

# ODOT SRTS Education (Non-Infrastructure) Funded Project Summaries 2023-2025

## *Tier 1 Funding Pathway- Education Plus Grant- Beginner*

### **North Wasco School District**

Budget-\$100,000 grant + \$50,000 Consultation Services paid for by ODOT

This project will hire a full time Safe Routes to School (SRTS) coordinator position employed through the School District. The SRTS Coordinator will launch the District's first SRTS program for all six schools. This effort will be guided by the Management Team comprised of the School District, the City of The Dalles, the Mid-Columbia Economic Development District, and the Public Health District and will build from the District's 2022 SRTS PIP Plan. The Coordinator's responsibilities will include: strengthening existing partnerships and building new partnerships to support program sustainability; educating stakeholders; inspiring a true community-led commitment to walking and biking; addressing student and parent needs, which may include different physical abilities, household income, languages, and cultural barriers; mitigating traffic concerns by securing safety along school routes and within school sites; working with the City to prioritize and find funding for infrastructure and quick-build projects; developing strategies for program sustainability like incorporating biking/walking curriculum into PE classes; and collecting data for program performance analysis and improvement.

### **McMinnville School District**

Budget- \$100,000 grant + \$50,000 Consultation Services paid for by ODOT

Walk/roll safety educational training activities will be conducted at all six elementary schools in the district, with particular focus on our historically underserved students and families. Training for students and parents will be conducted in both English and Spanish. We have a high native Spanish speaking population. Even once students have exited our English Language program, many of their parents/family members do not speak English, so providing parent education in Spanish as well as English will be critical. Additionally, five of six of our elementary schools are 100% free meals, so these students and families will also be targeted for walk/roll educational training. Safety training for students will be embedded in the school day and provided by a trainer (classified staff) at each school. Parent training will occur in the evening. We anticipate the outcome of the training provided will be a reduction in the number of parents driving their children to school, a substantial increase in the number of students walking/rolling to school, an increase in the safety behaviors of students who walk/roll to school, and a reduction in the number of unsafe incidents that occur.

## **Hood River School District**

Budget- \$100,000 grant + \$50,000 Consultation Services paid for by ODOT

This project is to hire a full time Safe Routes to School (SRTS) coordinator position contracted through the Hood River County School District. The SRTS Coordinator will launch the School District's first SRTS program for all eight schools. This effort will be guided by the Management Team composed of the School District, the City of Hood River, and the Hood River County Parks and Recreation District, and will build from the 2022 Hood River SRTS PIP Plan. The Coordinator's responsibilities include:

1. Strengthen and build partnerships; educate stakeholders; and generate enthusiasm for a culture of walking and biking throughout a diverse community.
2. Address a great diversity of student needs, including different physical abilities, economic barriers, language barriers, and cultural barriers.
3. Mitigate traffic concerns with an infrastructure-based approach to secure safety along school routes and within school sites.
4. Work with road authorities to prioritize and find funding for infrastructure projects.
5. Develop strategies for program sustainability like incorporating biking/walking curriculum into PE classes.
6. Evaluate outcomes and collect data.

## **Portland Public Schools**

Budget- \$100,000 grant + \$50,000 Consultation Services paid for by ODOT

PPS wants to be an active leader and champion of a district-wide SRTS program. We believe outcomes of SRTS program will result in a better place not only for our children but all city residents. A city where residents are safer, healthier, happier and better connected. The systematic SRTS approach starts with a full-time dedicated PPS SRTS Coordinator who will work with a consultant to develop an Implementation Plan. This plan will create a vision for a district-wide SRTS Program, as well as establish objectives, goals and initiatives that are meaningful to the youth they serve. The first phase of the plan will focus primarily on PPS' 38 high-need schools, with priority given to elementary and middle schools that score higher in the TDI. Additionally, we will bring together the right people to form a PPS-led SRTS Advisory Committee, with participation from our supporting partners. The committee will meet regularly to evaluate, make improvements and keep the program moving forward. Consistent and clear communication will be essential for a strong SRTS program. The Coordinator will work closely with PPS Communications to reach our target audience(s).

## **Bike Works by P:ear**

Budget -\$100,000 grant + \$50,000 Consultation Services paid for by ODOT

Bike works by p:ear will continue its partnership with Multnomah County's SRTS to deliver transportation health programming to East County with a full time SRTS coordinator. We are in a unique position to broaden our abilities across jurisdictions, expand the current SRTS program, work collaboratively with other SRTS practitioners, and create equitable transportation options for the community. During 2022-2023, we will continue to provide lessons and outreach with Multnomah County SRTS and transition to providing the majority of in-person lessons by 2023-2024.

Details:

1. Support Walk+Roll to School events
2. Provide transportation safety lessons
3. Promote the Train the Trainer program
4. Continue coordination with local jurisdictions: Multnomah County, City of Gresham, and PBOT
5. Continue collaboration with churches and CBOs
6. Consulting assistance can guide our program to provide a community-based approach and increase capacity
7. Create a transportation related community hub with Rosewood Initiative to encourage transportation health by conducting community listening sessions to learn about culturally specific barriers
8. Hosting transportation health fairs with a variety of transportation services

### **Tier 2 Funding Pathway- Education Grant- Ready to Succeed Intermediate**

## **Beaverton School District**

Budget - \$87,722

The Beaverton Safe Routes to School Program will work to increase active transportation (bike, scooter, skateboard, bus, and carpool) to school and decrease single passenger trips. The objective is to increase safety for students as they travel to and from school, increase the opportunity for students to confidently choose to use active transportation modes, and ultimately, increase the safety and health of the entire community through the reduction of traffic and resulting congestion. The education, events, and community engagement proposed will benefit the entire district while direct service will focus primarily on the fifteen Title 1 elementary schools, seven additional middle/high schools serving student populations with >40% low-income, and those schools facing transportation and district boundary changes. Beaverton Safe Routes will work with BSD, the City of Beaverton, Washington County, and THPRD to prioritize needed projects and events throughout the district to create additional opportunities for walking and rolling to school and throughout the neighborhood.

## **Medford School District**

Budget- \$100,000

The Medford School District's SRTS program and coordinator will continue to play a key role in:

1. Assessing and addressing the district's crossing guard program by making sure that all the designated crosswalks are up to date using MSD, ODE, City, and County standards
2. Provide walking and rolling safety education training to staff and students as needed
3. Planning and hosting encouragement events in an effort to create a walking and biking culture within the schools
4. Being the point of contact or liaison for the district with community partners and families, continuing to strengthen the relationships and communication

## **Douglas Education Service District**

Budget- \$74,426

Our program will have a comprehensive approach to help children in Douglas County overcome the barriers and hazards of walking and rolling to school. We will partner with school districts and government agencies to acquire funding to improve infrastructure near schools. We will focus on educational outreach and partner with schools to teach pedestrian and bicycle safety to students. We will hold community events, such as bike rodeos, in public spaces so kids/adults alike can learn about bike safety and practice bike skills. We will host/facilitate encouragement events, such as Walk and Roll to School Day and Walking School Buses, at partnering schools to normalize and celebrate active transportation as a viable way to get to/from school. We will partner with school administrators to help create safer and more efficient dropoff/ pick-up systems on school campuses. We will communicate the importance of safe, undistracted driving to adults with signage and social media campaigns. We will also seek to educate adults/students alike on the benefits of active transportation, and encourage adults to support children in choosing active transportation as a regular way to get to/from school.

## **City of La Grande, Parks and Recreation**

Budget- \$100,000

In 2019 the City of La Grande launched a non-infrastructure educational outreach program in our community. The SRTS Program started as a means to begin educating our students at 3 target schools and their families about bike/ped safety while working to build a safer infrastructure around our schools. Now that the program is established, we need to work on the problems mentioned in the problem statement. The coordinator will start by integrating curriculum into the schools in person and by providing curriculum that teachers can use. This will be done by introducing beginner bicycle riding classes in grades kindergarten through second in a combination class of bike/ped safety. These classes will take place during their regular physical

education schedule. The coordinator will also provide teachers in all grades curriculum guides from Oregon Safe Routes to School. The coordinator will also develop a plan for alternative drop and walk areas to make it safer around our schools. The coordinator will boost volunteer recruitment to implement programs like the walking school bus that would also increase volunteerism and the sustainability of bike/ped safety.

### **Lane Council of Governments**

Budget-\$100,000

The new SRTS Rural Coordinator will consult existing statewide and regional SRTS programs to adapt and replicate in the rural environment. The Coordinator will participate in and be supported by the regional Safe Lane Coalition to leverage the full range of safety E's, learning about best practices and events happening in the region. The Coordinator will host bike rodeos and walking school buses in rural elementary schools and develop ongoing implementation strategies for at least nine rural schools. Development of implementation strategies will meet schools where they are at; ongoing engagement is essential. The nesting of this position within existing partnerships will help to build sustainable relationships with schools and road authorities; and to better understand and address the unique needs of the schools. The bike rodeos will create enthusiasm while providing hands-on bicycle and pedestrian safety education opportunities not otherwise available to rural students.

### **Tier 3 Funding Pathway- Innovation Grant (Advanced)**

### **City of Portland, Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT)**

Budget -\$35,000

Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) SRTS staff will train Elevate Oregon's high school teacher mentors to lead a Transportation Academy. The Academy's main goal is to teach traffic safety skills. Secondary topics will be decided depending on the students' needs, interests, and goals. Topics include multimodal literacy, climate connections, transportation equity, civic engagement, and Safe Systems. The Academy consists of lessons led by Elevate teachers, subject matter experts as speakers, student projects, and a final student presentation. Student projects can include but are not limited to educating younger students on traffic safety, photo voice, serving as walking school bus leaders or corner greeters, or creating a safety messaging campaign. Presentation types will depend on the project and will be crafted to benefit elementary or middle school students in the Parkrose community. These presentations will be either during school or in the after-school program, Schools Uniting Neighborhoods (SUN). This innovative project not only engages high school students but benefits elementary and middle school students as well through educational presentations.

### **Commute Options**

Requested Budget-\$50,000

Commute Options will form an Education in Action (EIA) Team consisting of paid staff and volunteers to integrate walk and roll safety education into organized adult led groups of students walking and rolling to and from school. EIA will run at schools most challenged with transportation disparities in the Bend LaPine School District (BLSD) to provide a viable solution to the barriers and hazards listed above. With decades of SRTS program implementation and partnerships, we be able to deliver effective programing from the start of the grant. Partners involved are the BLSD Transportation Department, Boys and Girls Club of Bend, Bend Park and Recreation Department, and City of Bend. These partners will inform selection of predetermined meeting locations and routes serving the highest needs students and assist in communications with families. Through evaluation and revision, the EIA Team will produce an EIA Guide outlining best practices for engagement, safety lesson plans and equity in the program. The Guide will be provided as a deliverable at the end of the grant to be used to form new EIA routes at schools across Oregon.

### **Corvallis School District**

Requested Budget- \$39,335

We will develop qualified and capable PE teachers to provide Safe Routes to School instruction in all of the middle grades. Teachers will team-teach with skilled Safety Educators and have time to practice their teaching skills, as well as develop their own curriculum sequence with site-specific activities. Students will receive walk and bike safety instruction as part of their regular PE program, building on the existing 5th-grade Safe Routes curriculum. OSU Interns from the College of Public Health will assist PE teachers to provide specific, targeted, age-appropriate instruction to meet individual student needs. In addition, students will participate in daily safety briefings. They will examine safety issues from both the pedestrian and a vehicle operator's point of view. Chrome book follow-up activities will reinforce these lessons. Students will share safety concepts with their families. When students demonstrate an ability to recognize dangerous situations and seek appropriate solutions, parents gain confidence in their child's knowledge. When parents are confident, they are more likely to choose active transportation to solve their child's transportation needs.