

ALAMEDA COUNTY

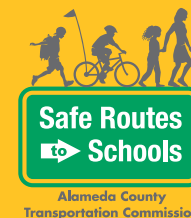
# Safe Routes to Schools

## 2022–23 Year-End Report

Published March 2024  
Data compiled July 2022 - June 2023



- ✓ Healthy Kids
- ✓ Safer Streets
- ✓ Strong Communities



# Acknowledgments

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***The Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program would like to thank all school district staff, school administrators and staff, teachers, Safe Routes Champions, caregivers and students who support active and shared transportation to school.***

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# 1 Introduction





# Introduction

## The Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program promotes safe active and shared transportation choices as fun and easy options for caregivers and students to travel to and from school.

The Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools (SR2S) Program has grown significantly since it began, from **two schools in 2006 to 295 schools enrolled during the 2022-23 school year**. In recent years, the Program has had to adapt to changing circumstances while continuing to offer valuable services to school communities, and it continues to be a valuable, engaging and educational part of the school year for students, staff and families across Alameda County.

During the 2022-23 school year, the SR2S Program saw an increase in enrollment from the previous year, with **20 additional schools** enrolling. With these additional schools, **82 percent of eligible schools\* in the County are now enrolled in the Program**. Almost half of enrolled schools participated in International Walk and Roll to School Day, many reporting that it was an opportunity to reconnect with students and families after not only the summer but also several challenging school years.

The fun continued with three more countywide encouragement events (the Golden Sneaker Contest, Bike to School Day and Reboot Your Commute), as well as the Program's regular education activities (such as Bike and Pedestrian Rodeos, Walk and Roll Concerts, and the Alameda County BikeMobile).

With more students consistently traveling to and from school, ongoing Walking School Buses, Bike Trains and Walk to School Days increased in popularity this school year. **While 38 schools held ongoing Walk and Roll Days last year, 75 participated this year, a 97 percent increase. The number of schools hosting Bike Trains doubled, and the number hosting Walking School Buses nearly tripled.**

It was an active and exciting year for the SR2S Program, and we believe that each school year will bring the Program's benefits to more school communities.



Students from John G. Mattos Elementary in Fremont on their way to school as part of Bike to School Day.

The Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program is a program of the Alameda County Transportation Commission ([alamedactc.org](http://alamedactc.org)) and is funded with Alameda County's local Measure BB sales tax, and regional, state and federal funds.

\* All public K-12 schools in Alameda County with a physical campus whose students travel to and from school are eligible to enroll in the Alameda County SR2S Program via a simple online form.

## Desired Safe Routes to Schools Program Outcomes

The overarching goal for the Safe Routes to Schools Program is to get more students to walk, bike, carpool or take transit to school.

Adopted by the Alameda CTC in 2017, the following two desired program outcomes guide the SR2S Program:

- » **Mode shift:** Increase use of active and shared transportation modes to reach schools (bicycling, walking, taking transit and carpooling) and promote these modes as viable, everyday transportation options.
- » **Safety:** Increase safe pedestrian and bicycling behaviors; decrease incidence of collisions; and increase student and caregiver confidence in safe walking, bicycling and transit riding abilities.

In addition, the SR2S Program has the following goals:

- » Provide a **comprehensive, equitable program** in a **fiscally responsible** manner,
- » Develop a core program where every student has access to **age-appropriate bicycle and pedestrian safety training**,
- » Establish and maintain **strong, effective partnerships**,
- » Support improvements to built environment near schools to **improve access and increase safety**,
- » Encourage **adoption of SR2S policies and curriculum** within schools,
- » **Evaluate the SR2S Program** at the school level so that it is context sensitive and allows the Program to adjust, and
- » Engage **caregivers** as **transportation “decision makers.”**



The SR2S Program aims to promote the use of active transportation modes among wide age groups and increase safe pedestrian and bicycling behaviors.

## About This Report

### This report summarizes the Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program activities for the 2022-23 school year.

**Chapter 2. Participation and Outreach** summarizes school participation in the activities offered.

**Chapter 3. Education and Encouragement** provides more details about the specific SR2S Program pedestrian, bicycle and transit safety education and countywide encouragement activities, as well as the high school program.

**Chapter 4. Mode Choice** reports how families get to and from school, based on the 2022-23 student travel tallies.

**Chapter 5. Safety Impacts** outlines the school safety assessments, caregiver concerns that are barriers to walking and biking, and other safety-focused activities.

**Chapter 6. Equity Impacts** presents the equity approach and updates to the Access Safe Routes Pilot Program.

**Chapter 7. Program Sustainability** summarizes SR2S Program engagement with Champions, Task Forces and other partnerships that will sustain momentum for SR2S in the future.

Additional documents are available that support this report:

**Appendix A: School Participation Matrix** summarizes the programming provided at Alameda County schools enrolled in the Program.

[School Snapshots](#) provide a two-page summary of how each enrolled school participated in the 2022-23 Program.

[District Snapshots](#) provide a two-page summary of how each district participated in the 2022-23 Program.



Students from Lorin Eden Elementary School strike a pose with their artwork, created as part of a SR2S after-school activity.

# 2022-23 School Year Highlights

More than 80 percent of the eligible\* schools in the county are enrolled in the SR2S Program as of June 2023.

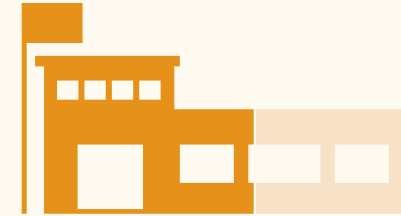
The following graphic shows the percentages of eligible elementary, middle and high schools enrolled in the Program.



**89%** 202 OF 227 ELIGIBLE  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS



**81%** 55 OF 68 ELIGIBLE  
MIDDLE SCHOOLS



**60%** 38 OF 63 ELIGIBLE  
HIGH SCHOOLS

**83%** 295 of 357 total  
schools enrolled

Includes 202 elementary schools, 55 middle schools and 38 high schools.\*\*  
67 percent of enrolled schools (197 schools) participated in at least one Program  
element and 18 schools participated in more than five different Program elements.



**55%** of schools  
participated in  
countywide  
encouragement  
events\*\*\*

- » 46 percent of enrolled schools (137 schools) celebrated **International Walk and Roll to School Day**.
- » 24 percent (71 schools) participated in the **Golden Sneaker Contest**.



More than  
**280**  
caregivers, school staff,  
students and community  
members volunteered

- » 289 **Champions** were active in schools.
- » Eight adult **Task Forces** and one **Youth Task Force** met a total of 27 and 5 times, respectively, over the course of the school year.



**22** high  
schools  
participated  
in at least one activity,  
such as Youth Task Forces,  
countywide encouragement  
events or ongoing activities.

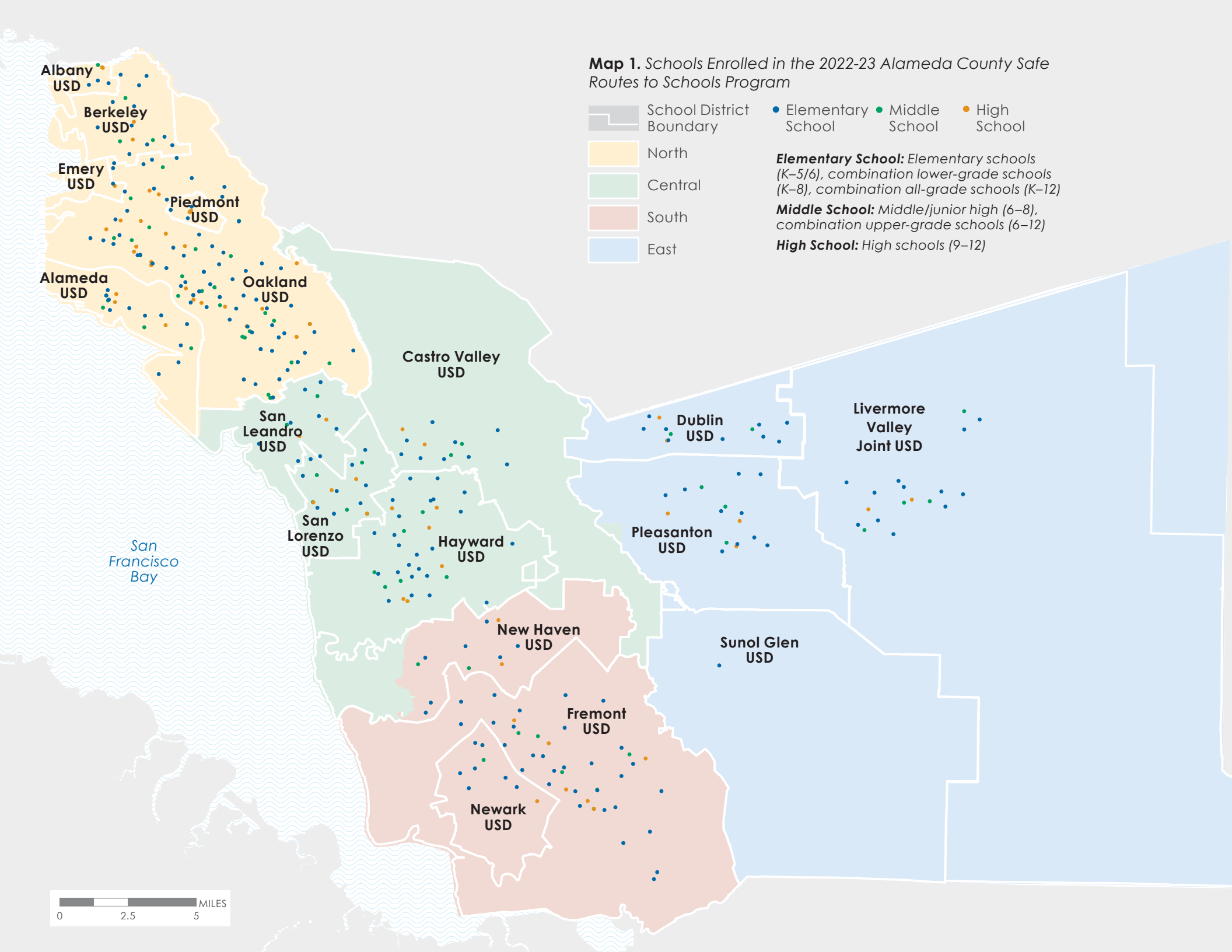
\* All public K-12 schools in Alameda County with a physical campus whose students travel to and from school are eligible to enroll in the Alameda County SR2S Program via a simple online form.

\*\***Elementary school** includes elementary schools (K-5/6), combination lower-grade schools (K-8) and combination all-grade schools (K-12); **middle school** includes middle/junior high (6-8) and combination upper-grade schools (6-12); **high school** includes high schools (9-12).

\*\*\* Countywide encouragement events for the 2022-23 school year were the Golden Sneaker Contest, International Walk and Roll Day, Reboot Your Commute, and Bike to School Day.



**Map 1. Schools Enrolled in the 2022-23 Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program**



School District Boundary
 • Elementary School
• Middle School
• High School

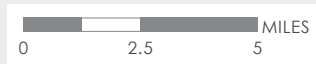
North
 • Elementary School
• Middle School
• High School

Central
   
 South
   
 East

**Elementary School:** Elementary schools (K–5/6), combination lower-grade schools (K–8), combination all-grade schools (K–12)

**Middle School:** Middle/junior high (6–8), combination upper-grade schools (6–12)

**High School:** High schools (9–12)



## The 6 Es Framework

The Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program is guided by the 6 Es framework that is the hallmark of successful Safe Routes programs. Enrolled schools participate in different types of activities based on their unique transportation needs, challenges and goals.



### EDUCATION

Education activities, such as pedestrian mini-cities and bike rodeos, teach key lessons about pedestrian and bicyclist safety, health and the joys of active transportation. Classroom activities teach students how to navigate busy streets and make the connection between active transportation, health and the environment.



### EQUITY

The SR2S Program works to ensure that program resources and activities are equitably spread throughout the county. Equity efforts also aim to reach the school communities that need the Program the most due to safety and health concerns and provide additional support for schools that are under-resourced.



### EVALUATION

Evaluation activities help schools measure their success at encouraging active and shared modes of transportation. The SR2S Program collects student travel data annually, conducts student surveys to evaluate how students get to school and tracks resource allocation to continually improve the Program.



### ENGINEERING

Engineering activities aim to address physical barriers to shared and active travel. The SR2S Program conducts school safety assessments to identify infrastructure improvements that help families get to school. Local jurisdictions can take these recommendations and implement improvements.



### ENCOURAGEMENT

Encouragement activities—such as International Walk and Roll to School Day, Golden Sneaker Contests and others—provide incentives and support to help children and their caregivers try walking, bicycling, carpooling or taking transit instead of single-family driving.



### ENGAGEMENT

The SR2S Program engages families by working alongside students, caregivers, teachers, school leaders and existing community organizations to build long-term capacity and sustainable programming.

# Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program Activities Overview

## Activity Participation

Enrolled schools receive support from SR2S Program staff, who work with each school's administration and SR2S Champions to organize activities and events. In middle schools, students increasingly plan and implement SR2S activities at their schools, and high school students are active proponents of the SR2S Program.

**Table 1** shows the activities available to schools enrolled in the SR2S Program during the 2022-23 school year.

**Table 1.** 2022-23 School Year Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Activities

	Elementary	Middle	High
<b>Education Activities</b>			
<b>Pedestrian Safety Activities</b>			
Pedestrian Rodeos	•	•	
Walk and Roll Concert	•	•	
<b>Bicycle Safety Activities</b>			
Bike Rodeos	•	•	
Drive Your Bike		•	•
Alameda County BikeMobile	•	•	•
<b>Encouragement Activities</b>			
<b>Countywide Encouragement Events</b>			
International Walk and Roll to School Day	•	•	•
Golden Sneaker Contest	•	•	
Reboot Your Commute			•
Bike to School Day	•	•	•
<b>Ongoing Events</b>			
Ongoing Walk and Roll Days	•	•	•
Walking School Bus / Bike Train	•	•	
Rail Safety Training	•	•	•
Travel Training		•	•
Transportation Storytime	•		
Go Green	•	•	•
<b>Equity Activities</b>			
Access Safe Routes Program	•	•	•
<b>Engineering Activities</b>			
School Safety Assessment	•	•	•
Engineering Technical Assistance	•	•	•



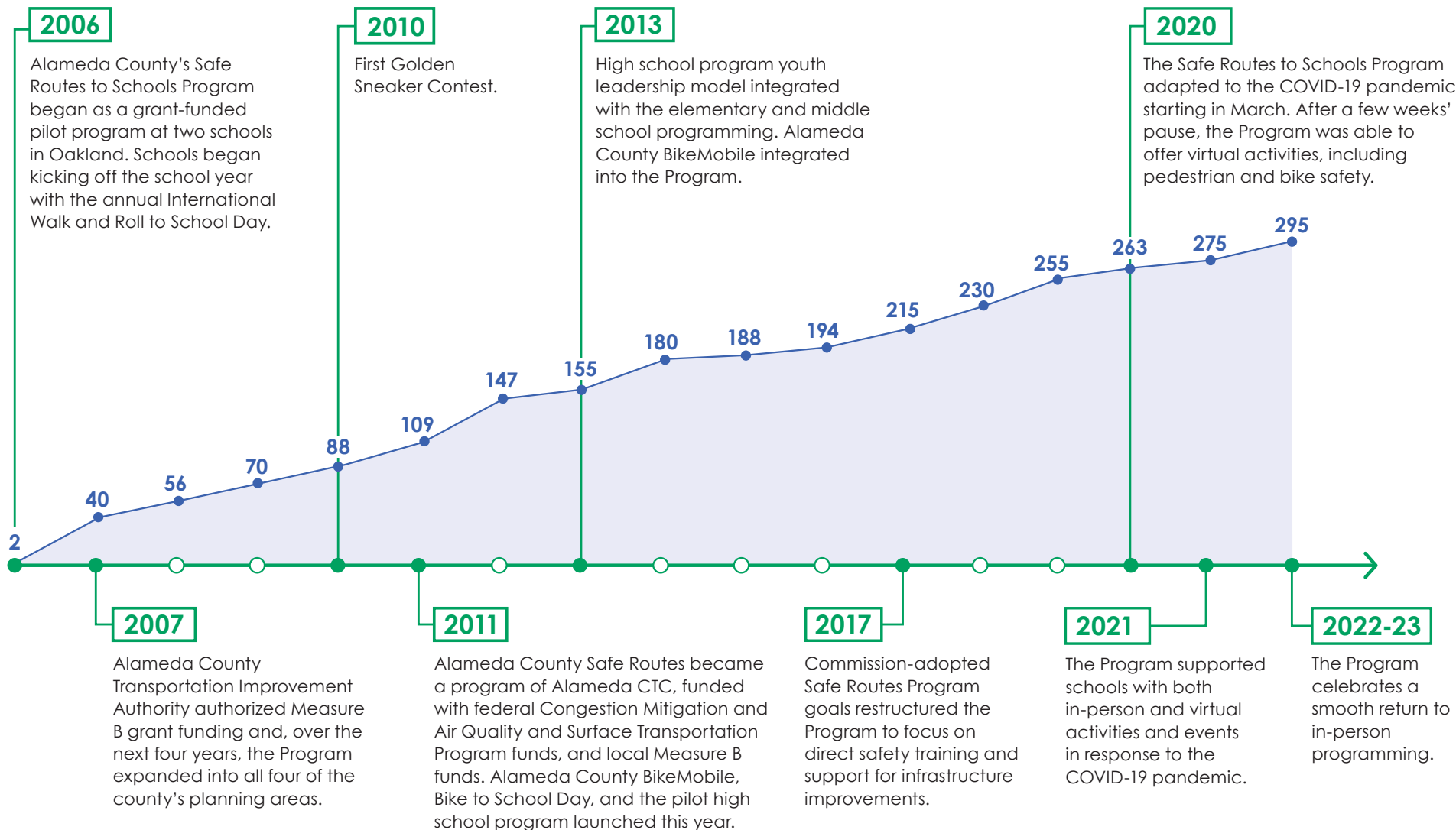
## Program History

The SR2S Program has grown from two schools in 2006 to 295 in 2023 (see Figure 1). Organizational structure, programming and funding have expanded over time, and the Program continues to provide robust support for students and families seeking to safely and sustainably get to school.



Alameda CTC Chair Batters bikes to school with Sylvia Mendez Elementary School families and community members in Berkeley as part of Bike to School Day.

**Figure 1. Schools Enrolled in the Alameda County SR2S Program**





# 2 Participation and Outreach





# Participation and Outreach

The Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program offers schools across the county a wide variety of fun, educational activities. This chapter outlines school participation in each of the SR2S activities offered during the 2022-23 school year.

## School Enrollment in the Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program

The SR2S Program seeks to reach as many people as possible, boost participation in countywide events (such as International Walk and Roll to School Day) and help schools identify and implement activities to achieve their active and shared transportation goals. For this reason, **schools participating in the SR2S Program can tailor their programming to meet their specific needs and unique challenges**. Some activities are organized and run by SR2S Program partners, while others are organized by school officials, teachers, SR2S Champions and students themselves.

To receive services from the SR2S Program, public schools in Alameda County enroll via a simple online form. Once enrolled, schools

are considered part of the Program and are eligible to receive all services free of charge, including support from a school site coordinator, who will work with the school to develop an implementation plan, identify SR2S Champions and provide technical support related to SR2S implementation.

School enrollment is different from school participation. Sometimes, enrolled schools are not active participants (see **Figure 2**, page 14). This can be due to various factors including SR2S Champion or school administrator turnover, competing priorities or a lack of other resources. SR2S site coordinators work with these schools to understand the barriers to participation and identify solutions to support their participation.



Students from Sylvia Mendez Elementary School in Berkeley gather to get sunglasses and stickers as part of Bike to School Day.

## Program Activities

**Table 2** shows the number of schools participating in each program activity. In addition to the events shown in Table 2, the SR2S Program hosted community events, which involved families from multiple schools. These events included 72 Alameda County BikeMobile visits, one Drive Your Bike event, two Pedestrian Rodeo events and five Bike Rodeo events.

Note that not all activities are available for every grade level. See **Table 1 on page 8** for information on which activities are offered at elementary, middle and high schools.

**Table 2.** School Participation in Program Elements, 2022-23 School Year

Program Element	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	Combined Schools*	Community Events
<b>Education Activities</b>					
Pedestrian Rodeos	20	1		1	2
Bike Rodeos	14	0		2	5
Drive Your Bike		7	3	2	1
Alameda County BikeMobile	73	18	11	8	72
Walk and Roll Concert	36	1		0	
Travel Training		4	2	7	
Rail Safety Training	0	1	1	0	
Go Green	7	2	0	1	
<b>Encouragement Activities</b>					
International Walk and Roll to School Day	102	19	8	8	
Golden Sneaker Contest	63	6		2	
Reboot Your Commute			10	4	
Bike to School Day	42	9	6	7	
Walking School Bus	19	1		0	
Bike Train	20	0		1	
Ongoing Walk and Roll Days	28	1	2	0	
Transportation Storytime	10			1	

\***Elementary School:** Grades K-5/6; **Middle School:** Grades 6-8; **High School:** Grades 9-12; **Combined School:** Combination Lower-Grade Schools (K-8), Combination Upper-Grade Schools (6-12) and Combination All-Grade Schools (K-12).

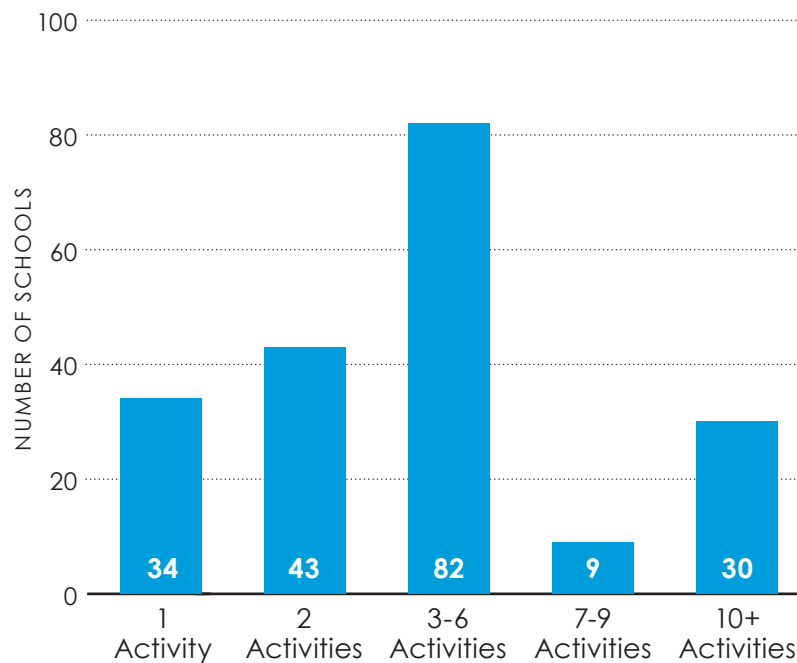
Gray shading indicates a program that is not available at the given grade level.

## Activities by School

The SR2S Program seeks to reach students and their families with safety education and training about how green transportation options can be safe, fun and easy to use. Enrolled schools may participate in the countywide encouragement events, as well as age-appropriate safety training activities and other educational activities based on school needs and concerns.

**Figure 2** provides a breakdown of how many activities were held at the schools enrolled in the Program, counting weekly or monthly Walk and Roll Days as separate events. Each instance of a regularly scheduled event counts as one activity at that school.

**Figure 2.** *Number of Activities at Participating Schools (2022-23)*





## Safe Routes to Schools Champions

Once schools enroll in the SR2S Program, the extent of their participation varies, as shown in Figure 2. Schools that enroll are eligible to receive educational services and support from site coordinators, who work with each school's administration and volunteer SR2S Champion or Champions to organize activities and events.

SR2S Champions are designated school staff, caregiver or staff volunteers, and high school students. **Champions host events, promote green transportation options and work with students on education and encouragement activities. In high schools, student Champions are increasingly engaged in the planning and implementation of SR2S events.**

Many factors influence schools' ability to participate in the SR2S Program, including competing educational priorities, staff turnover and lack of buy-in from the school community. However, one of the most

significant drivers of a school's level of participation is the engagement and time commitment of its Champions. Schools that have active and passionate Champions who can dedicate time to SR2S typically participate in more events than schools that do not have Champions or whose Champions cannot dedicate time to SR2S. New schools and schools with new SR2S Champions often require additional support to organize and plan events.

**During the 2022-23 school year, 289 designated SR2S Champions helped implement SR2S activities. While not every school had a Champion, 77 percent of schools had at least one, and 38 percent (112 schools) had two or more.**

In addition, many more caregivers, teachers and members of the school community volunteered in support of SR2S activities during the school year.



**The engagement and time commitment of SR2S Champions is crucial for increasing participation among students and their families.**



# 3 Education and Encouragement





# Education and Encouragement

**This chapter reports on the activities and events that were implemented during the 2022-23 school year.**

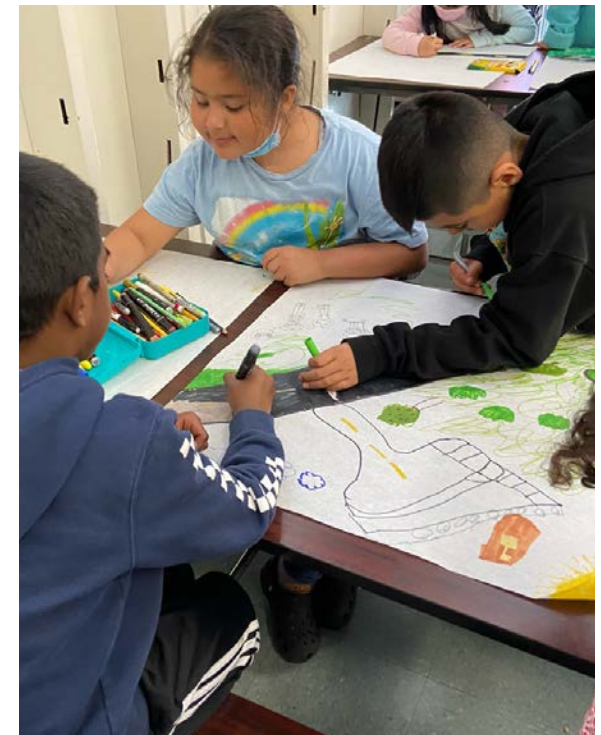
The SR2S Program offers a wide range of fun activities and events that make walking, biking, transit use, school busing and carpooling to school safer and more accessible for families. These activities are a key part of the Program's efforts to increase the number of students who choose these modes.

Schools enrolled in the SR2S Program can participate in a variety of safety education activities and fun countywide encouragement events. Every school community has different needs and challenges to promoting active and shared transportation modes, so schools may participate in different activities. The SR2S Program seeks to tailor activities to address each school's specific needs.

## Education Activities

SR2S education activities teach students how to safely and comfortably walk, bike and take transit to get to school. Activities are both hands-on and educational, often taking students from the classroom to the streets. When in-person events were not encouraged due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, students and families were able to take part in interactive education through virtual presentations.

Education activities offered by the SR2S Program include Pedestrian and Bike Rodeos, Drive Your Bike trainings, Alameda County BikeMobile, Travel Training, Walk and Roll Concert, and Transportation Storytime. More about each of these activities can be found on the following pages.



**The Program offers fun and age-appropriate educational activities that build excitement for walking and rolling while also providing essential skills.**



## Pedestrian Safety Activities

### Pedestrian Rodeos

#### WHAT IS IT?

Pedestrian rodeos are interactive pedestrian safety trainings where students practice navigating roadways using small-scale courses, learning traffic safety and lawful pedestrian behavior through participatory activities. Participating classes learn skills like understanding traffic signs and signals, crossing the street safely, and recognizing and avoiding hazards, as well as the environmental, financial and physical

advantages to walking. Multiple sessions can be held throughout the school day to reach multiple classes, and virtual presentations are also available.

**DELIVERED BY**  
Safe Moves

**AUDIENCE**  
This activity is best suited for elementary schools.



Students at Bridges Academy in Oakland practice safe walking skills during a Pedestrian Rodeo.

#### BY THE NUMBERS:

**40**  
PEDESTRIAN RODEOS

**5,266**  
STUDENTS SERVED

**38**  
SCHOOL EVENTS

**2**  
COMMUNITY EVENTS

*The presentation was engaging, funny, age-appropriate, and had real-life practical application. The set and props are excellent as well. We recommend this program 1000%.*

*Teacher from Birch Grove Primary whose students participated in a Pedestrian Rodeo activity*

## Bicycle Safety Activities

### Bike Rodeos

#### WHAT IS IT?

Bike Rodeos are fun-filled, hands-on training courses that focus on introducing elementary students to safe bicycle handling skills and safe riding techniques for on-the-road riding. The training includes drills, as well as a simulated city streets course where students learn skills such as proper starting and stopping technique, hand signaling, how to fit a helmet, how to perform bicycle safety checks, how to ride in a straight line and how

to ride safely and predictably. Sessions can be 30 to 45 minutes, and interactive virtual presentations are also available.

#### DELIVERED BY

Cycles of Change

#### AUDIENCE

This activity is best suited for grades 3 to 8 (in class). It is also well-suited for a school festival or community event.



Bike Rodeos provide skills to help students become safe and confident riders.

#### BY THE NUMBERS:

**16**  
SCHOOLS SERVED

**2,071**  
STUDENTS SERVED

**39**  
SCHOOL EVENTS

**All of our students came away from the rodeo more confident and prepared for being on two wheels.**

*Teacher from Horace Mann Elementary whose students attended an in-person Bike Rodeo*

## Bicycle Safety Activities



Among other safety skills, Drive Your Bike teaches students hand signals for communicating while on the road.

**The instructors were positive, upbeat, and thorough.**

*Middle school teacher whose students attended a Drive Your Bike Training*

### Drive Your Bike

#### WHAT IS IT?

Drive Your Bike prepares students to bicycle safely to school and around their neighborhoods and encourages them to start riding more often. Cycles of Change also offers a virtual presentation of Drive Your Bike, which covers bike safety (helmet and bike fit, pre-ride safety check), bike handling skills and rules for navigating streets safely.

#### DELIVERED BY

Cycles of Change

#### AUDIENCE

This activity is best suited for middle and high schools.

#### BY THE NUMBERS:

**12**  
SCHOOLS SERVED

**4,041**  
STUDENTS SERVED

**1**  
COMMUNITY EVENT



## Bicycle Safety Activities



A student from Redwood Heights Elementary School learns basic bicycle repair skills to promote safe bicycling.

### Alameda County BikeMobile

#### WHAT IS IT?

The BikeMobile is a mobile bicycle parts and repair shop that visits schools and community events around Alameda County to perform bicycle repair, teach basic bike mechanics and promote safe bicycling. Many students do not ride their bikes due to minor issues, such as a flat tire or worn-out brakes. The BikeMobile addresses these problems by bringing mechanics to schools and other places where children and families can access their services.

#### DELIVERED BY

Local Motion

#### AUDIENCE

This activity is suited for all students.

#### BY THE NUMBERS:

**111**  
SCHOOLS SERVED

**5,305**  
STUDENTS SERVED

**135**  
SCHOOL EVENTS

**72**  
COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Our families also brought their bikes and have now been riding them with their students on the weekends which is awesome!**

*Teacher from Cesar Chavez Middle School in Hayward whose students attended a BikeMobile event*

## Transportation Activities

### Walk and Roll Concerts

#### WHAT IS IT?

Founded by two middle school teachers from South Central Los Angeles, Music Notes is an educational music company that has created a custom walking- and biking-themed concert for the SR2S Program that teaches walking and biking safety through hip hop songs and videos. The Walk and Roll Concerts can be delivered in person at a school assembly or virtually through a

streaming video presentation with live chat followed by a Meet and Greet with the artists over video call.

#### DELIVERED BY

Music Notes

#### AUDIENCE

This activity is best suited for elementary and middle schools.



Walk and Roll Concerts include interactive elements that get students moving and practicing skills.

#### BY THE NUMBERS:

# 37

SCHOOLS SERVED

# 16,125

STUDENTS SERVED

**Many of my students expressed that this was their “best assembly ever!”**

*Teacher at Alvarado Elementary School whose students attended an in-person Walk and Roll Concert*

**Music Notes are a class act! Because they are educators, they know exactly how to meaningfully engage all students.**

*Teacher at Ruby Bridges Elementary School whose students attended an in-person Walk and Roll Concert*

# Transportation Activities

## Travel Training

**WHAT IS IT?**

Travel Training workshops use fun and interactive lessons and activities to encourage students to use active and shared transportation to get around. The basic Travel Training is designed for middle school students and covers topics such as making decisions about how to get around, taking public transportation, getting a Clipper card and linking walking and biking trips with transit. The advanced Travel Training is designed for

high school students, connects transportation choices to climate change and includes an optional student project.

**DELIVERED BY**

Site Coordinators  
Program Team

**AUDIENCE**

This activity is best suited for middle and high schools.

**BY THE NUMBERS:**

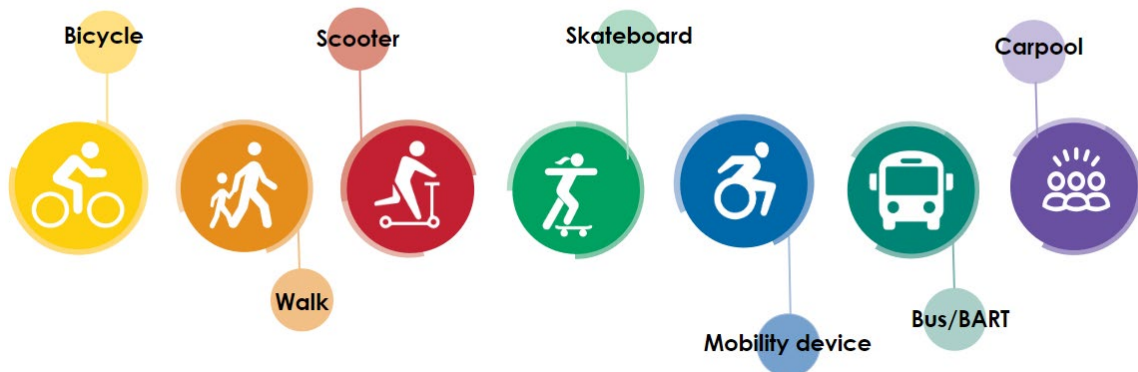
**13**  
SCHOOLS SERVED

**55**  
TRAININGS HELD

**1,856**  
STUDENTS SERVED

**4**  
CAREGIVER TRAININGS HELD

### What is Active Transportation? What is Shared Transportation?



Travel training presentations include information on using both active and shared forms of transportation.

The Safe Routes Program is an amazing program for our students to participate in. They have so many resources and [site coordinators] are really amazing and here to help.

*Family Engagement Specialist in Hayward*



## Transportation Activities

### Rail Safety Training

#### WHAT IS IT?

The Rail Safety program was developed to address the high incidence of fatalities and serious injuries from collisions due to trespassing onto railroad right-of-way. The SR2S Program provides student programming to raise awareness about trespassing and teach safe behaviors when walking or bicycling near railroads. The Program also offers materials for raising awareness, as well as safety education for adults. These resources include downloadable fact

sheets, posters, flyers and appearances at community events.

#### DELIVERED BY

Site Coordinators  
Program Team

#### AUDIENCE

This activity is suited for all ages but is particularly focused on schools and communities located near railroad tracks.

#### BY THE NUMBERS:

# 2

SCHOOLWIDE INITIATIVES

# 700+

STUDENTS SERVED



Rail Safety trainings raise awareness about safe behavior near railroad tracks.

## Transportation Activities

### Go Green Curriculum

#### WHAT IS IT?

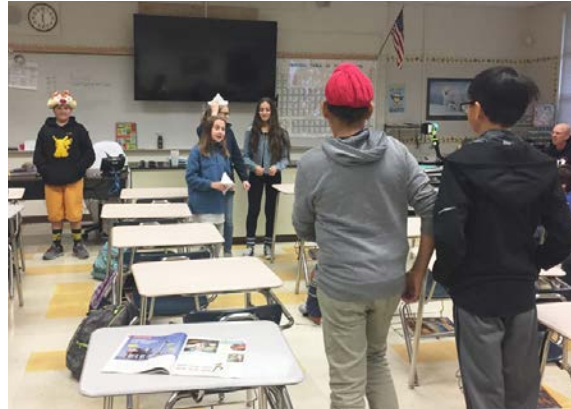
Go Green is an interactive, Common Core aligned presentation that teaches students about climate change and the environmental effects of transportation. Students learn the benefits of active and shared transportation, as well as how to be responsible travelers and promote transportation change within their communities.

#### DELIVERED BY

Site Coordinators  
Program Team

#### AUDIENCE

This activity is suited for all students.



Students at Wells Middle School in Dublin participate in a Go Green activity.

#### BY THE NUMBERS:

**10**  
SCHOOLS SERVED

**1,857**  
STUDENTS SERVED

**33**  
SCHOOL EVENTS

## Encouragement Activities

Encouragement events inspire and motivate families to try a new mode for the first time or celebrate families' ongoing commitment to active or shared transportation. These events bring together the school community to celebrate the joy of walking, biking, transit use and carpooling. Through fun and engaging activities and messaging, these events also build a school culture that recognizes active and shared transportation as contributing to individual wellness and academic success, social connection, and environmental stewardship.

**Walk and Roll to School Day went amazing. There were a lot of families that rode their bikes or walked to school who don't normally get to school that way. Kids were saying they really liked getting to school that way more than driving before**

*Staff Champion at Jackson Avenue Elementary School in Livermore*

Each year, the SR2S Program implements four countywide encouragement events: International Walk and Roll to School Day in October, the Golden Sneaker Contest in late winter/early spring, Bike to School Day in May and a Reboot Your Commute event specifically for high schools. Each of these events is a chance for schools to shine a spotlight on active and shared transportation and create positive and memorable experiences for students and families.



Encouragement activities bring the school community together. Here, Brier Elementary School in Fremont celebrates International Walk and Roll to School Day, which provides an opportunity for staff, students and families to reconnect at the start of the school year.



## Countywide Encouragement Events

### International Walk and Roll to School Day

International Walk and Roll to School Day (IWR2SD) encourages students, caregivers and the school community to reduce air pollution and traffic congestion by walking, rolling or taking transit to get to school. With schools back in person for a second full year, school staff and Champions were prepared with a more traditional IWR2SD. This year's event was held on October 12, 2022, and students tracked their transportation modes as they arrived at school using provided charts.

Here are some highlights of the 2022-23 event:

- » **137 schools** participated in this event.
- » **Over 23,000 students** got to school using active or shared modes, a 27 percent increase from the 2021-22 event
- » In Fremont, the mayor, along with nearly every city council member, participated at IWR2SD in schools around the city.
- » Korematsu Discovery Academy has started a **monthly Walk and Roll to School Day** on the last Friday of each month.

#### DELIVERED BY

Site Coordinators  
Program Team



Students at E. M. Grimmer Elementary School make chalk art drawings of active transportation modes on International Walk and Roll to School Day.

#### BY THE NUMBERS:

**13,000+**  
STUDENTS WALKED

**5,000+**  
STUDENTS BIKED

**3,000+**  
STUDENTS CARPOOLED

**1,200+**  
STUDENTS USED TRANSIT

## Countywide Encouragement Events

### Golden Sneaker Contest

Thousands of students in Alameda County participated in the Golden Sneaker Contest during February and March of the 2022-23 school year. The contest encouraged students, caregivers, teachers and administrators to engage in active or shared transportation when going to school. These activities included walking, biking, rolling (using a mobility device), skateboarding, using a scooter, riding public transportation and carpooling.

Over the contest period, classrooms recorded the number of students that participated in each activity. At the end of the contest, the classroom at each school with the highest percentage of participation received student and teacher prizes.

Here are some highlights of the 2022-23 event:

- » At Bay Farm School in the City of Alameda, the winning classroom created a short write-up titled, "A Trophy for Planet Earth," that was featured in the school's newsletter.

- » At Altamont Creek Elementary in Livermore and at Proctor Elementary in Castro Valley, Youth Task Force members hosted Storytime to talk to students about the contest and encourage them to participate.
- » At James Leitch Elementary in the City of Fremont, Goldie, the unofficial mascot of the contest, hosted Transportation Storytime for a first and second grade classroom the week before the contest to promote participation.

#### DELIVERED BY

Site Coordinators  
Program Team



First grade students at Berkeley Arts Magnet School celebrating their win with their Golden Sneaker Trophy.

#### BY THE NUMBERS:

**71**  
SCHOOLS PARTICIPATED

**30,000+**  
STUDENTS PARTICIPATED

**“My class had the most students who walked to school [at Lockwood Elementary], and we won the Golden Sneaker Contest! I love wearing my golden shoe laces.**

*Student at Lockwood Elementary in Oakland*

## Countywide Encouragement Events

### Reboot Your Commute (High School)

Between January and March of 2023, the SR2S Program hosted “Reboot Your Commute”, an event encouraging high school students to use active and shared transportation and share their transportation preferences on display boards at the event table.

The idea behind this event was to create a schoolwide conversation surrounding the impact of travel choices on our health, safety, community and environment.

Here are some highlights of the 2022-23 event:

- » **14 high schools participated in the event,** which was more than twice the number that participated in last year's event. According to the “mode jars” at the event (students placed their ticket in a jar to indicate which mode they used to get to school), most students chose to carpool to school on the day of the event.

- » Students from the High School Youth Task Force helped plan, promote and encourage participation in the event. Youth Task Force students devised the event name “Reboot Your Commute” and decided on incentives based on their understanding of what would be attractive to and motivate their peers.
- » To make the event stand out, program staff encouraged event organizers to book the SR2S Trivia Wheel or Bike Blender. Eleven out of the 14 events used either the SR2S Trivia Wheel or Bike Blender.

**DELIVERED BY**  
Site Coordinators  
Program Team

**[Reboot Your Commute] went great! I was pleasantly surprised by the amount of participation that we had. I think the Bike Blender was a terrific addition, and it played a large role in attracting interest.**

*Livermore High SR2S Champion*



Students from Alameda Community Learning Center add stickers on the mode they used to get to school during Reboot Your Commute event.



## Countywide Encouragement Events

### Bike to School Day

Bike to School Day provides opportunity for students, families and school staff to celebrate biking as a school community, distribute incentives and spread the bike fun. Bike to School Day is also an opportunity to make connections between bike partners and advocates in the community and the Alameda County SR2S Program community.

Additionally, Walking School Buses, Bike Trains and/or Walk and Roll to School Days can be organized as “add-ons” to Bike to School Day to promote safe, multimodal travel to school and within communities. A few notable activities included:

- » Malcolm X Elementary School (BUSD) had four different bike trains.
- » Oakland Tech's (OUSD) Youth Task Force collaborated with the City of Oakland, OUSD School Board, Bike East Bay and Walk Oakland Bike Oakland to organize a pop-up demonstration.
- » G.M. Walters Middle School (HUSD) hosted two consecutive Bike to School Days with 367 students biking.

- » Sylvia Mendez Elementary School (BUSD) held a bike helmet decoration activity at Sports Basement, followed by a Bike Train led by Alameda CTC Chair John Bauters.

**DELIVERED BY**  
Site Coordinators  
Program Team



**A Champion leads students from Edison Elementary in Alameda to school during Bike to School Day.**

#### BY THE NUMBERS:

**64**  
SCHOOLS PARTICIPATED

**3,000+**  
PARTICIPANTS

**16**  
SUPPLEMENTAL EVENTS  
ORGANIZED AS PART OF  
BIKE TO SCHOOL DAY

**We heard several kids say that this was their first time biking to school. They were inspired to do it after hearing about Bike to School Day. Everyone had a great time, and it felt like a real celebration of biking.**

*Teacher at Washington Elementary in Berkeley*

## Ongoing Encouragement Events

Ongoing encouragement events and activities are those that occur multiple times throughout the school year. These activities can be piloted as part of a countywide event (like International Walk and Roll to School Day), building interest and engagement among families.

### Walking School Buses and Bike Trains

A Walking School Bus is an organized group of students who walk to school together with adult leaders, while Bike Trains are the cycling equivalent. These regular events are fun and engaging ways to engage the school community in active transportation while increasing safety and visibility through traveling in a larger group. They can include activities such as bike trivia, theme days, games such as “eye spy” or “carpool count,” and prize giveaways from community partners.

#### DELIVERED BY

Site Coordinators

# 20

SCHOOLS HOSTED  
WALKING SCHOOL  
BUSES

# 21

SCHOOLS HOSTED  
BIKE TRAINS

### Ongoing Walk and Roll Days

While International Walk and Roll to School Day is a one-time annual event, ongoing Walk and Roll Days take place on a weekly or monthly basis. These recurring events promote active and shared transportation throughout the school year and are excellent activities to sustain and maintain new travel behavior. Site coordinators support these events by providing outreach materials, sample text for school newsletters and email announcements, and suggested activities and themes for each month in English and Spanish.

#### DELIVERED BY

Site Coordinators

# 31

SCHOOLS  
PARTICIPATED



**A student at Korematsu Discovery Academy in Oakland participates in a Walking School Bus alongside their school's site coordinator.**

**We had three walking school buses, music playing in the morning, and lots of teacher volunteers to pass out prizes and stickers for the mode charts. Kids were excited and I think everyone had a good time.**

*Teacher Champion at Brier Elementary School in Fremont about International Walk and Roll to School Day*

## Event Spotlight

### Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day

On November 14, 1960, first grader Ruby Bridges courageously walked into a segregated elementary school in New Orleans and changed our county's history. To honor that day, hundreds of students, teachers, and community members gathered at Ruby Bridges Elementary School in the City of Alameda to celebrate the nationwide annual event, Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day. As a special surprise, **Ruby Bridges herself headlined the event, sharing inspiring words with the crowd and encouraging students to continue living out the values of kindness and justice in their own lives.**

Ruby Bridges was joined by City of Alameda Mayor and Alameda County Transportation Commissioner Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft, Alameda Unified School District Superintendent Pasquale Scuderi, and the Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools team.



Students at Ruby Bridges Elementary share their excitement alongside Music Notes performers in celebration of Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day.

**As the most diverse elementary school in Alameda, our students were able to see themselves in the presenters, which was so valuable, positive, and encouraging. We are so grateful to have the opportunity to engage in fun learning that was structured to include students with diverse abilities.**

*Ruby Bridges Elementary School Principal  
Pharr Matthews*

**The Safe Routes Concert was absolutely THE BEST assembly and group we had the pleasure of welcoming to our campus. To see the high level of engagement of all students was truly magical.**

*Kristin Furuichi Fong, Ruby  
Bridges Elementary Site  
Instruction Coach*



# Classroom Encouragement Activities

## Transportation Storytime

### WHAT IS IT?

Transportation Storytime is ideal for Pre-K to grade 2. The SR2S team has a collection of transportation-related books for reading to students, as well as engaging supplemental activities such as trivia. Youth Task Force members helped deliver several Storytime sessions and enthusiastically engaged with young students. Each Storytime session is

about 30 minutes long and can be delivered in person or via Zoom.

### DELIVERED BY

Site Coordinators  
High School Youth Task Force members

### AUDIENCE

This activity is best suited for elementary schools.



Students listen intently to a Youth Task Force volunteer during a Transportation Storytime event at Vineyard Alternative School in Livermore.

### BY THE NUMBERS:

**31**  
SCHOOLS SERVED

**872**  
STUDENTS SERVED

“ Thank you so much for doing Storytime with my students. They really enjoyed it! Great story choice too! So many lessons to learn throughout the book.

Teacher at Leitch Elementary School  
whose students participated in  
Transportation Storytime ”

## High School Program

### The high school program empowers students to work with their peers to foster active and shared transportation.

While elementary and middle school SR2S programming focuses on safety education and addresses caregivers' concerns about green transportation options, the high school program also includes youth-led initiatives. During the 2022-23 school year, **38 of the 63 eligible high schools** in Alameda County were enrolled in the SR2S Program. Participating schools were involved in the SR2S Youth Task Force, countywide encouragement events and ongoing events.

### Youth Task Force

The Youth Task Force provides a forum for Alameda County high school students to learn how to lead SR2S events and activities at their schools and share implementation strategies to encourage mode shift among their peers. Students also discuss current transportation issues and activities at their schools while building a community of youth



Students at Tennyson High School in Hayward pose for a photo while giving away sunglasses as part of the International Walk and Roll to School Day.

leaders, which strengthens the capacity and sustainability of the SR2S Program.

During the 2022-23 school year, **there were five SR2S Youth Task Force meetings involving schools across the county, with 67 participants** in the meetings over the course of the year.

At Youth Task Force meetings, students developed best practices for successful

events based on their experiences organizing school events and considering their peers' interests, teen culture and travel logistics at their schools.

### Countywide Encouragement Events for High Schools

Youth Task Force members worked with their school leadership classes to plan and host countywide encouragement events at their schools.

- » **13 schools that serve high school students\* participated in International Walk and Roll Day.**
- » **14 schools that serve high school students\* participated in Reboot Your Commute.**
- » **Nine schools that serve high school students\* participated in Bike to School Day.**
- » Castro Valley High School participated in all three encouragement events, while Tennyson High School and Livermore High School participated in two out of the three.

\* This number includes both high schools and combined-grade schools that serve high school students.



# 4 Mode Choice





## Overview

**One of the key program objectives is to increase the number of students who use active or shared transportation modes to get to and from school. Since fall 2011, the SR2S Program has been collecting data in order to understand impacts and continuously improve the program.**

Increasing the proportion of active and shared trips is an important goal of the SR2S Program. This shift is known to curb transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions, reduce congestion, improve health and benefit the community in other ways.

Mode split tracking is one important part of measuring the effectiveness of the SR2S Program. Along with other information from participants, changes in student travel patterns can provide insight into program impacts and how the program encourages and empowers students and their families to walk, bike, carpool or take transit to school.

## Defining Modes

### Active Modes

Walking, biking and rolling



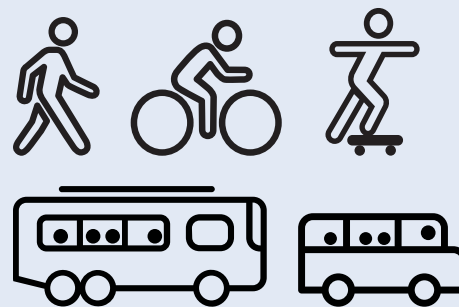
### Shared Modes

Carpooling, taking the school bus or taking transit



### Green Modes

Active and shared modes combined



## Data Collection

The SR2S Program collects travel behavior data from several main sources:

- » **Student hand tallies** are conducted annually by teachers (or students themselves, in the case of high schools). The survey asks students to share how they arrived at school and how they plan to get home. Comparing hand tally results over the years helps program staff track whether the program is successfully shifting trips to active and shared modes.<sup>1</sup> Hand tally results are available online as part of the annual School Snapshots.
- » **Caregiver surveys** are sent home to families every other year in backpack mail or via a link to an online survey. Surveys ask caregivers how their children get to and from school, as well as opinion questions about mode choice, attitudes about active and shared transportation and their participation in the SR2S Program. The most recent caregiver survey took place in spring 2023.

<sup>1</sup> At Access schools, hand tallies are collected in either fall and/or spring to provide maximum flexibility. Schools also receive assistance from site coordinators, including in-person tallying and printed forms when needed.

- » **Champion and administrator surveys** are conducted toward the end of each school year and are a chance for participating SR2S Champions and school staff to provide feedback on the Program and their school's participation in it. These surveys gather additional information about perceptions and attitudes toward green modes of transportation, as well as barriers and challenges to implementing SR2S Program elements.
- » **Focus groups** with Champions, school staff, caregivers and Program staff also provide an opportunity to reflect on the Program and their participation in it.
- » **School participation data** is also an important part of data collection. Event and activity tracking takes place consistently throughout the school year, allowing Program staff to monitor which schools are participating and how many students are being served by various Program elements.

### DELIVERED BY

Program Evaluation Team

**64 / 22%**  
SCHOOLS / OF SCHOOLS

returned hand tallies during  
the 2022-23 school year.

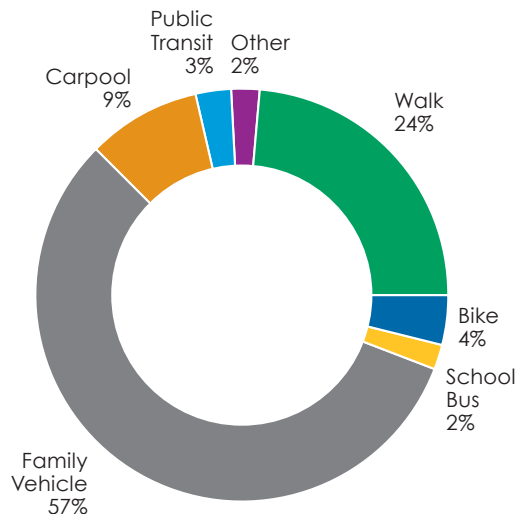


Students from Niles Elementary School in Fremont place stickers on the mode they took to school on International Walk and Roll to School Day.

## How Students Get to School

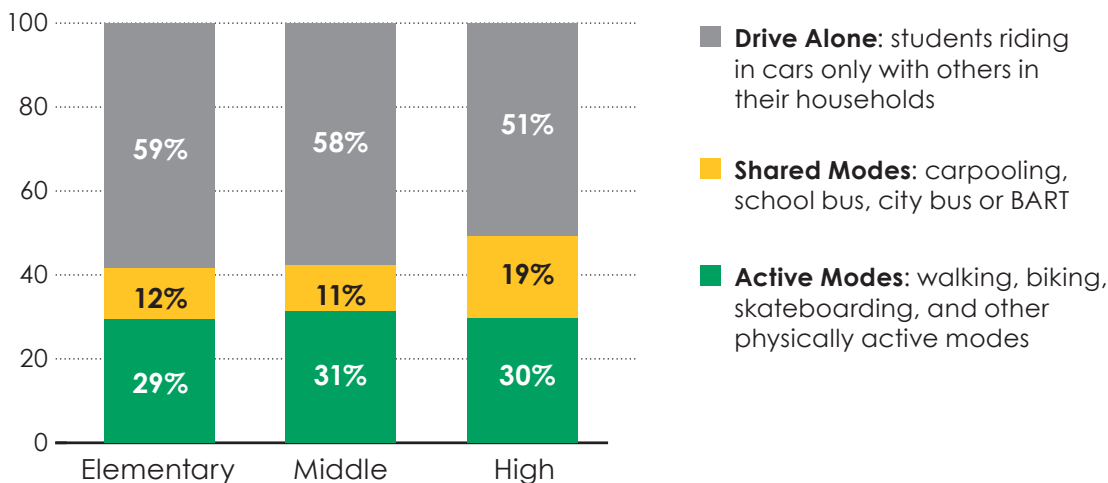
Hand tally data for the 2022-23 school year showed that, among surveyed classrooms countywide, more than half of student trips to and from school were made by family vehicle. As **Figure 3** illustrates, **about a quarter of trips were made by walking, and 9 percent were carpools.** **Figure 4** shows the proportion of students in each school type that used active modes, used shared modes and drove alone countywide.

**Figure 3. Mode Split for Countywide School Trips, 2022-23 Hand Tally Data\***



\* Includes representative data from 64 out of 275 schools enrolled in the SR2S Program, These schools collected hand tally data during the 2022-23 school year.

**Figure 4. Mode Split by School Type (2022-23)**



Source: 2022-23 Hand Tally Data for all Available Schools. Note: Percentages may not add to 100 percent due to rounding.

**Elementary:** Elementary (K-5/6), Combination Lower-Grade Schools (K-8) and Combination All-Grade Schools (K-12); **Middle:** Middle/Junior High (6-8) and Combination Upper-Grade Schools (6-12); **High:** High Schools (9-12)

As shown in **Figure 4**, during the 2022-23 school year, elementary and middle school students reported being driven to school at higher rates than other students.

High school students were slightly more likely than other ages to use active modes to get to school, and the oldest students were also most likely to use shared modes.

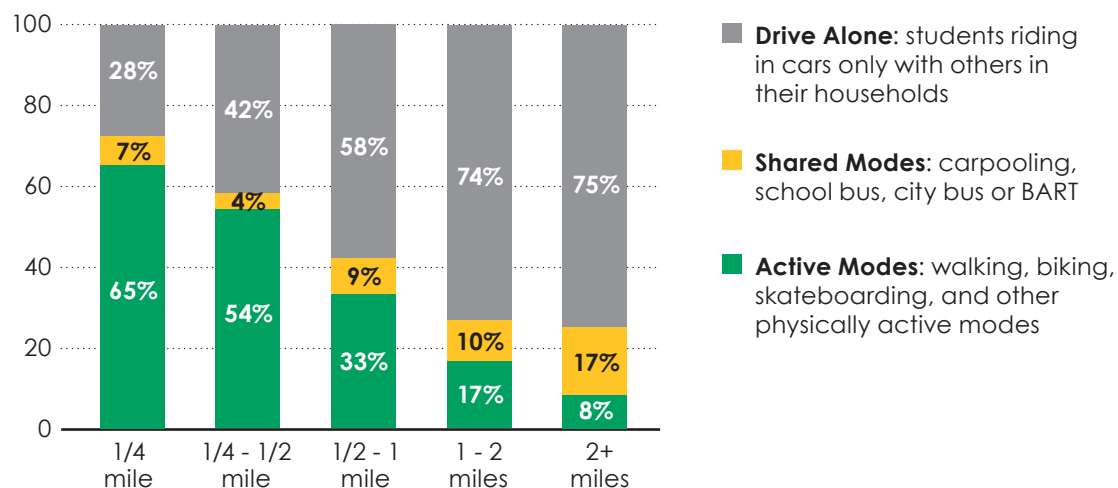


## Distance from School

As shown in **Figure 5**, families are more likely to use active modes to travel to school if they live closer to campus: **65 percent of the families living within a quarter mile of the school used active modes**, but only 54 percent of students who live a half mile to a mile from the school used active modes. Among families who lived more than two miles from school, 75 percent reported driving alone to school, while just over a quarter of families who lived within a quarter mile reported driving alone.

There is potential for the program to shift trips among the families living within a quarter mile of the school who currently drive. The families who live slightly further away present the best opportunity to shift trips to active or shared transportation.

**Figure 5. Mode Split by Distance from School**



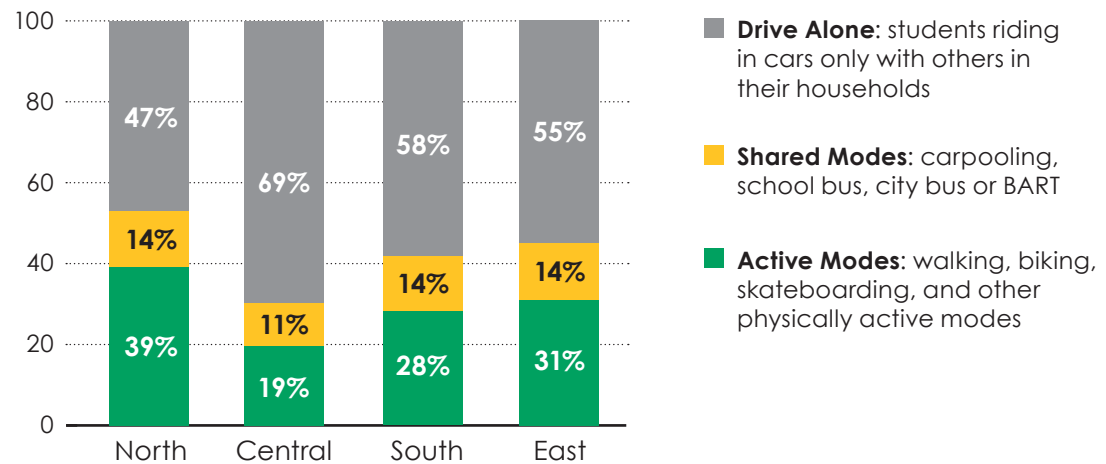
Source: 2022-23 Caregiver Survey. Note: Percentages may not add to 100 percent due to rounding.

## Student Travel by Planning Area

Alameda CTC divides Alameda County into four planning areas that vary greatly in geographic, population and land use characteristics, as well as school travel habits (see **Figure 6**).

- » **Schools in the North Planning Area had the highest percentage of students who walk, bike, skateboard or use other active modes (39 percent).**
- » Central Planning Area reported the highest percentage of families driving alone to school (73 percent).
- » 14 percent of students in North, South and East Planning Areas used shared transportation modes, which was slightly higher than the Central Planning Area (10 percent).

**Figure 6.** Mode Split by Planning Area, 2022-23 Hand Tally Data



### Alameda CTC Planning Areas

**North:** Alameda, Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland and Piedmont

**Central:** Ashland, Castro Valley, Cherryland, Hayward, San Leandro and San Lorenzo

**South:** Fremont, Newark and Union City

**East:** Dublin, Livermore and Pleasanton



# 5 Positive Safety Impacts





# Positive Safety Impacts

## Improving safety for all students in Alameda County, whether walking, biking, taking the bus or driving to school, is a fundamental focus of the Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program.

All students deserve to get to school safely. Per the 2017 goals and desired program outcomes adopted by the Alameda CTC, the SR2S Program has a focus on identifying safety concerns and infrastructure barriers that prevent students and families from walking, biking, carpooling or using transit to travel to schools.

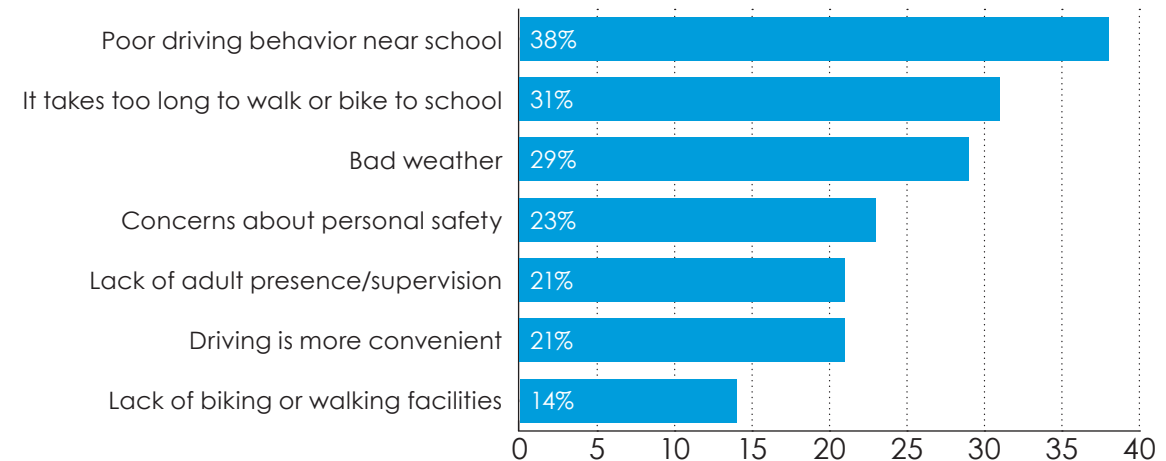
For caregivers, the perception that active and shared travel are dangerous often deters families from walking or biking to school (**Figure 7**). Program staff work to increasingly engage caregivers as the transportation decision makers via strategic communications campaigns and targeted education to address these concerns.

Additionally, school safety assessments (also known as walk audits) are an opportunity for SR2S Program staff to identify physical barriers and safety concerns around schools and recommend safety improvements for cities and school districts to implement.

Increased cooperation and partnerships with local jurisdictions are key components of implementing safety improvements near schools. Program staff will continue to build and strengthen those partnerships.

These strategic communications campaigns and school safety improvements can be combined with the education activities outlined in Chapter 3 to increase safe student and family walking and biking behaviors.

**Figure 7.** Caregiver Concerns with Walking or Biking to School



Source: 2022-23 Caregiver Survey.

Note: The numbers shown on the chart indicate the percentage of caregiver survey respondents who expressed that concern.

Over 640 caregivers were surveyed during the course of the 2022-23 school year to better understand their perceptions, priorities and concerns related to children walking and biking to school. These surveys are conducted every two years.

The majority of those surveyed during this time reported that encouraging an active and healthy lifestyle for their family was a primary reason they would consider or allow their child to walk and bike to school. Other reasons included spending time with family, having fun together and minimizing crashes and congestion (Figure 8).

As illustrated in Figure 9, among the caregivers surveyed about their perception of students walking or biking to school, most families (about 80 percent) strongly agreed or somewhat agreed that walking and biking to school was important for student's health. Another important motivation was that students had fun walking and biking to school. Over 60 percent of families wished to walk or bike to school more often.

Figure 8. Reasons Caregivers Allow or Consider Walking or Biking with Children

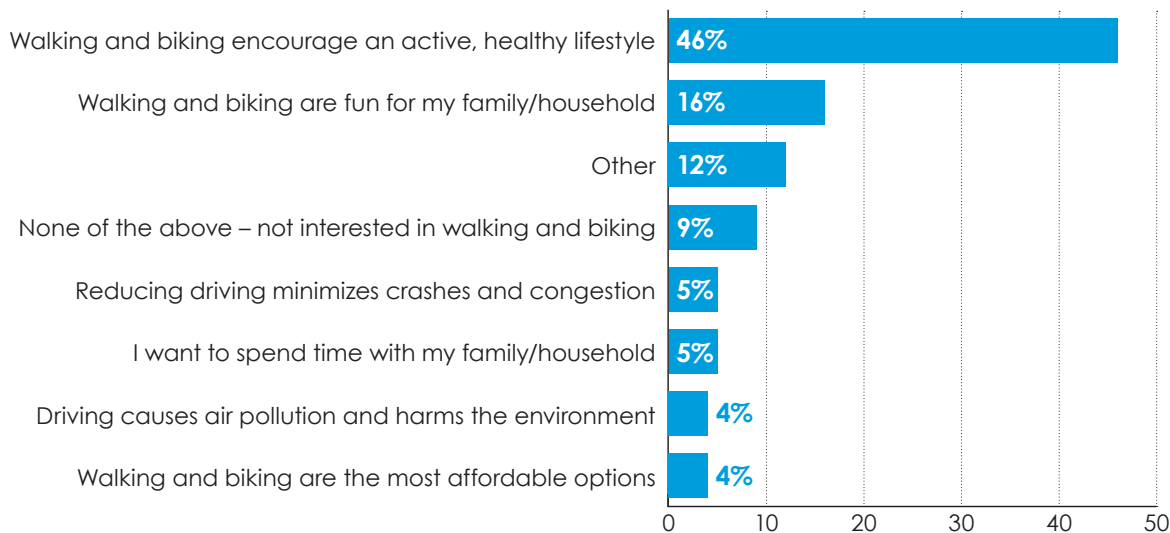
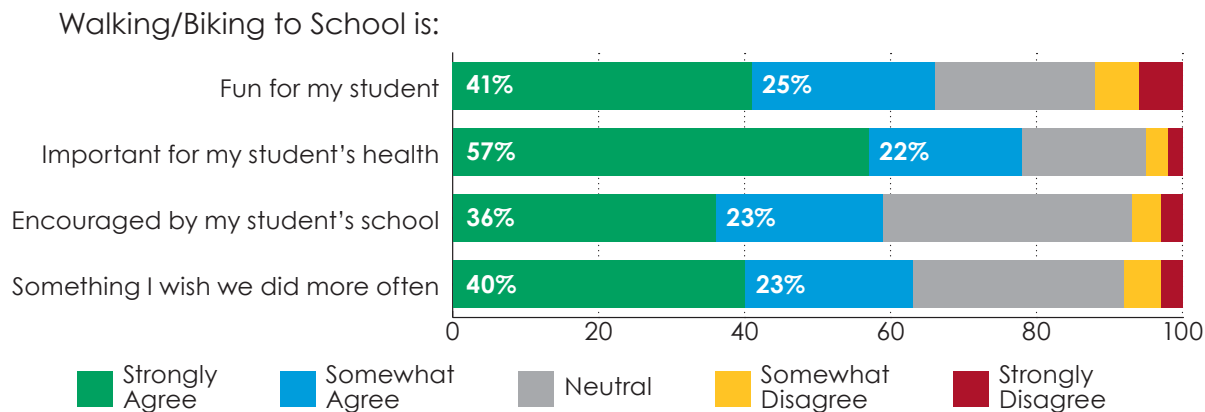


Figure 9. Caregiver Perceptions of Walking and Biking to/from School



## School Safety Assessments

During a school safety assessment, school staff, community members and transportation experts observe conditions and motorist behaviors around a school site to identify and evaluate safety issues.

As part of a school safety assessment, planners and engineers on the SR2S team work collaboratively with city staff to develop a set of infrastructure recommendations that local agencies can use as a planning tool or to seek grant funding to make the improvements.

During the 2022-23 school year, SR2S staff worked with local jurisdiction staff to develop an interactive online input map to garner community feedback during the school safety assessment process. The goal of the interactive online input map is to allow for greater participation in school safety assessments by allowing participants to provide comments in four languages: English, Spanish, Farsi and Chinese.

### 2022-23 School Safety Assessments

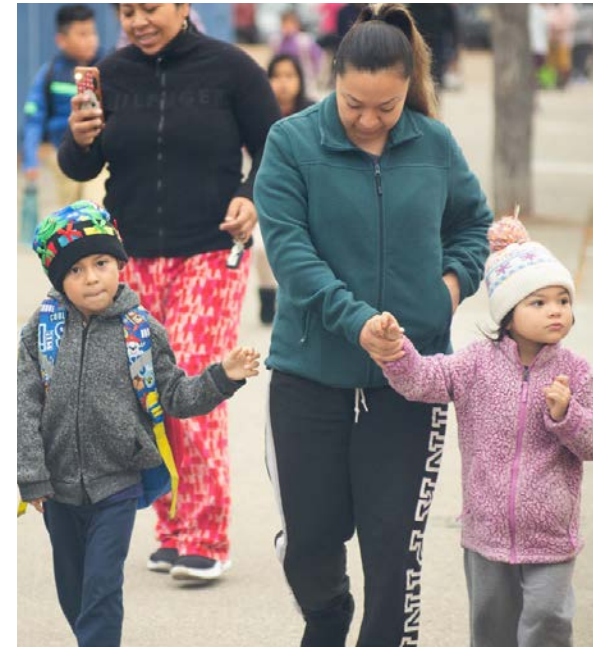
Nine safety assessments were completed during the 2022-23 school year. Over the Program's history, **the SR2S Program and partner agencies have conducted school safety assessments at 241 schools, reaching approximately 81 percent of schools currently enrolled in the SR2S Program.**

#### DELIVERED BY

Technical Engineering Team

# 9

**SCHOOL SAFETY  
ASSESSMENTS COMPLETED**



**As part of the SR2S Program, school staff, community members and transportation experts collaboratively develop infrastructure recommendations to address safety issues.**



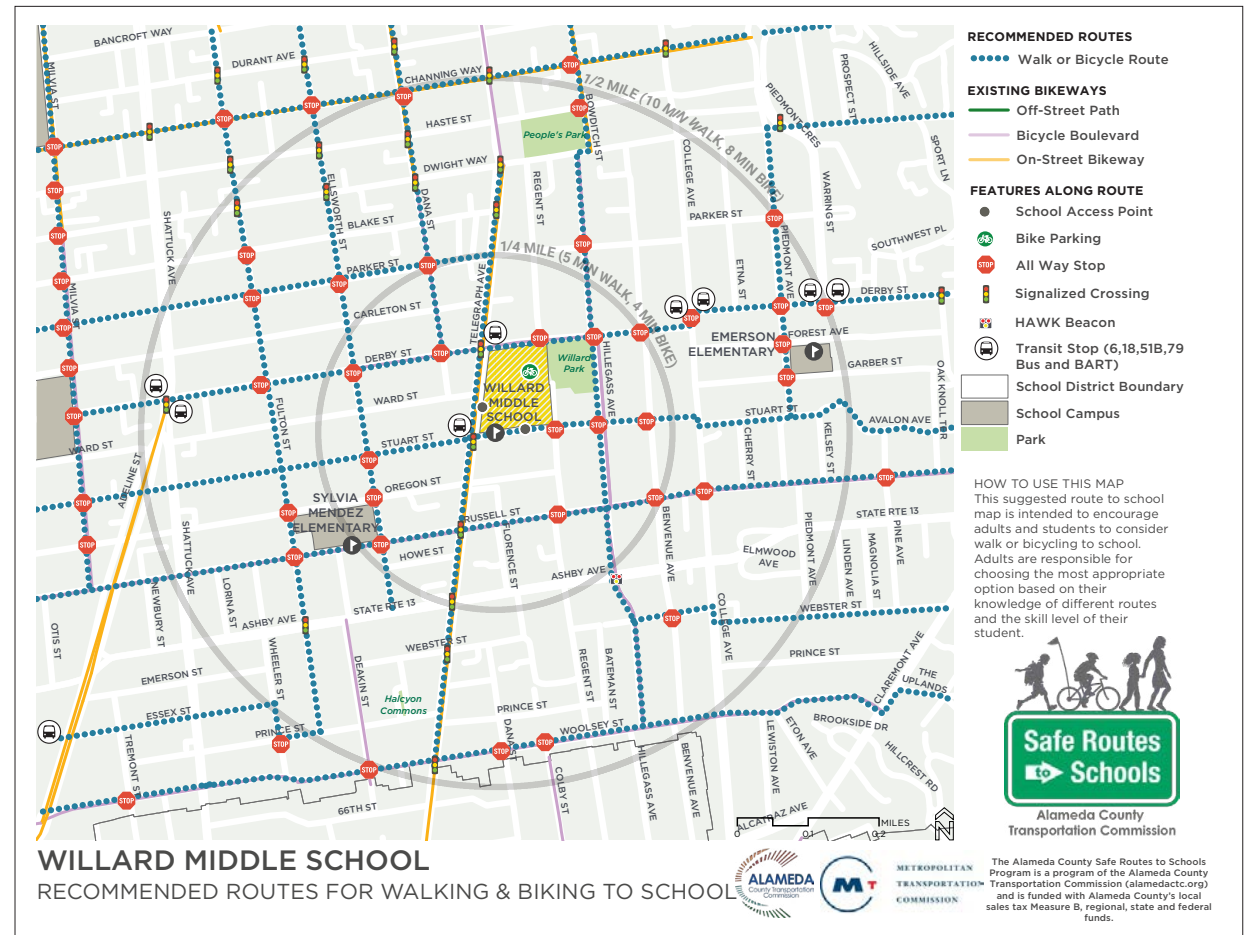
## Planning and Engineering Technical Assistance

As part of school safety efforts, SR2S Program staff provide technical assistance for schools upon request, often as a follow-up to the school safety assessment. A large part of the Program's Technical Assistance consists of creating Recommended Routes to School maps (as shown in **Figure 10**), which provide students and their families with a resource for planning their walking or biking routes. This year, the Technical Assistance team has worked to expand the geographic area of these maps for middle schools and high schools, where students are often walking longer distances, as well as adding transit access points so that students can plan how to walk safely from bus stops and BART stations. Through these resources, as well as its other educational elements, **the Program is working to promote agency and independent mobility as students develop toward adulthood.**

Other Technical Assistance offerings include Walking School Bus and Bike Train route maps, drop-off procedures and tip sheets, posters and flyers for safely navigating railroad crossings, and social media messaging.

### DELIVERED BY

Technical Engineering Team



**Figure 10.** Recommended Routes Map created for Willard Middle School in Berkeley.



# 5 Advancing Equity



# Advancing Equity

The Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program addresses equity by working collaboratively with communities to address their unique challenges, providing community members with resources to live healthy, productive lives.

## Equity Approach

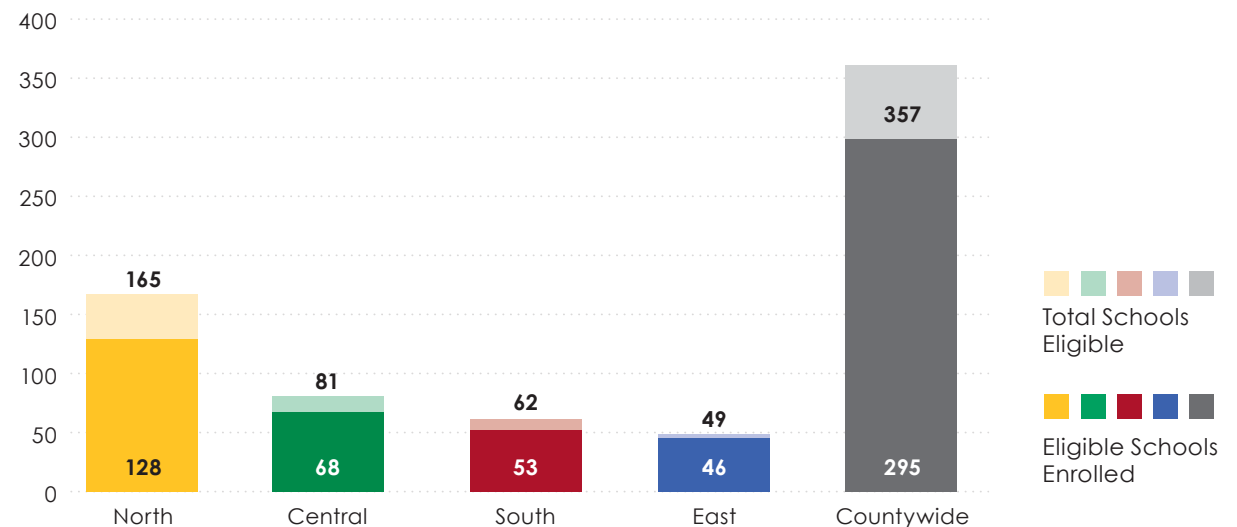
Transportation equity is particularly important for disadvantaged communities because of their increased reliance on active and public transportation for daily travel. The SR2S Program seeks to meet the needs of these communities by providing services based on both geographic and need-based equity.

Geographic equity means reaching all areas of Alameda County with SR2S programming and site coordinator support. **Figure 11** illustrates the current geographic distribution

of enrolled schools across the county. Need-based equity refers to using demographic and economic indicators to offer additional SR2S resources to historically marginalized communities to support their participation in the Program.

By considering these two forms of equity, the SR2S Program seeks to balance fair geographic distribution of resources with resource distribution based on need.

**Figure 11.** Number of Enrolled Schools by Planning Area, 2022-23 School Year





Schools located in historically disadvantaged communities tend to face disproportionate burdens in serving their students and families, which can create barriers to participation in the SR2S Program. Lower-income families are also often limited in their transportation choices and may rely on active and shared modes. For these reasons, there is a clear need for equity-focused Safe Routes to Schools programming that serves all school communities.

The SR2S Program uses a data-driven approach to offer comprehensive programmatic and technical assistance to schools with higher need. Examples of additional support include Spanish-language programming, helmet giveaways or printed surveys. The Program also recognizes that personal safety concerns (such as violence or stranger danger) are barriers to walking and biking for families. Addressing these barriers is an ongoing priority for the Program.

The Access Safe Routes Program, described in the next section, uses a strong equity lens to focus program resources on the highest-need schools.

In July 2019, the Alameda CTC was awarded a regional Active Transportation Program grant to implement a new pilot program element that aims to address the equity element of the 6 Es framework. The Access Safe Routes Program has been working to implement a comprehensive school travel program at 70 of the most disadvantaged

and high-collision schools in the county that were not already enrolled in the SR2S Program. The new, integrated Access Safe Routes Program launched in early 2020, with program staff developing a comprehensive work plan for implementation. SR2S staff plan to bring in the full 70 schools over a four-year period.



**Students and staff from Winton Middle School in Hayward hosted a SR2S table as part of their school's Bike to School Day celebration.**

# Access Safe Routes Program

## Access Safe Routes Goals

The goals of the Access Safe Routes Program are as follows:

- » To encourage greater participation by under-resourced schools in the SR2S Program in the near term.
- » To understand how to build sustainable programs at under-resourced schools in the long term.
- » To deepen our understanding of effective methods and strategies to engage with and get results in under-resourced schools.

As of the 2022-23 school year

**57** SCHOOLS  
ARE SERVED

by the Access Safe Routes Program  
and those schools participated in

**583** SR2S ACTIVITIES  
AND EVENTS

The Access Safe Routes Program provides targeted support to under-resourced schools in exchange for input and engagement from the schools. This approach informs short- and long-term efforts to develop the culture and infrastructure necessary to maximize use of active and shared transportation modes for school-related travel.

## Access Safe Routes Activities

In addition to the typical SR2S Program offerings, schools participating in the Access Safe Routes Program receive additional technical assistance from site coordinators:

- » A school-specific assessment and maintenance plan for future school-led SR2S efforts.
- » A tailored approach to addressing the schools' needs, based on the unique circumstances that affect students' safe use of active and shared modes.

- » Assistance in building the leadership capacity of the school community to implement an independent SR2S Program.

**During the 2022-23 school year, 58 schools across the county participated in the Access Safe Routes Program.** As **Figure 12** illustrates, these Access schools are most heavily concentrated in the North Planning Area. Out of the four planning areas, the North Planning Area also has the highest share of enrolled schools.

**Table 3** on the following page indicates which activities each Access Safe Routes Program school participated in.

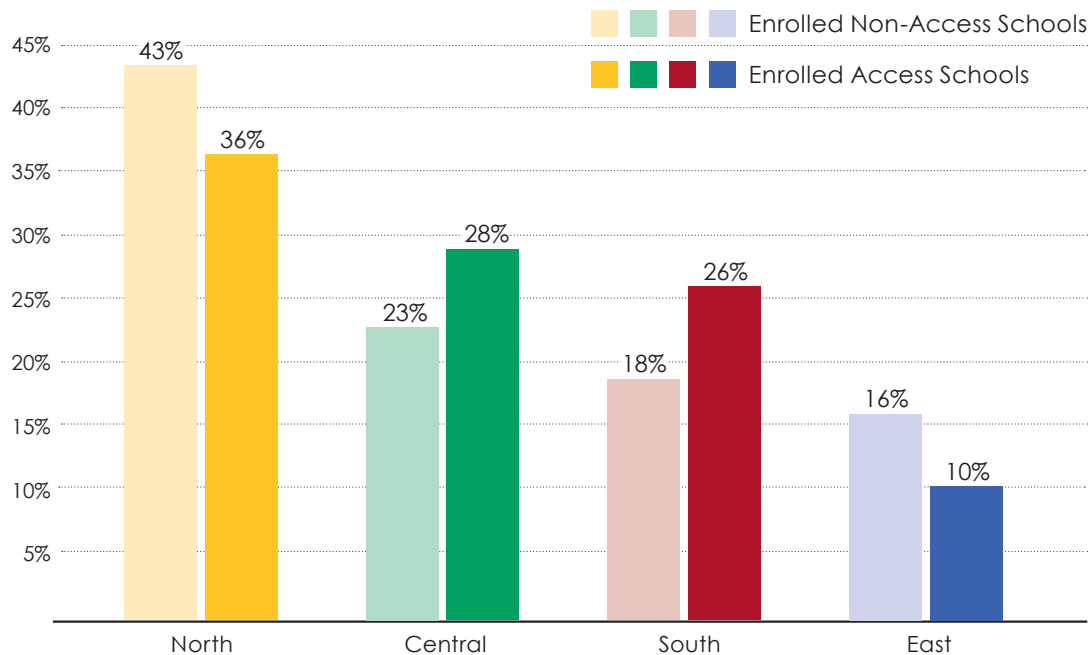
**I love the model of the program. It's great that you help develop student leaders who then can engage other students and actually change their routine.**

*Champion from Tennyson High School in Hayward*

## Beyond the Access Program

Alameda County SR2S is committed to sustaining the progress we have made in working with under-resourced schools through the pilot Access Safe Routes Program. The Program will continue to use the information gained from this pilot to serve schools identified as requiring equity focus. The lessons from the Access Safe Routes pilot will help Program staff provide support and encouragement for these schools to implement and develop programs that fit their needs and increase community participation.

**Figure 12.** Share of Total Access Schools by Planning Area, 2022-23 School Year





**Table 3.** Access Safe Routes Program Activity Participation, 2022-23 School Year

School Name	District	Pedestrian Rodeo	Bike Rodeo	Drive Your Bike	Alameda County BikeMobile	International Walk and Roll Day	Golden Sneaker Contest	Walking School Bus	Bike Train	Reboot Your Commute	Travel Training	Rail Safety Training	Transportation Storytime	Go Green	Walk and Roll Concert	Bike to School Day	Ongoing Walk and Roll Days
Alameda Community Learning Center	Alameda Unified				●	●			●	●	●					●	
Alternatives in Action	ACOE																
Anthony W. Ochoa Middle	Hayward Unified				●						●						
ARISE High	Oakland Unified																
Aspire Golden State College Preparatory Academy	Oakland Unified				●						●						
Birch Grove Intermediate (formerly Louis Milani)	Newark Unified	●			●	●											
Brenkwitz High	Hayward Unified				●												
Brookvale Elementary	Fremont Unified				●	●	●								●		
Centerville Junior High	Fremont Unified						●									●	
Community School for Creative Education	ACOE	●									●					●	
Cox Academy	ACOE																
Coyote Hills Elementary School	Newark Unified				●	●									●	●	●
Dewey Academy	Oakland Unified																
Donlon Elementary	Pleasanton Unified				●	●									●		

School Name	District	Pedestrian Rodeo	Bike Rodeo	Drive Your Bike	Alameda County BikeMobile	International Walk and Roll Day	Golden Sneaker Contest	Walking School Bus	Bike Train	Reboot Your Commute	Travel Training	Rail Safety Training	Transportation Storytime	Go Green	Walk and Roll Concert	Bike to School Day	Ongoing Walk and Roll Days
E. M. Grimmer Elementary	Fremont Unified				●	●	●										
Eden Gardens Elementary	Hayward Unified												●	●			
Eldridge Elementary	Hayward Unified				●								●	●			
Emery Secondary	Emery Unified				●												
Encinal Junior & Senior High School	Alameda Unified				●	●				●	●					●	
Frick United Academy of Language	Oakland Unified																
Glassbrook Elementary	Hayward Unified												●	●			
Glenmoor Elementary	Fremont Unified					●									●		
Hillview Crest Elementary	New Haven Unified	●			●	●	●	●							●	●	●
Impact Academy of Arts & Technology	Hayward Unified										●			●			
Island High (Continuation)	Alameda Unified				●	●											
Itliong-Vera Cruz Middle	New Haven Unified	●		●	●						●			●			
John Blacow Elementary	Fremont Unified				●	●	●		●							●	●
KIPP Bridge Academy	Oakland Unified																
Knowledge Enlightens You (KEY) Academy	Hayward Unified				●												

School Name	District	Pedestrian Rodeo	Bike Rodeo	Drive Your Bike	Alameda County BikeMobile	International Walk and Roll Day	Golden Sneaker Contest	Walking School Bus	Bike Train	Reboot Your Commute	Travel Training	Rail Safety Training	Transportation Storytime	Go Green	Walk and Roll Concert	Bike to School Day	Ongoing Walk and Roll Days
Lawrence Elementary	Livermore Valley Joint Unified																
Lazear Charter Academy	ACOE																
Leo R. Croce Elementary	Livermore Valley Joint Unified				●	●										●	
LIFE Academy	Oakland Unified				●	●					●						
Longwood Elementary	Hayward Unified												●	●			
Lorin A. Eden Elementary	Hayward Unified												●	●			
Melrose Leadership Academy	Oakland Unified																
MetWest High	Oakland Unified			●													
Mission San Jose Elementary	Fremont Unified					●									●		
Mission San Jose High	Fremont Unified										●						
Newark Junior High	Newark Unified				●	●					●						
Newark Memorial High	Newark Unified																
North Oakland Community Charter	Oakland Unified																
Oakland High	Oakland Unified			●													
Palma Ceia Elementary	Hayward Unified	●															



School Name	District	Pedestrian Rodeo	Bike Rodeo	Drive Your Bike	Alameda County BikeMobile	International Walk and Roll Day	Golden Sneaker Contest	Walking School Bus	Bike Train	Reboot Your Commute	Travel Training	Rail Safety Training	Transportation Storytime	Go Green	Walk and Roll Concert	Bike to School Day	Ongoing Walk and Roll Days
Patterson Elementary	Fremont Unified				●	●	●										
Robertson High (Continuation)	Fremont Unified																
Ruus Elementary	Hayward Unified												●	●			
Steven Millard Elementary	Fremont Unified				●	●	●									●	
Street Academy (Alternative)	Oakland Unified									●							
Sunset Elementary	Livermore Valley Joint Unified				●	●	●									●	
Tennyson High	Hayward Unified				●	●				●	●	●					
The Academy of Alameda Elementary	Alameda Unified				●												
Thornhill Elementary	Oakland Unified																
Treeview Elementary	Hayward Unified				●		●						●	●			
Village High	Pleasanton Unified																
Vineyard Alternative	Livermore Valley Joint Unified					●				●	●					●	
Winton Middle	Hayward Unified															●	



# Program Sustainability



**A Youth Task Force member engages with a student at Vineyard Alternative School in Livermore on International Walk and Roll to School Day.**

**The keys to making the Safe Routes to Schools Program sustainable over time are building strong institutional partnerships, relying on systems rather than individuals, supporting SR2S Champions and other volunteers, maintaining and increasing consistent funding, integrating SR2S into local policy, and of course, celebrating successes.**

Participation in the SR2S Program offers schools ample opportunities to build institutionalized, thriving SR2S culture within their school community. To be sustainable in the long term, the SR2S Program and its partner schools must address several challenges on an ongoing basis, including:

- » Changes in school leadership and level of program support
- » Competing priorities at schools and overburdened staff
- » Turnover of volunteer SR2S Champions

Recognizing these barriers and developing solutions is fundamental to the long-term success of the SR2S Program.

This chapter outlines several components of the SR2S Program that are designed to support program sustainability: SR2S Task Forces, Champions and school administrators.



## SR2S Task Forces

SR2S site coordinators, school staff, caregivers, teachers, district and city staff, and students convene quarterly in district Task Forces to discuss strategies for promoting SR2S and implementing successful school programs. Participants share information about planned activities, partner together on events and brainstorm solutions to common challenges. Due to the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the majority of Task Force meetings continued to be held virtually during the 2022-23 school year.

**Eight adult Task Forces and one Youth Task Force met over the course of the 2022-23 school year**, as shown in **Table 4**.

**Table 4.** Task Force Participation

Task Force	Average Participation (Schools and Cities)
Alameda	6
Albany	2
Berkeley	8
Central	9
Fremont	15
Newark/New Haven	5
Oakland	7
Tri-valley	8
Youth Task Force	13

## SR2S Task Force Highlights

- » The SR2S Program team held **32 Elementary and Middle School Task Force meetings** during the 2022-23 school year.
- » Task Force meetings were a chance to foster a sense that everyone is working together to improve the health and wellness of our communities. During these meetings, Champions shared success stories and discussed challenges, brainstorming collectively to address issues.
- » Site coordinators held Task Force meetings in advance of countywide events to help school staff and Champions plan their events: **108 total participants attended the International Walk and Roll to School Day Task Force, 66 attended the Golden Sneaker Task Force, 43 attended the Bike to School Day Task Force and 37 attended the Reboot Your Commute Task Force.**



Task Force members help out during International Walk and Roll to School Day in Alameda.

## Safe Routes to Schools Champions

SR2S Champions are designated school staff, caregiver or staff volunteers, and high school students who are critical to program success. Champions host events, promote green transportation options and work with students on education and encouragement activities. Recruiting more Champions and ensuring that existing Champions are well-supported is essential for long-term program sustainability.

# 289

**TOTAL SR2S CHAMPIONS**

engaged with the program this year.

# 79%

**OF ENROLLED SCHOOLS (227)**

had at least one SR2S Champion.

**We had an amazing time. This was my 4th year leading Walk and Roll at Oxford. The event gets bigger and better every time!**

*Caregiver Champion, Oxford Elementary*

## School Administrators

School administrator support and enthusiasm for the SR2S Program is another essential component of long-term program sustainability. The SR2S Program worked with principals across the county to set goals for their program and create strategies to achieve those goals.

# 93%

**OF SURVEYED ADMINISTRATORS**

believe that walking or biking to school is important for the health of their students.



Support and enthusiasm from staff, administrators and elected officials is essential to the success of the SR2S Program. Pictured above, the Brier Elementary Principal poses with the Fremont Unified School District Superintendent and a School Board Trustee at Brier's International Walk and Roll to School Day celebration.

## Looking Forward to the 2023-24 School Year

**The Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program team is looking forward to bringing educational and engaging programs to more students across Alameda County, as well as continuing to expand their services in more integrated, sustainable and equitable ways.**

After several challenging school years, in which in-person participation was disrupted due to public health risks, students and staff were able to focus this year on strengthening their participation in the SR2S Program and reconnecting in person with students and families. Many schools who had struggled to participate over recent years revived their commitment to SR2S, and others decided to join the fun for the first time. New Champions joined up to organize and facilitate events, and the role of the Youth Task Force expanded, developing new community leaders and role models for younger students.

**During the 2023-24 school year, the SR2S Program will continue supporting schools, students and their families through lively and engaging events and provide critical education for safe active and shared transportation. Program staff will prioritize fostering opportunities for caregiver and student leadership and promote equity among individuals of every race, ethnicity, income, access level and ability at the school and district level.**



The return to in-person activities during the 2022-23 school year was cause for celebration. SR2S will continue supporting in-person and virtual activities to encourage participation.





**ALAMEDA COUNTY SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS PROGRAM  
2022-23 YEAR-END REPORT**

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