

OREGON SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL
PROGRAM REPORT

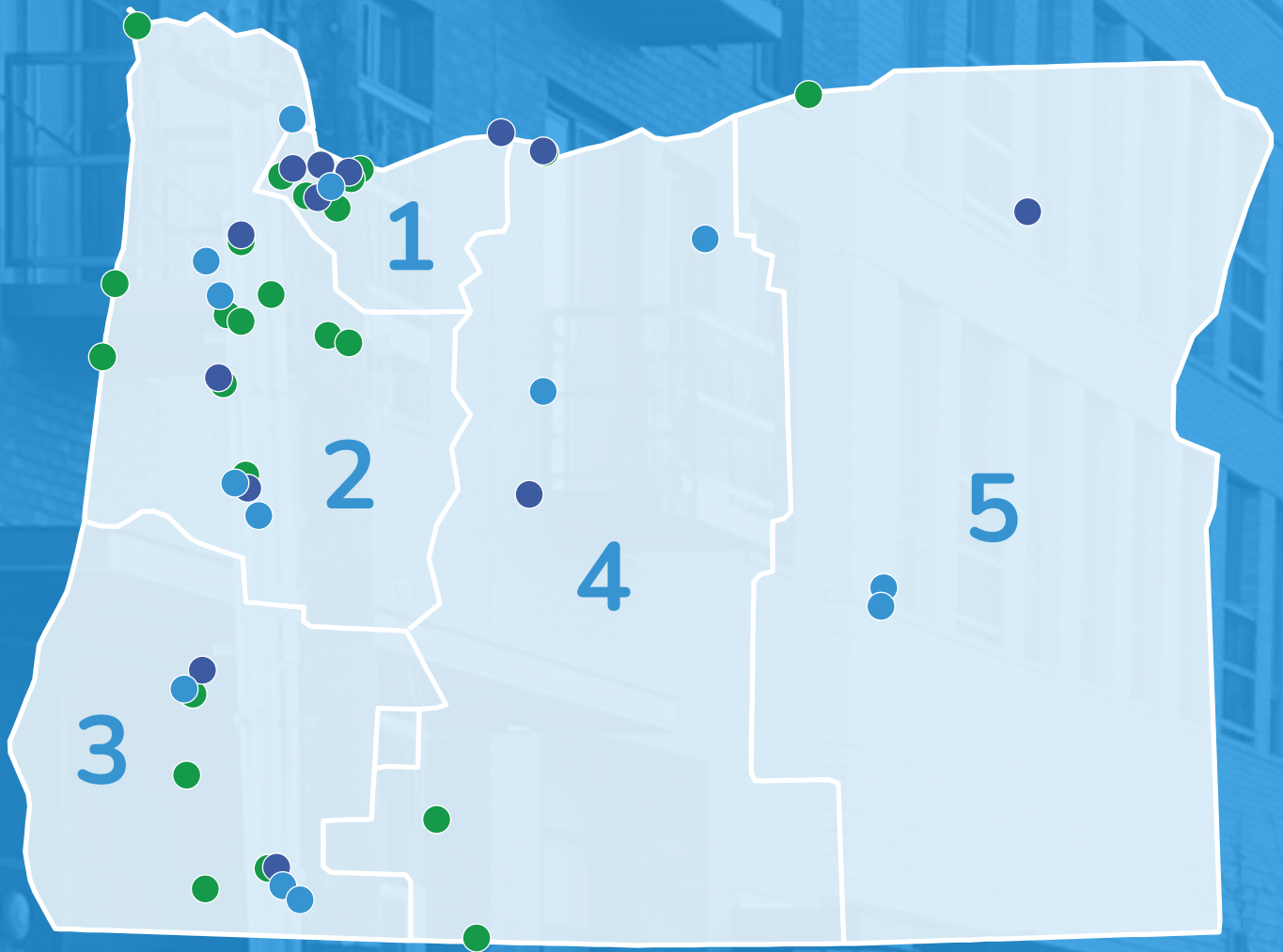


Oregon Department of Transportation
Safe Routes to School



ALTA • COMMUTE OPTIONS • THE STREET TRUST

2022 SRTS Grants Funded by ODOT Region



- Education Grantee
- Project Identification Program
- Construction Grantee

Introduction

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) advances students' options to bike, walk, and roll to school by supporting safety-oriented programs and infrastructure.

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) leads the statewide efforts in Oregon. In 2022, the ODOT SRTS Team developed new resources to support SRTS Coordinators, hosted new equity-focused webinars, expanded outreach efforts, and developed a statewide train-the-trainer program for Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Education.



Throughout the year, the ODOT SRTS Team:

- Provided **Walk+Roll incentives** to **649 schools**
- Held **28 Regional Hub** meetings
- Facilitated **11 Statewide SRTS Practitioner** webinars
- Facilitated **two statewide meetings**
- Reached **1,188,614 people** through **social media safety ads**
- Placed **164 “Drive Like It” safety ads** on buses and transit stops
- Piloted **three Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Education** train-the-trainer sessions
- Held **two Spanish-language focus groups** with Lara Media Services



- Provided **planning assistance** to **23 communities** through the Project Identification Program (PIP)
- Led **12 communities** through a regional **technical assistance** process
- Supported **four communities** in **constructing SRTS improvements**
- Received **\$80 million** in requests for the next round of **Competitive Construction grant funding**
- Selected **13 communities** to receive **planning assistance** for Safe Routes to School Plans
- Awarded **13 SRTS education grants**
- Piloted one **quick build SRTS construction project**



Education Program

New Resources for Coordinators

In 2022, the ODOT SRTS team developed new resources and programs to increase reach and capacity for supporting coordinators across the state including:

- [The New Coordinator Toolkit](#): a multimedia tool to assist new practitioners in starting their SRTS programming.
- [The Rural Practitioners' Toolkit](#): a guide to assist practitioners in growing, adapting and embedding their program into rural communities.
- [Walk+Roll Event Toolkits](#): extensive guides for each Walk+Roll event with template social media posts, posters and activity guides.
- New [webinar](#) topics including Engaging Latinx Communities, Creating Sustainable Schools, Engaging Houseless Communities, and Working with Tribal Communities.
- The [Coordinator Mentorship Program](#) supports new coordinators in their first year by pairing them with an experienced coordinator to focus their efforts, test ideas, plan events, and offer support from their own experience.



Art contest submission from Nathan, Grade 4



Strider & Viv had a photo shoot to help promote walking and rolling in all seasons.



Internal team run-through of our train-the-trainer

JumpStart Train-the-Trainer

Throughout 2022, the ODOT SRTS team piloted JumpStart Train-the-Trainer by training PE teachers across the state to teach bicycle and pedestrian safety education. In May, ODOT SRTS held a [webinar](#) to kickoff the pilot, and then proceeded to hold pilot sessions with teachers in Roseburg, Baker City, and Eugene, both in-person and virtually. The team also ordered a bike fleet, trailer, and pedestrian safety education kits that schools will be able to borrow after they have gone through the program. Further trainings are currently being scheduled for winter and spring.



New bikes from the ODOT fleet



Priority Outreach & Engagement



The ODOT SRTS team, including MultiCultural Collaborative, continued the important equity work that began in 2021 with the Power Analysis by creating the Priority Outreach and Engagement (POE) Plan. In 2022, the team initiated relationships with nine school districts with high need populations to help build capacity and understand Safe Routes to School needs and barriers. High need was defined as higher populations of the following:

- Students with disabilities
- Non-native English speakers
- Families without access to a vehicle
- Houseless families



Images from our Latinx community engagement webinar with Placell!

New Education Grant Process

In spring 2022, the ODOT SRTS team launched a new Education Grant structure which provided the following three pathways for applicants:

TIER 1 Education Plus Grant	For applicants <u>new to Safe Routes to School education</u> , who <u>do not have</u> an existing program. This option includes funding for a coordinator position and a year of consultant assistance around strategic planning and implementation.
TIER 2 Education Grant	For applicants who have and have not received funding before, who <u>have</u> existing SRTS Coordinators and are ready to implement programs.
TIER 3 Innovation Grant	For applicants who <u>have received funding</u> before and are ready to bring additional creativity and innovation to their education programs.

Five communities received funding for Tier 1, five received funding for Tier 2, and three received funding for Tier 3.

Construction Program



SRAC visiting CTUIR



Before / after photos from the City of Gaston

Safe Routes Advisory Committee Site Visit to the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

In October, Dani Schulte, the Safe Routes Advisory Committee (SRAC) member representing the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR), invited the SRAC and staff to an in-progress Safe Routes project site visit. Over two days, the CTUIR presenters highlighted the current and potential obstacles to successfully implementing construction projects including right-of-way (ROW) acquisition due to the land inheritance process, limited staffing to shepherd the process, and adherence to the ODOT review process, regulations, and timelines. SRAC members learned how Dani developed an effective transportation community engagement approach with valuable strategies applicable for any public outreach process. Attending SRAC members noted that the visit illuminated how their advisory role could assist staff in addressing tribal project delivery impediments and the opportunities to invite Oregon tribal communities to apply and deliver successful SRTS projects.

Infrastructure Project Evaluation

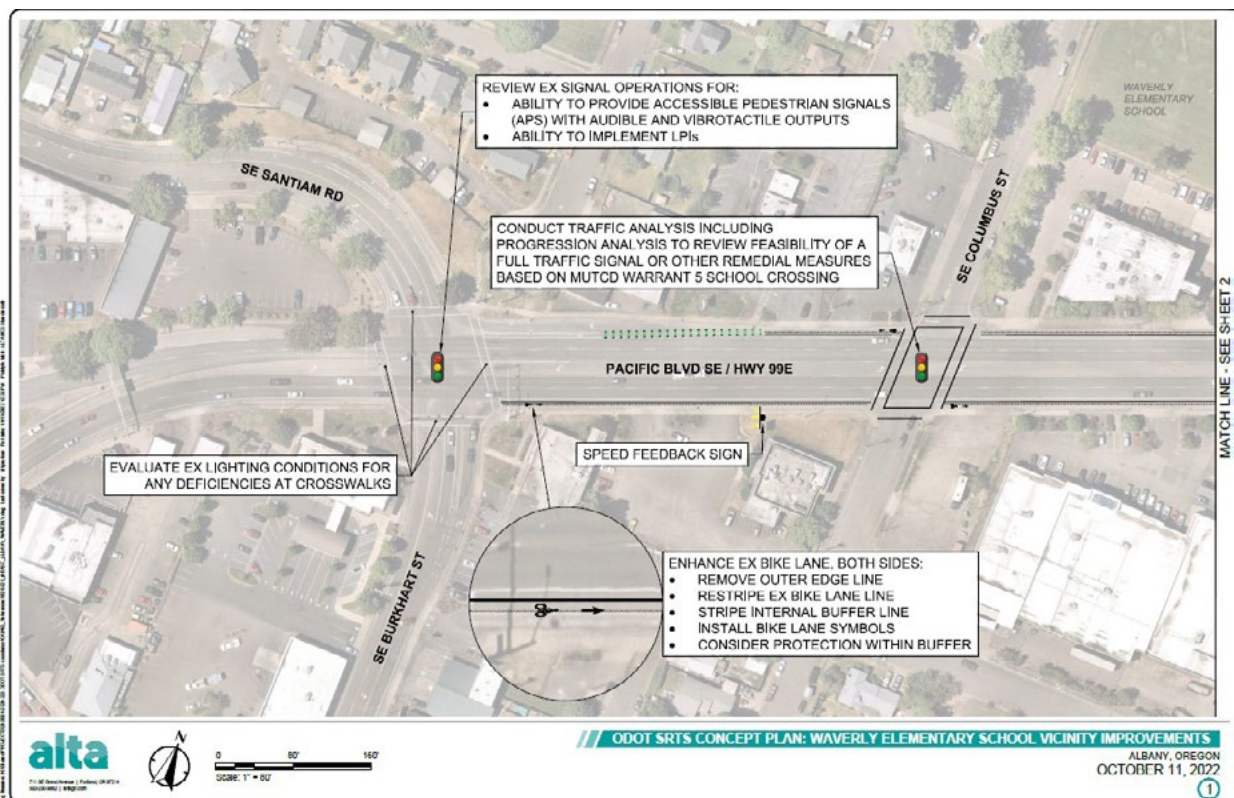
In 2022, the ODOT SRTS team continued measuring the impacts of Competitive Construction Grants in communities across the state. The process involved compiling pre- and post-construction data to evaluate the strengths of individual SRTS projects, techniques, and programs designed to reduce barriers toward biking and walking to and from school. Through staff interviews, parent caregiver surveys, focus groups, and a community survey, the evaluation developed an understanding of Safe Routes to School performance metrics related to mode split, safety, program lifespan, and equity.



Safe Routes to School Planning

In spring 2022, ODOT announced the 13 communities (40 schools) selected to participate in the third round of the ODOT SRTS Project Identification Program (PIP). The ODOT SRTS team will work with each community to conduct a site visit, meet with school leadership and parents, and analyze existing conditions data to come up with education and construction recommendations to make it safer and more comfortable for students to walk and roll. Ultimately each community will complete a SRTS Plan during the 2022-23 school year. You can find completed SRTS plans [here](#).

The ODOT SRTS team also completed a targeted SRTS PIP program with ODOT Regions 2-5, developing construction recommendations on ODOT Roadways for priority locations in each region. The ODOT SRTS team plans to work with Region 1 in 2023.



ODOT Region Project Identification Site Plan documenting the SRTS recommendations on the ODOT roadway



Completed Quick Build pilot project in The Dalles

Quick Build Pilot Program

In 2022, ODOT SRTS launched the ODOT Quick Build Pilot Program! Quick Build projects are relatively low-cost, rapid implementation projects to address safety concerns around walking and biking. They are often interim solutions before moving into construction to test out ideas or get community feedback around a proposed change. In The Dalles, this project involved the installation of four curb extensions to provide a safer and more comfortable pedestrian crossing experience near Colonel Wright Elementary School.



Painting curb extensions near Colonel Wright Elementary School

Coming Up in 2023

Evaluation Framework

In 2023, the ODOT SRTS will continue working with PDA Stats to develop a Strategic Plan and Evaluation Framework to assess the impacts of statewide programs. This effort will involve guided conversations and feedback from practitioners across the state to understand more about local program needs around evaluation to inform a larger statewide process.

JumpStart Full Program Launch

The ODOT SRTS team will continue to pilot train-the-trainer in winter 2023, with a planned full program launch in the spring of 2023 alongside the finalized Neighborhood Navigators 2.0 curriculum, updated pedestrian safety materials kits for each Hub, new bike fleets and trailers, and increased capacity for facilitating trainings.

Equity Trainings for Practitioners

Additional equity trainings for Safe Routes to School practitioners are planned for 2023 in an effort to provide coordinators with tools to include historically marginalized students in SRTS programming. Trainings may include adapting Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Education for students with disabilities, how to talk about personal safety concerns related to walking to school, and inclusive outreach strategies.



Construction Grants Awarded

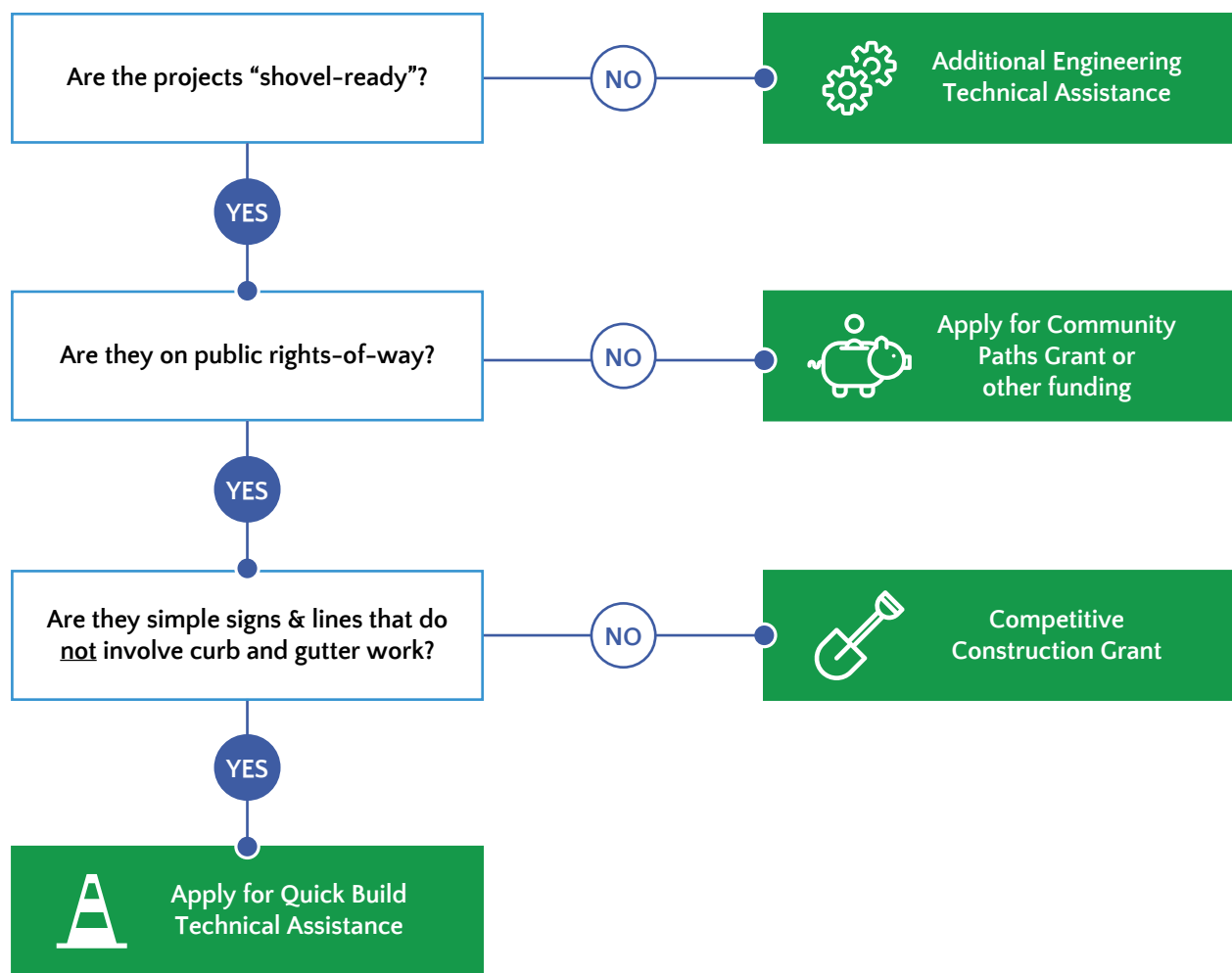
Funding will be awarded to 26 communities across the state who applied for the recent round of Safe Routes to School construction grants. Each of the schools these projects will serve is a Title 1 school, where 40% or more of the population is low-income with a total funding amount of \$32.4 million. Projects will include new sidewalks, curb ramps, crosswalks, illumination, bike lanes, and more.

Additional Technical Assistance Pilot

In Spring 2023, the ODOT SRTS team will pilot additional technical assistance to communities with a SRTS Plan, to further develop recommendations and prepare them for implementation. In 2024, ODOT intends to open a new round of SRTS grant funding. In addition to the Competitive Education and Construction grants, communities will likely be able to apply to receive technical assistance for quick build and additional engineering efforts

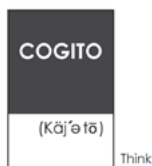
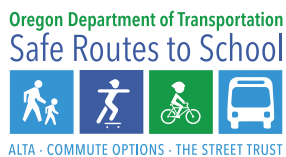
Guidance will be available in fall 2023. The flow chart below illustrates the anticipated grants and technical assistance offerings.

SRTS CONSTRUCTION PROJECT GRANTS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE





Thank you to our ODOT SRTS Team!



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