

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The purpose of the SRTS program is to provide safe pedestrian and bicycle facilities that encourage healthier lifestyles. Programs can be established to educate students, parents, and the community on the benefits of walking and bicycling to school and provide tips to do so safely. Major SRTS goals are:

- 1. To enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bike to school.
- 2. To make bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, thereby encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age.
- 3. To facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity of schools.

SRTS Planning efforts assess the facilities and conditions near school, examine how students are currently traveling to/from school, and identify safety concerns/issues raised by parents and the community. Infrastructure and non-infrastructure recommendations are then created and implemented, sometimes with grant funding assistance, by the SRTS Task Force and other community members. SRTS Plans focus on projects within two miles of an elementary or middle school (Kindergarten-8th grade) and address the 5 E's:

Engineering Enforcement Education Encouragement Evaluation

ROBERTS ELEMENTARY BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Roberts Elementary School is located in the City of Fond du Lac on the corner of Candy Ln. and 8th St. The majority of students, approximately 59 percent, travel to and from school via family vehicle. In comparison, an average of 19 percent of students travel by foot or bike. For parents of children that do not walk or bike to/from school, their top three concerns deal with the amount of traffic, safety of intersections/crossings, and weather. Recently, average daily traffic counts for streets near school were as follows: 4th St. - 5,700 and USH 45 / Fond du Lac Ave. - 5,400 vehicles. Because these heavily-travelled roadways are located only one block from school, they present a challenge for students walking and biking. To help counteract this issue, student safety patrol and adult crossing guards are located at several intersections in the surrounding neighborhood.

SCHOOL DEMOGRAPHICS

Enrollment:	455 students
Grades:	K - 5
Principal:	Rick Gregory
Start Time:	8:25 a.m.
End Time:	3:00 p.m.
Task Force Rep.:	FdL School & Community Parking & Traffic Committee



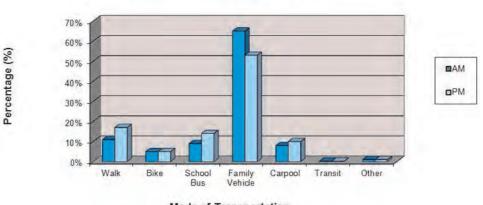


Survey Results & Existing Facilities......2



PARENT & STUDENT SURVEY RESULTS

Roberts Elementary School Student Survey Results Morning and Afternoon Comparison



Mode of Transportation

Roberts Elementary School

Survey Data Collected in Spring 2009



Survey Data Collected in Fall 2009



Bike Safety Day - May 2010



Student Safety Patrol - May 2010

EXISTING FACILITIES: NON-MOTORIZED

Sidewalks are located along most streets within the City of Fond du Lac, and designated on-street bike routes are also in place. Over the past several years, other nonmotorized transportation facilities have been developed and expanded within the Fond du Lac School District. These include:

- Brooke Street Trail
- Mascoutin Valley Recreation
 Trail
- Peebles Recreation Trail
- Prairie Trail
- Wild Goose State Trail

WORK IN PROGRESS

In 2010, Fond du Lac School District was awarded an SRTS Grant. Near Roberts ES, infrastructure improvements will include _______ at the E. 5th St. & Candy Ln. intersection. Throughout the district, noninfrastructure funds will be used to establish a rewards program, expand the educational campaign on mid-block crossing, pilot a Speed Watch program, and implement a Walking School Bus program,



HISSING, Walk Audit Map Bits & Walk ES for Roberts ES for Roberts

EXAMPLES

rapid repeating flashing beacon

pedestrian refuge island



ladder style crosswalk

The street design elements shown above help identify crossings and calm the speed of vehicular traffic. Any or all of these could be used on streets near Roberts ES.





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SRTS Action Plan prepared by East Central Wisconsin Regional Safe Routes to School Program, January 2012. For additional information, please contact Melissa Kraemer Badtke, Regional SRTS Coordinator, at 920.751.4770 or visit www.eastcentralsrts.org.

RECOMMENDATIONS

~ Engineering ~

- High Visibility Crosswalks Emphasize the recommended path for crossing an intersection.
- Sidewalk Stencils Identify specific routes for students to use when getting to/from school.
- **Complete Streets Ordinance** Adopt a policy to ensure streets are designed and built to allow safe access for all users (pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and bus riders).

~ Enforcement ~

- Speed Signs
- School Zone Campaign First Week: parents and students hold banners to remind drivers to slow down in school zones. Second Week: parent volunteers use radar guns to track drivers who are speeding in school zones and they receive a letter in the mail. Third Week: a law enforcement officer writes citations to speeding drivers.
- **Corner Captains** Have adults spaced at equal intervals along a designated route to make sure that children who are walking to or from school get there safely.
- Neighborhood Watch Program
- Speed Trailers Place these at or near schools to show passing motorists the speed at which they are traveling.
- Increased Law Enforcement Presence



- Media/Marketing Campaign Create signage and public service announcements (PSAs) focused on pedestrian awareness and safety in school zones.
- Bike Rodeo/Safety Course Coordinate bike rodeos featuring bike safety lessons and tuneups.
- Walk or Bike Across America As a part of math or geography class, have students keep track of the miles they accumulate by walking/biking to school.
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Speakers
- Parent Pledge Program Continue participating in the Regional SRTS Parent Pledge Program.

~ Encouragement ~

- Frequent Walker Card/Frequent Rider Miles Have faculty members check students' punch cards every time they walk/bike to school. Once their card is full, students will receive a reward.
- **Golden Sneaker Award** A competition between classrooms to have the greatest number of students walking/biking to school.
- Walking School Bus Program or Cycle Train Students meet at a designated location and walk or bike to school together.
- **Bicycle and Pedestrian Quiz Show** Have students play a game, similar to TV's Jeopardy, to learn about pedestrian/bicycle safety.
- Walking Wednesdays Program Schedule recurring times (weekly or monthly) for students to walk/bike to school.
- Recess Rovers/Morning Mile

~ Evaluation ~

- Student and Parent Surveys Conduct periodic parent and student surveys in conjunction with the Regional SRTS Program.
- Bike/Walk Audits Continue to assess school and area around it for additional safety concerns.
- **Geography Class** Have students put a push pin on a map where they live and color code the push pin to match the mode of transportation the use to get to and from school.