

MEASURE C AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY AND FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program Cantua Elementary Pedestrian Pathway Project

This Program Eligibility and Funding Agreement (“**Agreement**”) is made and entered into on April 7, **2026**, by and between the County of Fresno (“**Grantee**”) and the Fresno County Transportation Authority (“**Authority**”).

RECITALS

WHEREAS, passage of the Measure C Extension created various programs within the Measure C Extension such as the Senior Scrip, Carpool/Vanpool and Agricultural Vanpool programs; and

WHEREAS, at the June 18, 2025 meeting, the Authority Board approved Amendment No. 9 to the 2006 Measure C Expenditure Plan to establish the SRTS program through a one-time transfer of \$6 million from the Senior Scrip, carpool/vanpool and agricultural vanpool programs for eligible projects on a competitive basis requiring a call for projects; and

WHEREAS, the details regarding the funding and implementation of the SRTS Program are set forth in the “Measure C 2025 SRTS Guidelines” (attached as Appendix 1 hereto); and

WHEREAS, the SRTS guidelines prioritize bicycle and pedestrian-friendly projects within one-half mile of a school site and establishes a project limit of \$1.5 million, among other characteristics. The program is available to rural jurisdictions in the County of Fresno only; and

WHEREAS, Grantee submitted for approval, under the SRTS Program, a “Project Application” which was dated October 14, 2025, and is incorporated by this reference as though fully set forth herein, requesting reservation from eligible Measure C Extension funds of \$822,263 in funding, which amount shall be available solely for implementation and completion of the proposed Cantua Elementary Pedestrian Pathway Project (“Project”); and

WHEREAS, Authority is authorized to approve funding for payment to Grantee in accordance with this Agreement, the SRTS Guidelines, and the Expenditure Plan, for funding of the design, environmental, right of way and construction phases of Grantee's proposed Project; and

WHEREAS, on December 10, 2025, the Authority's Board approved the reservation of **\$822,263** in SRTS funding to be made available for implementation and completion of the design, environmental, right of way and construction phases of Grantee's proposed Project; and

WHEREAS, the Authority's Board further directed Authority staff to draft this Agreement, for the purpose of establishing program implementation requirements and the terms and conditions governing the rights and obligations of the respective parties hereunder; and

WHEREAS, Authority and Grantee now desire to enter into this Agreement, which serves to establish requirements for Grantee's use of the funding provided hereunder, as well as delineating the respective rights and obligations of the parties regarding use of Measure C funds as authorized for use by Grantee for the purposes specified hereunder, including but not limited to conditions and limitations on Grantee's right to receipt of payment hereunder.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and undertakings herein made, and the mutual benefits to be derived therefrom, the parties hereto represent, covenant, and agree as follows:

AGREEMENT

ARTICLE I

Covenants of Grantee

As a condition of the receipt of Measure C funds under the SRTS Program, Grantee agrees to abide by the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the 2025 SRTS Guidelines, the Expenditure Plan and the Project Application, and to comply with all adopted Policies and Procedures of the Authority as applicable, as well as any subsequent amendments, updates, or other applicable plans.

- 1.1 **Project Scope, Schedule and Funding Program**. The Project scope of work, schedule and funding program, as well as any change(s) thereto may not be implemented or initiated until approved by the Authority. For purposes of this Agreement, the Project scope, schedule and funding program are defined and described in Grantee's Project Application.
- 1.2 **Eligibility for Funding**. In order to be eligible for SRTS funding hereunder, a proposed project must meet all of the requirements as set forth in the 2025 SRTS Guidelines, Appendix 1 hereto. Grantee must also demonstrate that the overall Project or Project phases are fully funded before SRTS funding can be obligated.
- 1.3 **Compliance with California PUC Code 142257**. Grantee agrees to the following:
 - 1.3.1 Measure C funds will not be used to substitute for property tax funds, which Grantee had previously used for regional or other transportation purposes. It is hereby acknowledged by Grantee that such substitution of property tax funds is expressly prohibited by California Public Utilities Code Section 142257.
 - 1.3.2 Grantee has segregated property tax revenues from its other general fund revenues used to support the Project so that verification of non-substitution can be proved through audit or that the non-substitution of funds shall apply to the Grantee's entire general fund.
 - 1.3.3 Grantee shall account for Project funds received pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 142257. Grantee shall maintain current records in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and shall separately record expenditures for each type of eligible purpose. Grantee shall make such records available to the Authority for inspection or audit at any time.
- 1.4 **Compliance with Other Laws**. In performance of its obligations relating to administration and completion of the Project, Grantee shall at all times comply with all federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, and regulations currently in force as well as those that are subsequently enacted, promulgated or amended and thereby become applicable during the term of this Agreement.
- 1.5 **Measure C Funds Defined**. For purposes of this Agreement, Measure C funds are deemed to be available under the SRTS Program, subject to the limitations

and conditions specified in this Agreement, the Expenditure Plan and the 2025 SRTS Guidelines. Provided, however, that unless another amount receives formal advance approval by means of a subsequent written amendment to this Agreement, the total cumulative amount of Measure C funds allocated under the SRTS Program for the Project shall not exceed the sum of \$822,263.

- 1.6 Maintenance of Project Records.** Grantee shall maintain complete and accurate records for the project for which funding is made available hereunder. All such records shall be maintained on a generally accepted accounting basis and be clearly identified and readily accessible. Grantee shall provide free access to the Authority at all times to such books and records. Grantee shall maintain all work data, documents, and proceedings relating to this Agreement for a period of five (5) years from the date of final audit from the Authority.
- 1.7 Invoices.** Grantee shall submit invoices to the Authority no more frequently than monthly for activities conducted over the prior unbilled month. These documents shall include the following specified information:
- 1.7.1 Monitoring Expenditures and Progress Payments. Grantee will monitor expenditures and progress payments against the “not to exceed” limits specified in Section 1.5 of this Agreement.
 - 1.7.2 Project Progress. If Project costs have not been invoiced for a six-month period, Grantee agrees to submit a written explanation of the absence of the Project’s progress to the Authority, along with a target billing date and a target billing amount.
 - 1.7.3 Direct and Indirect Costs. Grantee may include in the Project invoice, direct and indirect costs of the Project. Indirect costs (as defined by OMB Circular A-87) will be considered an eligible expense.
 - 1.7.4 Copies of Invoices. Grantee shall provide the Authority with one (1) copy of appropriate source documentation to substantiate Project expenses or costs.
 - 1.7.5 Eligible Project Cost Request Deadline. Invoices for eligible Project costs incurred by Grantee shall be submitted to the Authority on the approved form. The appropriation request will specify the use of the funding and the manner in which other sources of funding for the Project were applied. The Authority’s Executive Director will review invoices for

accuracy and sufficiency in terms of compliance with the foregoing requirements. Unsatisfactory or inadequate invoices will be returned to Grantee for correction and resubmission. Upon receipt of a proper invoice, eligible Measure C and SRTS funds (as applicable) shall be provided to the Grantee within 45 days.

1.7.6 Use of Funds. Grantee shall use Measure C and SRTS funds (as applicable) consistent with Measure C Expenditure Plan, the provisions of this Agreement, the 2025 SRTS Program Guidelines, and the Project Application.

1.8 **Award of Project.** Grantee shall administer the Project, including but not limited to its advertisement and award of all contracts, in accordance with applicable legal requirements as provided above in Section 1.4 and in full conformity with the standards applied by Grantee in the administration of its own construction projects.

1.9 **Project Groundbreaking and Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies, and Press Conferences.** Grantee shall acknowledge Measure C funding contribution to the Project at the groundbreaking and ribbon cutting ceremony and at any Project Press Conferences should the Grantee conduct such events. Groundbreaking and ribbon cutting ceremonies are encouraged, but not required, unless specifically requested by the Authority. Authority shall be invited to participate at all scheduled events.

1.10 **Project Signage.** Grantee agrees to the following:

1.10.1 Grantee shall provide signage at construction sites or on equipment, as appropriate, for the Projects funded partially or wholly by Measure C sales tax revenue, so that Fresno County Taxpayers are informed as to how those funds are being used. Grantee shall include the Measure C logo on all Project reports, bulletins, flyers, press releases, webpages, or other related media.

1.10.2 Grantee shall erect funding signs as a first order of work of any construction contract. The signage shall be in conformance with specifications approved by and on file with the Authority and included in Appendix J to the Measure C Extension Strategic Implementation Plan. Grantee shall keep signs cleaned, well maintained, and visible throughout all phases of the construction contract. Signage shall remain

in place at least three (3) months after completion of the Project. Costs associated with installation and removal of signage are eligible expenses.

ARTICLE II

Covenants of Authority

Authority agrees to provide to the Grantee Measure C Extension funds available under the SRTS Program, up to the maximum amount of \$822,263 approved for the Project, in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth herein, and in compliance with the Expenditure Plan, the 2025 SRTS Guidelines, and all adopted Policies and Procedures of the Authority as applicable, as well as any subsequent amendments, updates, or other applicable plans.

2.1 Eligible Project Cost Payments. The Authority shall make payments to Grantee for actual incurred eligible project costs in accordance with Sections 1.1 and 1.5 of this Agreement and consistent SRTS Guidelines. To receive payments for eligible Project work completed, Grantee shall comply with the following procedures:

2.1.1 Ineligible Costs. The Authority reserves the right to recover payment from Grantee if an invoice includes ineligible Project costs.

2.1.2 Payment Amount. The amount of payments to Grantee for eligible Project costs shall be made pursuant to the SRTS Guidelines and this Agreement.

2.1.3 Suspension of Payment. Payments for eligible Project costs shall be suspended without interest when a dispute arises as to whether or not a cost item(s) is eligible for payment.

2.1.3.1 Dispute Resolution. All disputes shall be settled in accordance with the laws of the State of California. Once a dispute has occurred, the Authority and Grantee shall attempt to resolve the dispute informally in a mutually agreeable manner.

2.2 Right to Conduct Audit. The Authority shall have the right to conduct an audit of all Grantee's records pertaining to the Project at any time following completion of the eligible Project work.

- 2.2.1 Notice of Audit. The Authority must provide at least 30 days' advance notice to Grantee if an audit is to be conducted.

ARTICLE III

Mutual Covenants

The Authority is released from any liability to Grantee regarding the Authority's administration and issuance of the Measure C proceeds except for any breach of Authority's fiduciary duty as set forth in the Expenditure Plan and SRTS Guidelines.

- 3.1 **Effective Date and Term.** This Agreement shall become effective as of the date of its full execution by the parties and shall remain in full force and effect following its final approval by the Authority's Board, for a period of twelve (12) months following the date of Grantee's completion of eligible Project work, unless sooner terminated as provided in Section 3.2 or in Section 3.4 or unless the Agreement's term is extended by formal approval of a subsequent amendment hereto in accordance with Section 3.8.

- 3.2 **Discharge.** This Agreement shall be subject to discharge as follows:

- 3.2.1 **Termination by Mutual Consent.** This Agreement may be terminated at any time by mutual consent of Grantee and Authority. If this Agreement is mutually terminated by the parties, Grantee will no longer receive Measure C funds under the SRTS Program for its proposed Cantua Elementary Pedestrian Pathway Project (or any phase thereof), unless a new agreement between Grantee and Authority relating to such Project is formed; and in the event of such mutual termination, those funds remaining from the originally reserved funding allocation of \$822,263 for the design, environmental, right of way and construction phases of this Project shall be returned by the Authority to the general SRTS funding pool.

- 3.2.2 **Discharge Upon Completion of Grantee's Program.** Except as to any rights or obligations which survive discharge as specified in Section 3.14, upon completion of Grantee's completion of eligible Project work, this Agreement shall be discharged, and the parties shall have no further obligation to each other.

3.2.3 **Termination by Authority.** The Authority reserves the right to terminate the Agreement at any time by giving written notice to Grantee of such termination and specifying the effective date thereof. If this Agreement is terminated by the Authority as provided herein, Grantee will be paid by the Authority for eligible Project costs incurred prior to termination of the Agreement, consistent with the requirements of the Program referenced herein and in the 2025 SRTS Guidelines. In that event, all finished or unfinished documents and other materials shall, at the option of the Authority, become its property subject to the terms and conditions of Section 1.6.

3.3 **Indemnity.** It is mutually understood and agreed, relative to the reciprocal indemnification of Authority and Grantee:

3.3.1 Grantee shall fully defend, indemnify and hold harmless Authority, and any officer or employee of Authority, against any and all damages, liabilities, claims and expenses (including attorney fees and costs) arising out of Grantee's errors, omissions, negligent acts or willful misconduct during the term of this Agreement. It is also fully understood and agreed that, pursuant to Government Code Section 895.4, Grantee shall fully defend, indemnify and hold the Authority harmless from any liability imposed for injury as defined by Government Code Section 810.8 occurring by reason of anything done or omitted to be done by Grantee under this Agreement or in connection with any work, authority, or jurisdiction delegated to Grantee under this Agreement.

3.3.2 Authority shall fully defend, indemnify and hold harmless Grantee, and any officer or employee of Grantee, against any and all damages, liabilities, claims and expenses (including attorney fees and costs), arising out of Authority's errors, omissions, negligent acts or willful misconduct during the term of this Agreement. It is also fully understood and agreed that, pursuant to Government Code Section 895.4, Authority shall fully defend, indemnify and hold Grantee harmless from any liability imposed for injury as defined by Government Code Section 810.8 occurring by reason of anything done or omitted to be done by Authority under this Agreement or in connection with any work, authority, or jurisdiction delegated to Authority under this Agreement.

3.4 **Limitation.** All obligations of the Authority under the terms of this Agreement are expressly subject to the Authority's continued authorization to collect and

expend the sales tax proceeds provided by Measure C Extension funds. If for any reason the Authority's right to collect or expend such sales tax proceeds is terminated or suspended in whole or part, the Authority shall promptly notify the Grantee, and the parties shall consult on a course of action. If, after twenty-five (25) working days, a course of action is not agreed upon by the parties, this Agreement shall be deemed terminated by mutual or joint consent; provided, that any future obligation to fund from the date of the notice shall be expressly limited by and subject to: (i) the lawful ability of the Authority to expend sales tax proceeds for the purposes of the Agreement; and (ii) the availability, taking into consideration all the obligations of the Authority under all outstanding contracts, agreements to other obligations of the Authority, of funds for such purposes.

- 3.5 Notices.** Except as may be otherwise required by law, any notice to be given shall be written and shall be either personally delivered, sent by facsimile transmission, email, or sent by first class mail, postage prepaid and addressed as follows:

AUTHORITY:

Moses Stites, Executive Director
Fresno County Transportation Authority
2220 Tulare Street, Suite 2101
Fresno, CA 93721
Ph.: (559) 600-3282
moses@hefcta.com

RESPONSIBLE AGENCY:

Joseph Harrell, Supervising Engineer
County of Fresno
Department of Public Works and Planning
2220 Tulare Street, 7th Floor
Fresno, CA 93721
Ph: (559) 600-4109
jharrell@fresnocountyca.gov

- 3.5.1 Notice personally delivered is effective when delivered. Notice sent by facsimile or email transmission is deemed to be received upon successful transmission. Notice sent by first class mail shall be deemed received on the fifth day after the date of mailing. Either party may change the above address by giving written notice pursuant to this paragraph.
- 3.6 **Additional Acts and Documents**. Each party agrees to do all such things and take all actions, and to make, execute and deliver such other documents and instruments, as shall be reasonably requested to carry out the provisions, intent and purpose of the Agreement.
- 3.7 **Integration**. This Agreement represents the entire Agreement of the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof. NO representations, warranties, inducements or oral agreements have been made by any of the parties except as expressly set forth herein, or in other contemporaneous written agreements.
- 3.8 **Amendment**. This Agreement may not be changed, modified, or rescinded except in writing, signed by all parties hereto, and any attempt at oral modification of this Agreement shall be void and of no effect.
- 3.9 **Independent Agency**. Grantee renders services under this Agreement as an independent agency under the Agreement. None of the Grantee's agents or employees shall be agents or employees of the Authority and none of the Authority's agents or employees shall be agents or employees of the Grantee agency.
- 3.10 **Assignment**. The Agreement may not be assigned, transferred, hypothecated, or pledged by any party without the express written consent of all parties hereto.
- 3.11 **Binding on Successors**. This Agreement shall be binding upon each of the parties and their respective successor(s), assignee(s) or transferee(s). Provided however that this provision shall not be construed as an authorization to assign, transfer, hypothecate or pledge this Agreement, other than as provided in Section 3.10 above.
- 3.12 **Severability**. Should any part of this Agreement be determined to be unenforceable, invalid, or beyond the authority of either party to enter into or carry out, such determination shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this

Agreement, which shall continue in full force and effect; provided that, the remainder of this Agreement can, absent the excised portion, be reasonably interpreted to give effect to the intentions of the parties.

- 3.13 Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts and shall become effective when one or more counterparts have been signed by all of the parties; each counterpart shall be deemed an original, but all counterparts shall constitute a single document.
- 3.14 Survival.** The following provisions in this Agreement shall survive discharge:
- 3.14.1 Grantee. As to the Grantee agency, the following sections shall survive discharge: Section 3.3 (Indemnity),
- 3.14.2 Authority. As to Authority, the following section shall survive discharge: Section 2.2 (Right to Conduct Audit) and Section 3.3 (Indemnity).
- 3.15 Time.** Time is and shall be of the essence of this Agreement and each and all of its provisions in which performance is a factor.
- 3.16 Remedies Cumulative.** No remedy or election of remedies provided for in this Agreement shall be deemed exclusive but shall be cumulative with all other remedies at law or in equity. Each remedy shall be construed to give the fullest effect allowed by law.
- 3.17 Applicable Law.** This Agreement shall be governed by and construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of California. The parties agree that this contract is made in and shall be performed in Fresno County, California.
- 3.18 Captions.** The captions in this Agreement are for convenience only and are not a part of this Agreement. The captions do not in any way limit or amplify the provisions of this Agreement and shall not affect the construction or interpretation of any of its provisions.
- 3.19 No Continuing Waiver.** The waiver by any party of any breach of any of the provisions of this Agreement shall not constitute a continuing waiver or a waiver of any subsequent breach of the same, or of any other provision of this Agreement.

- 3.20 No Rights in Third Parties.** Nothing in this Agreement, express or implied, is intended to confer any rights or remedies under or by reason of this Agreement on any third party, nor is anything in this Agreement intended to relieve or discharge the obligation or liability of any third party to any party to this Agreement, nor shall any provision of this Agreement give any third party any right of subrogation or action over or against any party to this Agreement.
- 3.21 Attorney's Fees and Costs.** Authority and Grantee each will bear its own respective costs, including attorney's fees, in connection with any legal proceedings related to the interpretation or enforcement of this Agreement or any of the terms and conditions hereof.
- 3.23 Exhibits and Recitals.** The Recitals and Exhibits to this Agreement are fully incorporated into and are integral parts of this Agreement.
- 3.24 Signator's Warranty.** Each party warrants to each other that he or she is fully authorized and competent to enter into this Agreement in the capacity indicated by his or her signature and agrees to be bound by this Agreement as of the day and year first mentioned above upon the execution of this Agreement by each other party.
- 3.25 Force Majeure.** Any party shall be excused from performing its obligations under this Agreement during the time and to the extent that it is prevented from performing by an unforeseeable cause beyond its control, including but not limited to: any incidence of fire, flood; acts of God; commandeering of material, products, plants or facilities by federal, state or local government; national fuel shortage; or a material act or omission by any party; when satisfactory evidence of such cause is presented to that other party, and provided further such nonperformance is unforeseeable, beyond the control and is not due to the fault or negligence of the party not performing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned parties have executed this Agreement on the day and year first written above.

FRESNO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

ATTEST

By _____
(Signature)

Name Lynne Ashbeck
(Typed)

Title Chair of the Authority

By _____
(Signature)

Name Moses Stites
(Typed)

Title Executive Director

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:
Douglas T. Sloan
County Counsel

APPROVED AS TO ACCOUNTING FORM:

By _____
(Signature)

Name Alison Samarin
(Typed)

Title Senior Deputy County Counsel

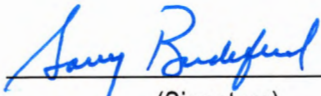
By _____
(Signature)

Name Oscar J. Garcia, CPA
(Typed)

Title Auditor-Controller/Treasurer-Tax Collector

COUNTY OF FRESNO

ATTEST

By 
(Signature)

Name Garry Bredefeld
(Typed)

Title Chairman, Board of Supervisors

By  Deputy
(Signature)

Name Bernice E. Seidel
(Typed)

Title Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

ACCOUNTING PURPOSE ONLY:

FUND: 0010

SUBCLASS: 11000

ORG: 45104513

ACCOUNT: 4985

Fresno County Measure C Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) Program Policies and Guidelines

The SRTS program was identified in 2024 being derived from funds not expended in existing programs from the 2006 Measure C Extension. Beginning in 2023, the SRTS Subcommittee met to discuss and identify investment needs to support educational institutions throughout the County, specifically in priority communities. The goals of the Measure C Safe Routes to School allocation are to support transportation projects serving primary and secondary students in accessing public school facilities to:

- Enhance the safety of children walking or biking to school;
- Prioritize schools with significant safety concerns or risk to children bicycling or walking to school based on crash data, traffic analysis, or traffic behavior around primary and secondary schools; and
- Support disadvantaged and low-income communities with fewer transportation safety options to ensure all children have access to safe routes.

In addition to improving safety and accessibility of routes that children take to school in Fresno County, the Measure C SRTS program works to support walking and biking as a safe and accessible option for students by addressing high-risk areas, improving infrastructure, and fostering community engagement. Equity is a key focus, ensuring that students from disadvantaged and low-income communities and those with disabilities benefit from safer streets and active transportation opportunities.

Safe Routes to School projects must directly improve safety and convenience for public primary or secondary school students to walk and/or bike to school. Safe Routes to Schools infrastructure projects must be located within two miles of a public school or within the vicinity of a public-school bus stop; and the school community, including students, parents, caregivers, teachers, and staff, must be the intended beneficiaries of the project.

Transportation infrastructure improvements near or around primary or secondary public school facilities to improve safety, eliminate risky elements and provide access public school facilities are the primary initiatives of this program funding. Funds could be used for preliminary design and environmental studies, engineering, land acquisition, and construction.

Who Can Apply?

All Fresno County rural cities and county areas outside the Fresno/Clovis Metro Area. These areas include City of Coalinga, City of Firebaugh, City of Fowler, City of Huron, City of Kerman, City of Kingsburg, City of Mendota, City of Orange Cove, City of Parlier, City of Reedley, City of San Joaquin, City of Sanger, City of Selma, and County of Fresno are eligible for SRTS funding. The local government must be the primary applicant if a school

district is interested in applying where the project is located. Project funds must be managed by the local government.

Program Application Areas and Funding Priority

Consistent with the recommendation of the Safe Routes to School Subcommittee, which was accepted by the Fresno COG Policy Board on May 29, 2025, priority will be given to proposed projects located within **one-half mile** of a primary or secondary public-school facility in thirteen of the incorporated cities of Fresno County and the County of Fresno. Priority will be given to projects within rural areas to bridge the gap in inequity, safety, accessibility, and quality of life for youth, parents and staff serving educational institutions in the Fresno region.

Funding Availability

It is estimated there will be a total of \$6 million available for this one-time funding opportunity. No local match is required; however, consideration will be given to projects where local match funding is available.

Funding Cycle

Eligible projects could apply for a maximum of up to \$1.5 million. Funding will be awarded to the best-qualified project(s) based on the amount available. If there are no qualified projects submitted in each funding cycle, the amount will be rolled into the subsequent year's funding pool. The Fresno COG Policy Board reserves the right not to fund any projects or to fund less than the amount available for a given funding cycle.

Project Selection Process

A panel that includes Fresno COG and FCTA staff, and COG member agencies will review, evaluate, score and rank the proposed projects. The selected project(s) will go through Fresno COG Transportation Technical Committee, Policy Advisory Committee, and Policy Board for endorsement, and will be presented to Fresno County Transportation Authority for final approval.

The scoring committee consists of one representative from each of the following entities:

1. Fresno Council of Governments
2. Fresno County Transportation Authority
3. Urban Representative
4. Eastside Cities
5. Westside Cities
6. County of Fresno
7. the public – school district
8. the public –health/safety

9. the public – other sectors

Safe Routes to School Capital Improvement Program

Eligible Activities

Eligible capital improvement projects include pedestrian, bicycle, and other infrastructure improvements that will support and enhance safe accessibility to primary and secondary education facilities. Applicants should document how the proposed projects will improve safety for students walking or bicycling to school; improve traffic safety and minimize traffic and hazardous traffic behavior; provide a range of transportation options, facility improvements, and better access; generate equity across primary and secondary campuses in Fresno County and provide increased value for both students, teachers, and neighboring residents and create a more attractive public facility.

Capital Improvement Projects include but not limited to:

- Improvements to bike and pedestrian facilities
- Streetscape Enhancement and Traffic Calming Options
- Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)
- Other infrastructure upgrade to support active modes of transportation(e.g. curb, gutter, sidewalk, and bulb outs)

Funds can be used for preliminary design, environmental studies, engineering, land acquisition and construction.

Project Evaluation

1. School Proximity

The project must be located near the priority primary or secondary school areas as described in the Program Application Areas section. Projects located in closest proximity to a school campus will be given a higher scoring priority.

2. Project Characteristics

SRTS projects prioritizing the number of schools, better quality of life, and innovative approaches will be given a higher scoring priority.

Here are key characteristics:

1. Quantity

Projects serving more than one school site by targeting shared routes, major intersections, or corridor improvements will be considered to have a greater impact. More schools targeted will mean higher pedestrian and bike traffic, increasing the need for safety measures.

2. Pavement Installation

Projects upgrading dirt paths to paved paths near schools is essential for accessibility and overall student well-being. Due to uneven surfaces and loose gravel, this increases risk of fall and stability for children. This upgrade shall increase active modes of travel and ensure year-round reliability of the path. A paved path shall also provide designated, separate space for pedestrians and cyclists.

3. Innovation

Projects improving efficiency and sustainability will be given higher scoring priority. The inclusion of real-time traffic and safety data in a project such as school-zone speed enforcement cameras with automated alerts or AI-powered traffic monitoring to detect unsafe driver behavior near schools will be considered as innovative approaches. Other sustainable solutions such as integrating e-bikes and e-scooters will be considered.

3. *Safety Improvements*

SRTS projects should focus on infrastructure and design solutions that reduce conflicts with vehicles and enhance visibility such as the following:

1. Pedestrian Improvements

- Sidewalks & Crosswalks
 - New or widened sidewalks with ADA-compliant curb ramps.
 - High-visibility crosswalks (zebra or ladder-style) to alert drivers.
 - Raised crosswalks to slow traffic and increase pedestrian visibility.
- Traffic Control & Signal Enhancements
 - HAWK Signals (High-Intensity Activated Crosswalks) at mid-block or low visibility crossings.
 - Pedestrian countdown timers at signalized intersections.
 - Pedestrian refuge islands in wide streets to provide refuge waiting areas.
- School Zone Enhancements
 - Flashing beacons and school zone speed limits during arrival/dismissal.
 - Speed humps or cushions to slow down vehicles.
 - Curb extensions (bulb-outs) to shorten crossing distances, improve visibility and slow traffic

2. Bicycle Improvements

- Bike Lanes & Paths
 - Protected bike lanes (separated by curbs, planters, or barriers).
 - Buffered bike lanes with extra painted space between bikes and traffic.
 - Shared-use paths (off-street trails) for safe biking and walking.
- Intersection Treatments for Cyclists
 - Bike boxes at intersections to give cyclists priority at red lights.
 - Dedicated bike signals to prevent conflicts with turning vehicles.
 - Green pavement markings to highlight bike lane crossings.

3. Visibility

- Better Street Lighting
 - Enhanced lighting at crosswalks and along sidewalks.
 - Motion Sensor crosswalk signs and flashing beacons.
 - Solar-powered LED crosswalk signs.
- Signage & Pavement Markings
 - "School Zone," "Yield to Pedestrians," and "Bike Route" signs.
 - Reflective pavement markings for nighttime visibility.

4. Traffic Calming Measures

- Reducing Vehicle Speeds
 - Chicanes (curved street designs) to naturally slow down drivers.
 - Raised intersections that prioritize pedestrians.
 - Roundabouts to replace high-speed intersections.
 - Road diets features

4. *Project Impact*

The highest scored project in this category will include crash, injury or accident data reporting the number of bike/ped crashes near the school, severity of accidents, speed studies, and reports from school officials. Additionally, reports of bike and pedestrian counts [number of student using sidewalks, bike lanes, and crossings] will be helpful in project evaluation. The reports must include current conditions and images and maps of the safety improvement project area.

5. *Project Readiness*

The highest scored project in this category will include anticipated implementation actions such as programming of funds for infrastructure projects such as formal action by the City Council or Board of Supervisors. The grantee agency must obtain all permits, clearances, approvals for the project within 24 months of the project being selected for support under this program. Projects within Caltrans' right of way must demonstrate collaborative efforts and agreements to proceed with said project.

6. *Long-term Maintenance*

The purpose of Safe Routes to School is to improve safety for students walking or bicycling to school, improve traffic safety, provide better access and minimize traffic and dangerous traffic behavior in and around the schools sites for students from primary and secondary schools. Ensuring projects are maintained beyond completion ensures the benefit of investment in school safety and maintaining the positive impacts. Additionally maintaining the physical appearance of the project area long after implementation is essential to ensuring the usage of the facilities.

7. *Community Support*

The applicant will provide letters of support for the project. Letters of support may be from a variety of stakeholders, including but not limited to the following.

- School District
- School staff
- Parents
- Advocacy Groups
- Caltrans
- City officials

8. *Subjective Evaluation*

The scoring committee shall use this category to consider factors of overriding concerns. Examples may include, but are not limited to: value or quality of project, how the project addresses safety issues within the school zones, how the project will contribute to improve accessibility to the school campus by reducing, and safety improvements, etc.

Scoring Criteria

I. School Proximity (maximum 15 points)

1. *Serves a school within ½ mile (max 15 points)*
2. *Serves a school within one mile (max 10 points)*
3. *Within 2 miles of a school (max 5 points)*

II. Project Characteristics (maximum 15 points)

1. *Quantity Served (max 5 points)*
Projects supporting improvements for more than one campus will receive a max of 5 points. The minimum required is two schools.
2. *Pavement Installation (max 5 points)*
Projects supporting development that raises the quality of infrastructure students, parents, and/or caregivers utilize while accessing school campuses without environmental hazards such as flooding, dirt paths, or safety concerns. Thus, projects providing paved paths for active modes of transportation to school campuses will receive a max of 5 points.
3. *Innovation (max 5 points)*
Projects supporting development of sustainable and/or Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) to advance efficiency and safety for school sites will receive a max of 5 points.

III. Safety Improvements (maximum 20 points)

1. *Pedestrian Improvements (max 5 points)*
Projects that address improvements to sidewalks, crosswalks, traffic controls, and/or school zone enhancements. The project will receive maximum 5 points for addressing this criteria.
2. *Bicycle Improvements (max 5 points)*
Projects that improve bike lanes and paths as well as intersection treatments for cyclists. The project will receive maximum 5 points for addressing this criteria.
3. *Visibility Improvements (max 5 points)*
Projects that promote visibility with installation of better lighting, flashing beacons, signage, and pavement marking in the project area will receive maximum 5 points.
4. *Traffic Calming (max 5 points)*
Projects which reduce vehicle speeds by design or the reduction and elimination of vehicles during peak times. Additionally, projects implementing designated drop-off and pick-up zones will be scored favorably. The project area will receive maximum 5 points.

IV. Project Impact/ Need (maximum 23 points)

Project applications should include crash, injury and accident data, speed surveys, reports from school safety officers or administration, and images of existing and proposed conditions. Projects outlining the impact of implementation and describing the need to provide a safe and pedestrian friendly environment will be awarded maximum of 23 points.

V. Project Readiness (maximum 10 points)

Projects that showcase an expedited schedule in addition to commitments from project partners (School District or Caltrans) will be scored higher. Projects with the best overall project schedule will be key to advancing the success of the SRTS program. Projects with an anticipated completion prior to September 2028 will receive a maximum of 10 points.

VI. Long-term Maintenance (maximum 10 points)

Projects that will effectively be maintained after completion will receive a maximum of 10 points.

VII. Community Support (maximum 2 points)

Projects that are developed through an inclusive planning process with stakeholders, including but not limited to school staff, parents, community groups, elected and local officials will be scored higher. Projects that include a demonstration of community involvement and support will receive maximum of 2 points.

VIII. Subjective Evaluation (max 5 points)

The scoring committee may use this category to consider factors of overriding concerns. Examples may include, but are not limited to: quality of project, how the project addresses issues in the school zones, how the project will contribute to reducing barriers for students accessing campus, and safety impact, etc.