoked to meet up and ride together!”

– Elementary School Staff

Walk & Roll to School Week

Every October, students throughout San Francisco walk, scoot and bicycle to school as part of International Walk & Roll to School Day. On October 6, 2021, 150 classrooms from 26 different schools participated in Walk & Roll Day activities. Schools throughout San Francisco participated, with participation from schools in all 11 supervisorial districts. All teachers who registered to have their classes participate in Walk & Roll Week activities were entered into a prize drawing.



More than 150 classrooms participated in Walk & Roll to School Day



More than 1,800 students participated in Walk & Roll to School Day

27 classrooms received prize packages of pedestrian safety items including reflective shoe strings, light up keychains and high visibility backpacks



“

“We participated in October in the citywide walk and roll to school event...And it was really successful. People were really excited to get the stickers!”

– Elementary School Staff

“We have this thing, the Golden Shoe, that whichever classroom has the most [SF-SRTS] participants, they get it for the month. And so, all the kids definitely are into getting that shoe for their classroom...it’s literally a tennis shoe that was spray-painted gold... Whoever got the golden shoe, the principal would announce it with the numbers. All the kids are hoping they get it. That just kind of pushes all the kids to go next month to see if they could get the shoe.”

– Elementary School Staff



Bike & Roll to School Week

SF Bike & Roll Week celebration in April is for students citywide to celebrate getting around by their own power. Traveling by bike, scooter, wheelchair and skateboard (and walking, too) is healthy, green and FUN.

Activities were designed to encourage children and youth of all ages to participate and collaborate with friends and peers.

“

“The bike train was a big hit! We had a lot of participants and they had a great time. The bike lights were excellent prizes and students were excited about them. One second grader’s family told me that their daughter learned how to ride a bike in the weeks leading up to the bike train just so she could participate!”

– Elementary School Parent/Caregiver



66 schools
participated in Bike & Roll to School Week



More than 5,200 students
participated in Bike & Roll to School Week



More than 1,300 parents and school staff
participated in Bike & Roll to School Week

On average, on a scale of one to five, schools rated the success of their event as 4.1.

“Day-of excitement! Students (and grown ups) were pumped to get new [bike] lights, and it was a lot of fun to watch the normally not-too-crowded bike racks fill up. We had really high participation from folks who had ridden to school before, and lots of folks who lived nearby trying a ride for the first time that week.”

– Elementary School Parent/Caregiver

“In April, she brought the smoothie bike* to the park to meet us...so we got a lot more people because, in February and March, it wasn’t that popular because we didn’t have the giveaways or the support we had in October.”

– Elementary School Parent/Caregiver

* SF-SRTS has two bicycle-powered blenders (“bike blenders”) that are brought to events as a fun way for students to practice pedaling while making a healthy smoothie snack.



Bike & Roll to School Week: Elementary School Art Contest

As part of the Bike & Roll to School Week celebrations, there is an annual art contest that provides SFUSD students an opportunity to submit original art pieces and win prizes.

Of the 39 art submissions, the 2022 San Francisco Bike & Roll Art Contest winners were:

Grand Prize:

Ai Yamada
4th grade, Rosa Parks Elementary





Runner up:
Oliver Millan
2nd Grade,
Clarendon
Elementary
School

Runner up:
Joy Saputra
4th grade, R.L.
Stevenson
Elementary

Runner up:
Emily Jin
1st Grade,
Gordon J Lau
Elementary



Participation in 2021–2022 SF-SRTS Programming

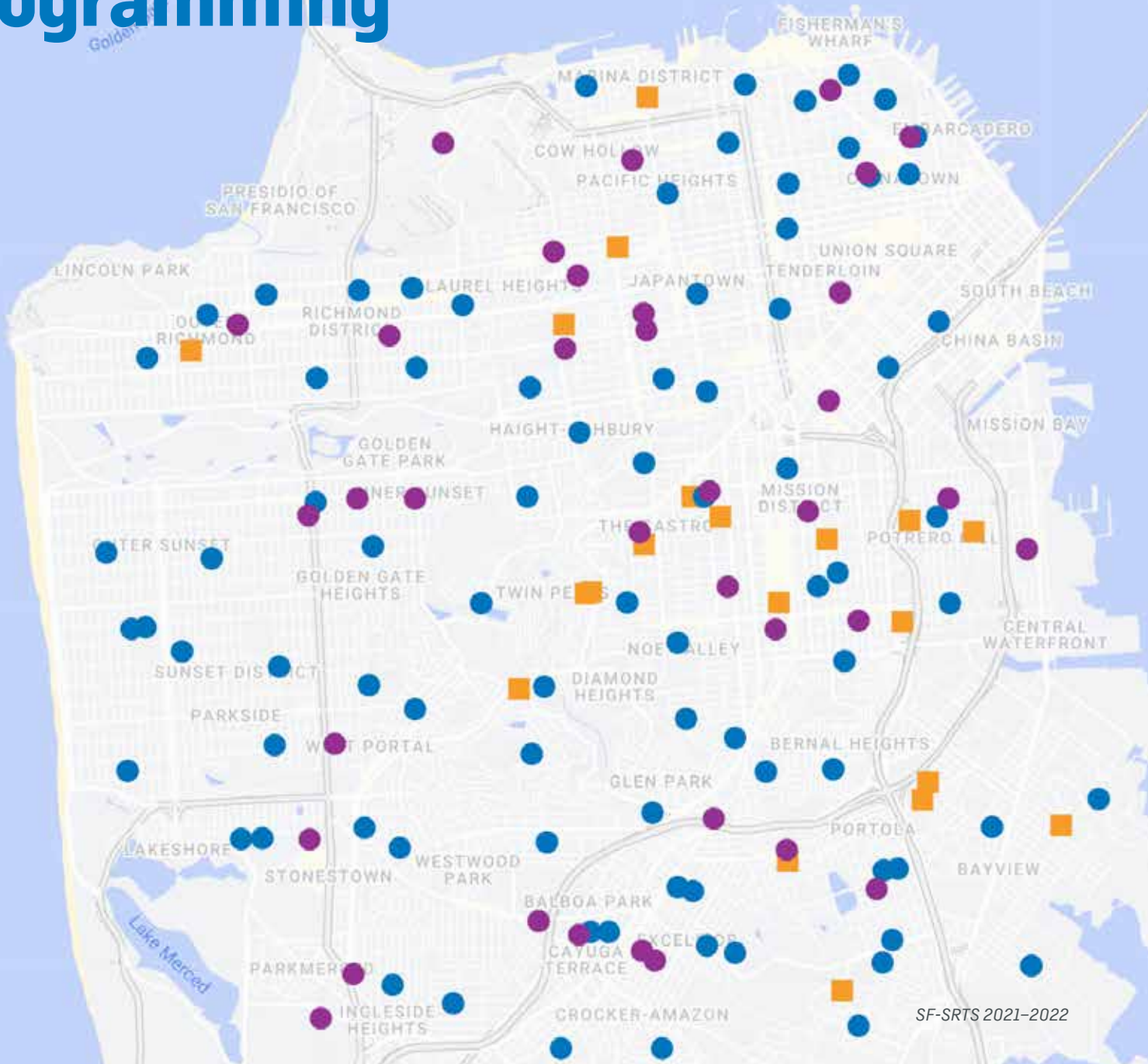
Schools that Participated in SF-SRTS Programming

- SFUSD Schools (83 Schools)
- Non-SFUSD Schools (36 Schools)

Schools Without Confirmed Participation in SF-SRTS Programming

- SFUSD Schools Without Confirmed Participation (20 Schools)

In the 2021-2022 school year, the SF-SRTS program reached 83 SFUSD public, non-charter schools; exceeding the partnership's commitment to reach at least 75 schools.



Includes all grade levels.

“

“This has been great. Just the excitement of the kids and the families. Like kids are really excited when they can participate...They love it!”

– Elementary School Staff

“I think our community enjoys it. Because they can't really come and go on site anymore, it is an opportunity for families to connect and talk to each other in a school sponsored kind of way...I think that is a way that we can build community given the parameters that we're setting around safety at our school site.”

– Elementary School Staff



Desire for More Programming

There is a strong interest for SF-SRTS among students, parents/ caregivers and school staff to see more support brought to their school site to implement SF-SRTS programming. In a stakeholder survey, for example, school staff and volunteers expressed interest in an increase in the frequency of programming, an increase in SF-SRTS staff support for school-based events and an increase in the availability of shared bicycles for Bike Physical Education (Bike PE) units. Students of all ages, including elementary school students, frequently inquire on when SF-SRTS events and programming will return to their school.

“

“Honestly, this [SF-SRTS] was the best. I hope I can do this again with my kids next year... Regardless of the amount of people that were able to help this year or not, it was very successful. So, any additional help I think would be awesome.”

– Elementary School Staff





“I was really impressed because they [SF-SRTS] speak it, they write it down, they demonstrate it and then we practice it. So all types of learning that we [teachers] learn... hopefully each teacher can have all their classes do the bike program.”

– High School Staff

When [SF-SRTS] events do happen, it is happy. Folks are happy. Folks want to do this more often.”

– Elementary School Staff

“My kids are so happy when they’re done...It’s fun to see their positive energy. I really enjoyed the Bike P.E. unit. I wish I could bring it to my school twice a year, every year.”

– Middle School Staff

Finding 2: Empowered Students and Families to Use the Four Fun Ways

“

“Another success is when parents are able to join the [SF-SRTS] field trip. I’ve seen a parent in tears before because they just didn’t know how to teach their child to ride a bike...They didn’t have a bike at home. I think those are like the successes that really stick with me that are impactful.”

– School Staff Member



By providing school community members with the knowledge and confidence to walk and ride to school on their own, the SF-SRTS partnership empowered students and families to use the Four Fun Ways both during our events and classes and independently after our activities end.





Parent/caregiver and School Staff Reactions:

“I give Safe Passage a 10/10, because it was very successful and it helped to make all of us feel very safe in the Tenderloin. I’m also happy and very proud to be part of this program. I want this program to continue and not stopped.”

– Elementary School Parent/Caregiver

“I’ve heard of people after our walk-and-roll events who have started walking and biking [to school]...It’s the barrier of not thinking they had enough time in the morning to actually make it to school. And so just taking that extra, like leaving 10 minutes earlier and making that effort, families were like, ‘Oh! This felt great to be able to walk with my kid to school or be able to really have that morning exercise.’”

– Elementary School Parent/Caregiver

“A lot of kids and fams were excited about riding to school together, and wanted to continue weekly bike trains.”

– Elementary School Staff

Increased Confidence to Walk/Bike to School and Sense of Safety

Through a variety of SF-SRTS programming, students and families from across the city reported feeling empowered to safely walk or ride to school. School staff and parents/caregivers reported that after SF-SRTS educational events, certain families have made the switch from driving alone to school every day to more frequently walking or biking to school with their child (or children).

SF-SRTS partners provide a variety of virtual and in-person safety trainings to children and parents/caregivers in the city. For example, the Tenderloin Community Benefit District provides environmental and personal safety trainings and the YMCA of San Francisco's YBike program provides Learn-to Ride events on weekends for any residents of all ages.





“What I found interesting is that I learned really quick. I never knew how to ride a bike and ever since we started riding bikes, I learned really quick and pretty much understand everything.”

– Middle School Student



More than 350 children participated in weekend Learn-to-Ride events.



More than 300 parents/ caregivers participated in weekend Learn-to-Ride events.

On average, on a scale of one to five, parents/ caregivers rated their comfort in biking with children as 4.2 after participating in the Biking with Children trainings and webinars.

SF-SRTS organized 23 unique Walking School Buses

Walking School Buses supported 773 trips to school

Bike PE Empowers Students

Bicycle Physical Education (Bike PE) is one of SF-SRTS's programs that integrates into existing SFUSD Physical Education classes. Depending on the grade level, Bike PE teaches students how to ride, how to safely ride on the street and/or how to repair a bicycle. The majority of Bike P.E. units include 10 days of physical education instruction.

SFUSD PE Specialists/Teachers provided detailed stories of the transformational impact Bike PE has had on their students, including students with special needs, who previously struggled with and/or feared of getting on a bicycle to a point where they confidently rode a bicycle and were able to join their peers. For example, the SF-SRTS Bike P.E. program offers adaptive bicycles for students with mobility challenges so they have access to therapeutic exercise opportunities.



Participation



872 SFUSD students participated in a SF-SRTS Bike P.E. class!



30 classrooms participated in Bike P.E.

Impact



Middle and high school students reported a **16% increase in bicycle knowledge and skills** after participating in Bike P.E.



25% of elementary school students who participated in Bike P.E. rode a bike for the first time.

“

“Honestly at the start I was not for this P.E. bike thing but I am so grateful I joined. I had a great time. Thank you so much!”

– Middle School Student



“[Not all of our families can afford to have bikes, but] learning how to ride a bike is something that gives you a certain freedom and confidence...I feel very fortunate that the program has offered this to our schools”

– Elementary School Staff

“The success for us is to see the students’ reactions. The student reactions on campus to say ‘Oh, I can ride!’. Elementary students are just so joyful when they’re doing something and when they’re learning to feel confident on a bike...they’re showing off a skill that they probably wouldn’t have been able to do in front of their peers.”

– School Staff Member

Finding 3: Fostered Community Building



“The community building. Just seeing everyone come together, especially in October after a year and a half of being apart, it was just awesome to see people together and laughing and talking and walking.”

– Elementary School Parent/Caregiver



After a year and a half of mostly distance learning education, the SF-SRTS partnership has promoted social interaction in school communities across the city. As a result of the pandemic and school safety concerns, parents/caregivers and families were not allowed on school grounds during student drop-off and pick-up and, as a result, there were few opportunities for social interaction. Since SF-SRTS walk & roll and bike & roll events begin off-site, they provide opportunities for parents/caregivers and families to organically interact with one other and build relationships. As a result, community-building was identified by stakeholders as a major benefit of SF-SRTS during and after distance learning.





More than 2,400 parents/
caregivers participated in
SF-SRTS programming
during 2021–2022.

Parent/caregiver and School Staff Reactions:

“The last event was so nice to see your principal, your teachers and people out there. We don’t get to see each other, especially post-pandemic. We’re still kind of restricted off the campus...For us, it’s really nice getting to see each other and the school community gather for something positive and fun.”

– Elementary School Parent/Caregiver

“[SF-SRTS] definitely has gotten a lot of kids involved, which is nice. Some staff do try to make it out and that makes it more fun for the kids to see staff outside of school...when we meet at the park, more families talk to each other and have that bonding time....it promotes the community of the school.”

– Elementary School Staff

Parent/Caregiver or School Staff Volunteer Leaders are Key to Participation

SF-SRTS stakeholders identified strong relationships and ongoing encouragement as a key effective strategy to motivating students and families to participate in SF-SRTS programming and to use the Four Fun Ways. Parent volunteer leaders and school Parent Liaisons were identified as crucial to encouraging families to participate in SF-SRTS programming.

“

“Having an organizer that is connected with people involved makes a big difference...I think one of the reasons we’ve been able to sustain these Wednesday [bike-to-school] rides is just really based on... interpersonal connections.”

– Elementary School Staff



“We’ve seen a lot of success when we have...someone in community that knows families and is already working with families...They [parent liaisons] are your people that are going to reach out and help educate the community on how to get to school on these other methods of bike, roll and walk.”

– Elementary School Staff



Muni Service to Your School

To help take the guesswork out of what bus students can take to school, SFMTA developed a list of Muni routes that serve SFUSD schools. This resource shows the closest transit options for all San Francisco public elementary, middle and high schools. To make these tools accessible to SFUSD families, the fact sheets were available in Spanish, Chinese and Tagalog.

School Trippers

Muni’s “school trippers” provides service throughout the school year. These are extra afternoon buses on existing lines that begin their route at a SFUSD middle or high school site, pick up students at the end of the school day, then continue along the route as normal. These buses provide capacity for the additional demand certain schools place on routes ensuring all transit-using students get a seat, and leading to a less crowded trip for everyone.

Muni Transit Assistance Program (MTAP)

Since launching in 1996, MTAP works with and trains members of the community in conflict resolution who then ride on specific routes with the purpose of diffusing and deterring any conflicts, acts of vandalism and who assist the bus operators as needed.

Muni Service to Your School

With school back in session, Muni is ready to get students to class. Your routes may be different than they were in the past. See how these changes serve your school.

Burton High School

Nearby routes in service:

- 8 Bayshore
- 9 San Bruno
- 9R San Bruno Rapid
- 29 Sunset
- 56 Rutland (starting August 14 – see below)

Changes to the 56 Rutland
Starting August 14, the 56 Rutland will be fully restored with a new extension. It will continue beyond Visitacion Valley Middle School to Mansell to connect with the 29 Sunset and Burton High School.


Nearby routes not in service


- Not applicable: all nearby service running by August 14!

School Trippers

(Extra afternoon buses on regular lines that begin their route at a school at the end of the school day, then typically continue along the route as normal)

- 29 Sunset
- 44 O’Shaughnessy (modified route)





Muni Service to Your School

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Lincoln High School

Nearby routes in service:

- 28 19th Avenue
- 48 Quintara/24th Street
- 66 Quintara
- L Taraval Bus

Changes to the 66 Quintara
Starting August 14, the 66 Quintara will be restored and extend to UCSF and Haight Street via Parnassus Avenue.

Changes to the 48 Quintara/24th St.
The 48 Quintara/24th Street will be extended from West Portal to Ocean Beach via Quintara for all hours of service daily and will run a more direct route around Clippert Street.


Nearby routes not in service


- 28R 19th Avenue Rapid

School Trippers Serving Lincoln High School

(Extra afternoon buses on regular lines that begin their route at a school at the end of the school day, then typically continue along the route as normal)

- 48 Quintara/24th Street (terminates at West Portal)



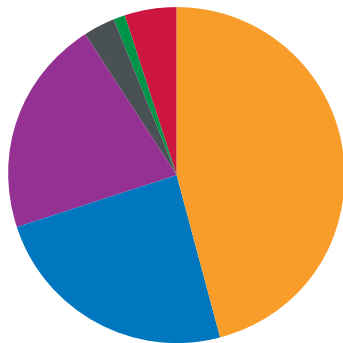
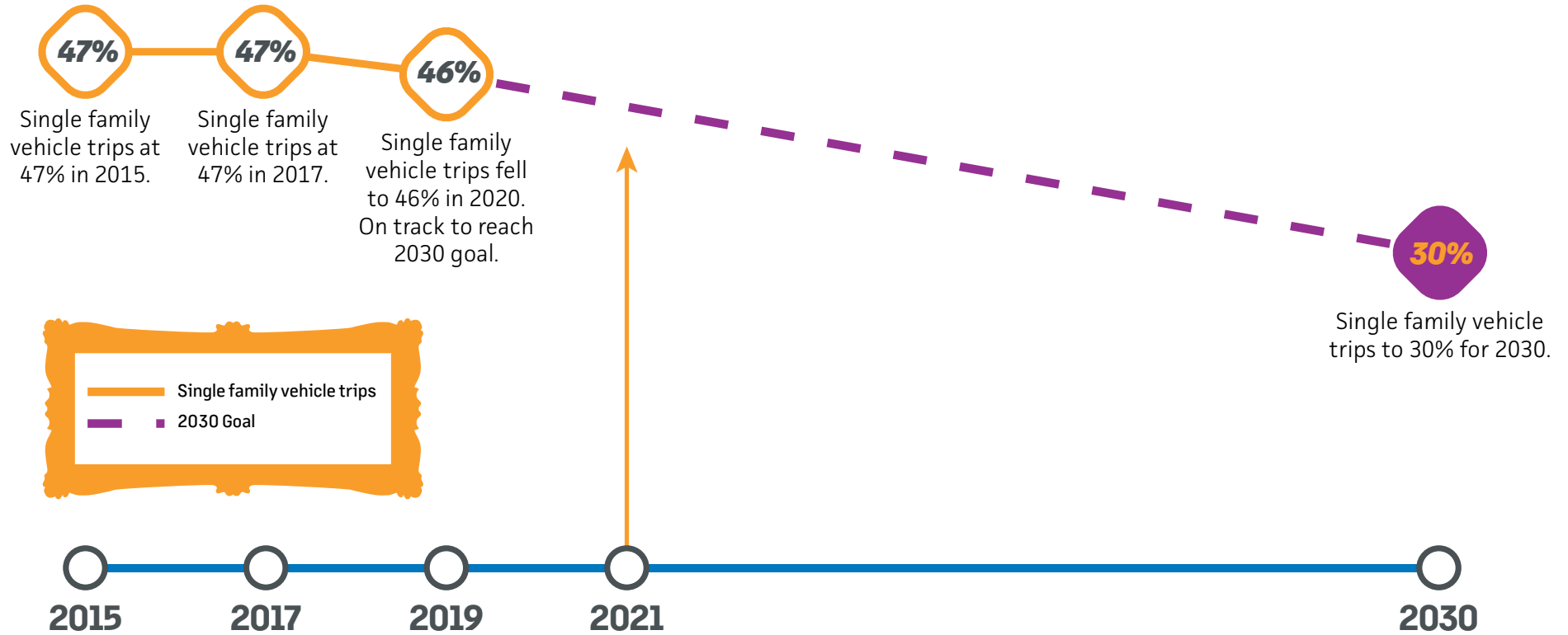


Learn about all the ways the SFMTA can get you to school:
SFMTA.com/Schools



2030 Goal: Mode Shift

By 2030, the program will reduce single family vehicle trips from 46% in 2020 to 30% by 2030. The next SFUSD tally of student trips is scheduled for Fall 2022.



How SFUSD Students Get to School, Fall 2019

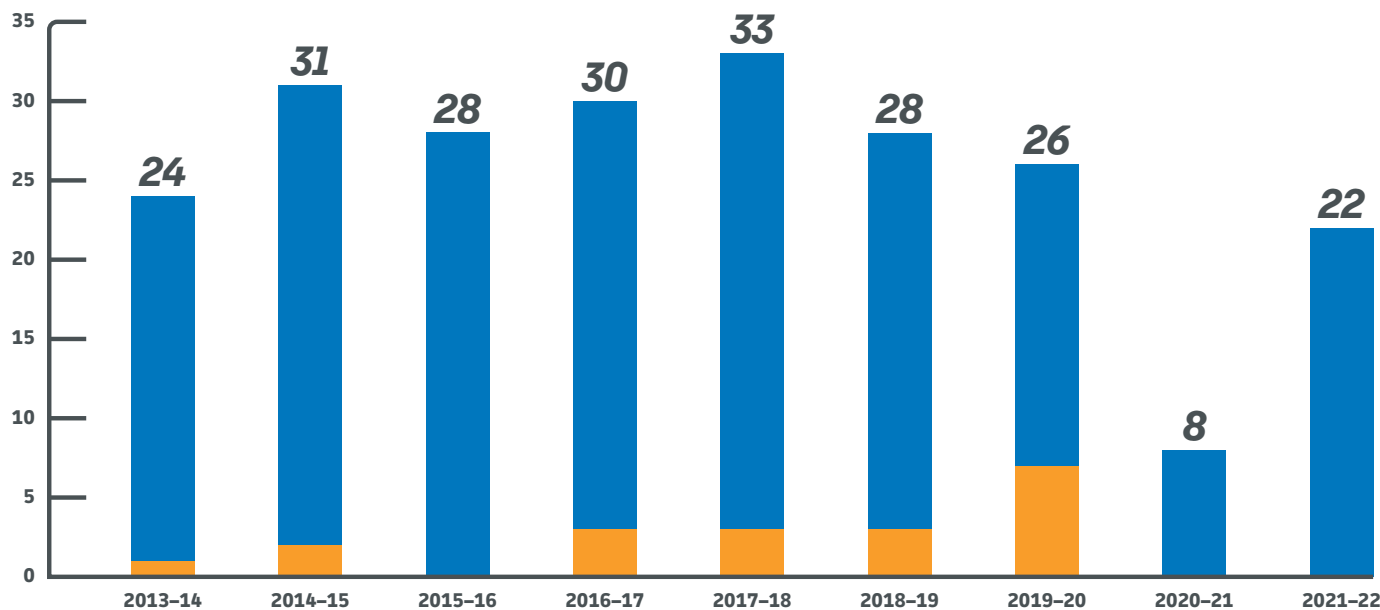
- Single Family Car: 46%
- Walking: 24%
- Transit: 21%
- Carpool: 3%
- Bike: 1%
- Other: 5%

*A survey of how SFUSD students travel to and from school is conducted every other year (except during COVID-19). The last time this survey was conducted was in Fall 2019.

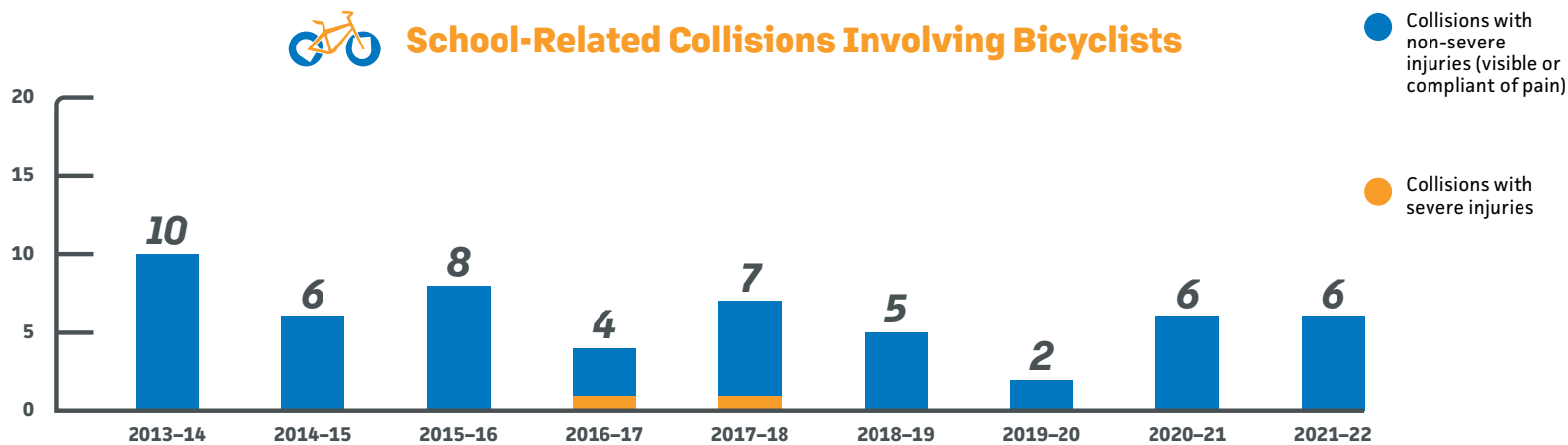
2030 Goal: Safety

By 2030, the program will reduce school-related collisions by 50% from an annual average of two severe and 32 total injury collisions per year, which aligns with the city’s Vision Zero initiative to eliminate all traffic deaths in San Francisco.

School-Related Collisions Involving Pedestrians



School-Related Collisions Involving Bicyclists



Recommendations

1. Strategically Increase Communication and Engagement

As a result of the high turnover in school staff and the promotion/graduation of students, there is an ongoing need to reintroduce SF-SRTS within school communities. SF-SRTS should strategically increase engagement with families and school staff to capture interest in program activities and help increase use of the Four Fun Ways, especially at the beginning of the school year before new commute habits are established. The start of a new school year is a strategic leverage point to promote new behaviors and resolutions, such as health-promoting modes of transportation. Moreover, building relationships between families early in the school year is essential to building interpersonal trust and helping to establish walking school buses and carpool groups. Specific engagement examples include more frequent informational presentations to parents/caregivers at PTA meetings or orientations and to students and school staff through school assemblies so that they can familiarize themselves with the SF-SRTS team and programming and so that they can understand the importance and benefits of the Four Fun Ways.

2. Expand Support for Parent/Caregiver Leaders

Since parent/caregiver volunteer leaders and school Parent Liaisons were identified as crucial to encouraging families to participate in SF-SRTS programming, it is important to expand supports for these two types of local SF-SRTS leaders. Consider expanding train-the-trainer resources to ensure parent/caregiver leaders are able to recruit other parents/caregivers to spearhead SF-SRTS programming.

3. Continue to Use Prizes to Motivate Participation

Giveaways (e.g., stickers and bike lights) and prizes (helmets, bikes and scooters) have been shown to be a key strategy in motivating students and families to join walk & roll and bike & roll to school events. Schools throughout the city routinely identified SF-SRTS events with giveaways and prizes as having consistently higher turnout than events without giveaways and prizes. Other strategies to increase excitement among students include reflective safety vests as well as bubbles, balloons and noisemakers. All of these items also help to expand the perceived physical presence and safety of participants on the street.

4. Provide Mapping Technical Assistance to Identify Safe Routes

Provide technical assistance to Deep Dive schools in intentionally mapping their actual safe routes to school, and mapping of where students are coming from for each school. This mapping will help school staff to connect families/students who are coming from the same neighborhood, which will then further empower them to use the Four Fun Ways on their own.

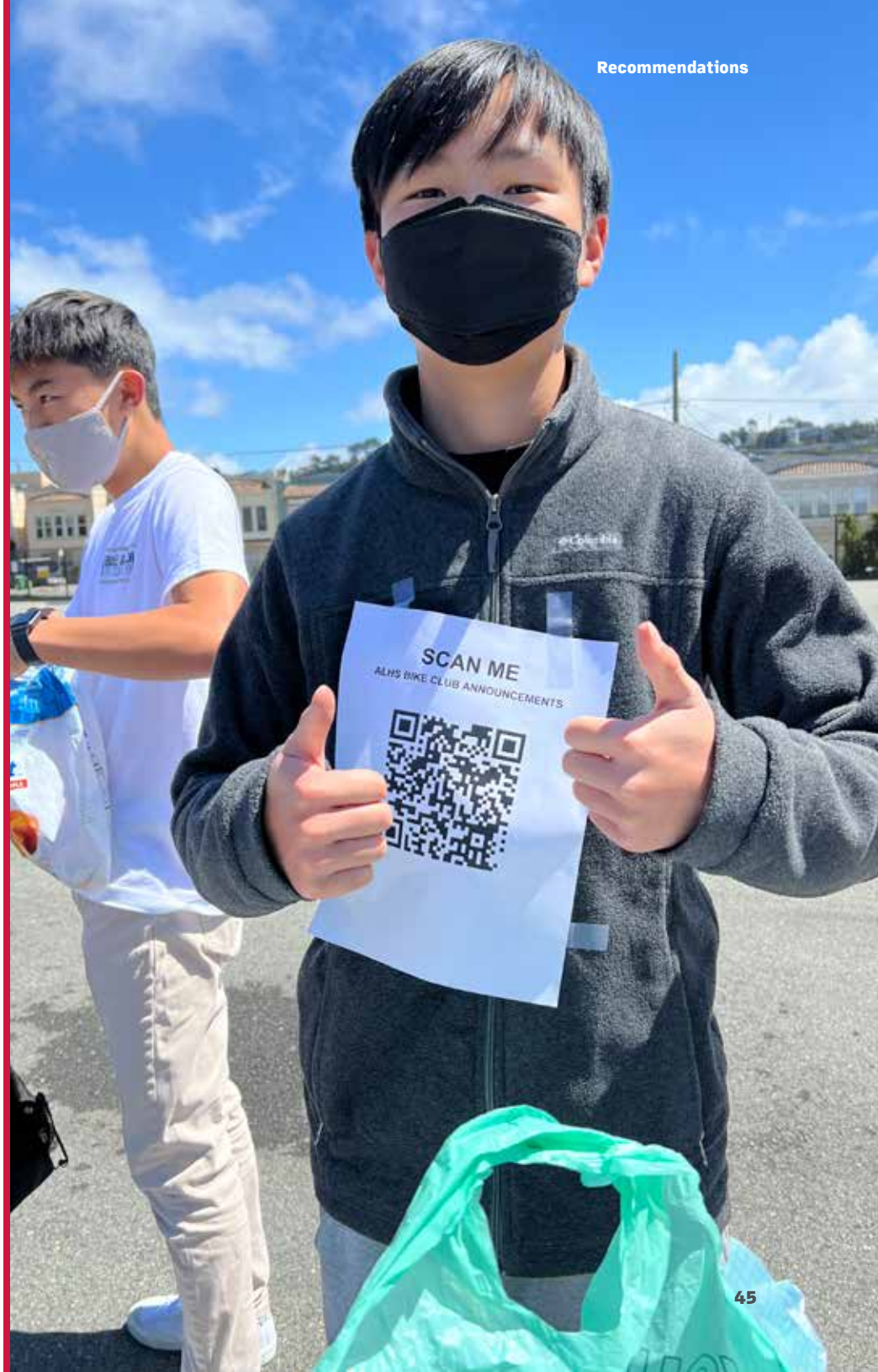


5. Develop Standardized Curriculum

Develop standardized curriculum (including worksheets, fact sheets, slide decks, videos and in-person trainings) that school staff can use to teach students how to safely walk on the street, ride a bicycle, repair bicycles and the health and environmental benefits of using the Four Fun Ways. Tailor the curriculum for different age groups and design it so that school staff can easily integrate it into their existing curriculum. For example, the SF-SRTS curriculum could be tailored to focus on how to be a safe pedestrian and how to ride a bicycle (for elementary school students), how to safely ride a bicycle on the street (for middle school students) and how to repair bicycles (for high school students). With these curriculum materials, teachers can then reinforce these lessons in regular classroom conversations and parents/caregivers will understand that the SF-SRTS events are more about learning and not only about fun.

6. Provide More Safe Storage

Support expanding on-site and safe storage of bicycles and scooters. This storage would provide students who roll on a daily basis with a dedicated and safe place to store their equipment. Moreover, the storage would be beneficial for families who participate in walk-and-roll and bike-and-roll events because many parents/caregivers currently have to haul their child's bicycle and scooter back home after SF-SRTS events.



Looking Back on 2019–2022

Program highlights for the three years that the SFMTA has led the San Francisco Safe Routes to School partnership:

Engaging SF students, families and teachers in SF-SRTS activities!
(July 2019–June 2022)



More than 45,000 students, families and teachers have participated in SF-SRTS activities

In-Person Programming and Activities
(July 2019–June 2022)



487 visits to SFUSD schools

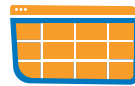


52 in-person trainings

Virtual and Distance Programming
(April 2020–June 2022)



21 short educational videos created



32 webinars conducted



“Gosh, they [SF-SRTS] are 10 out of 10 for sure. They do a really good job!”

– High School Staff

Summer 2019

- The SFMTA becomes the lead agency for the SF-SRTS partnership and SF-DPH steps back from providing backbone support for the SF-SRTS partnership.

Fall 2019

- SF-SRTS partnership expands from working with 27 SFUSD schools each year to engaging all 103 K-12 public, non-charter schools in SFUSD.
- The SFMTA uses data on structural inequities, traffic collision injuries and transportation mode to identify 33 “Deep Dive” schools.

The SF-SRTS partnership is collaborating with these schools to focus on culturally responsive education, engagement and environmental programming to make walking, bicycling, taking public transit and riding in parental carpools safer and more accessible.

Winter 2019/2020

- The SF-SRTS partnership focuses on listening to the needs of students, parents/caregivers and teachers in Deep Dive Schools to inform the development of engagement activities tailored to their specific interests and needs.

Spring 2020

- Regional and statewide shelter-in-place orders are issued in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, SFUSD switches to distance learning.
- The SF-SRTS partnership adjusts programming in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, both by developing virtual and distance learning educational programming and by significantly modifying in-person programming.

Fall 2020

- New school year begins with 100% distance learning. Some charter schools and private schools apply for authorization from the SF Department of Public Health to resume some on-campus, in-person classes.
- Some outdoor programming is canceled due to unhealthy air quality from prolonged wildfire smoke.
- The annual Walk & Roll to School Day event is modified to be Walk & Roll Week which allows the partnership to engage with individual families and schools in a new way. This week is also one way that the partnership begins engaging teacher champions who are incredibly valuable in getting information to students and their families.

Spring 2021

- The usual activities for the annual Bike & Roll to School Week are modified to include both in-person and remote activities. This year's programming also features more activities designed to engage secondary students.
- SFUSD begins a phased-in reopening process in April.

Fall 2021

- SFUSD returns to fully in-person instruction with the start of the 2021-2022 school year.
- For the first time since before the pandemic, the annual Walk & Roll to School Day is held in-person and many schools begin organizing additional in-person SF-SRTS programming.

Spring 2022

- The 2022 Bike & Roll to School Week is a major success with over 5,200 students and over 1,300 parents/caregivers participating in events across the city.
- The vast majority of SFUSD schools return to regular in-person SF-SRTS programming.
- After the hurdles of the pandemic and distance learning, SF-SRTS programming helps to uplift the spirits of school communities and energizes students and families to using the Four Fun Ways.



San Francisco Safe Routes to School 2021–2022 Program Evaluation Highlights



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SFDPH

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