How Creative Partnerships lead to a well-rounded Safe Route to School Program:

*Crossing Guards, Walking School Bus, Education, Engagement, and Infrastructure*

Amir Emamian  
*City of Austin, Texas  
SRTS Program Manager*

Areiona King  
*Wyandotte County, Kansas City, KS  
SRTS Program Coordinator*
Objectives

• Attendees will learn a uniform process to hire, train and oversee crossing guards and how to get connected with schools

• How our programs are implementing infrastructure improvements

• How local municipalities can rally behind this work and support, and how leveraging local government resources builds sustainable relationships.

• Ways to utilize alternative programming such as funding for champions

• How equity and diversity is addressed when supporting schools
History

City of Austin SRTS
- 1991 - Crossing Guard Program
- 1995 - Education Program
- 2015 - Engagement Program
- 2016 - Bond Program

Wyandotte County SRTS
- 2007 - Safety & Infrastructure Need Assessment
- 2010 - Walking School Bus Program began in coordination with sidewalk construction
- 2013 - Partner with Bike Walk KC
- 2018 Pedestrian Safety Curriculum
Partnerships

City of Austin SRTS

• School Districts
• City of Austin Departments (Transportation, Police, Parks and Recreation, Development Services, etc..)
• Safe Kids Austin
• Parent Teacher Association (PTA)
• Community (Grass Roots Organizations and Biking Organizations)

Wyandotte County SRTS

• UG Public Works
• School District
• BikeWalk KC
• UG Health Department
• Police Department
• Crossing Guard Program
• Community Organizations
Crossing Guards

- Service 7 school districts
  - Austin ISD
  - Leander ISD
  - Round Rock ISD
  - Del Valle ISD
  - Eanes ISD
  - Pflugerville ISD
  - Manor ISD
- 7 Crossing Guard Supervisors
- 21 Supervisor Assistants
- Over 200 crossing guards
Walking School Bus Program

- Over 1,000 students walking
- 40 Elementary Schools Participating
- Two KCK School Districts (USD500/USD202)
- Weekly & Daily Walking School Bus groups
- Lead by Adult School Champions
- Champions are supported by a stipend
- Technical Assistance organized by BikeWalkKC
Infrastructure

City of Austin SRTS

• Bond Funded
• $27.5 Million
• Creation of Infrastructure Report
• Build out 2016-2024

Wyandotte County SRTS

• 2010-2022 SRTS Programming
• Constructed 10 miles of sidewalk
• $10 million of Federal/Local funds
• School Signing and Crosswalk Upgrades
• Coordinated School Building Improvements
School Engagement

City of Austin SRTS
- BOW WOW
- Principal Coffees
- CATCH Nights
- Bike Rodeos
- PTA Meetings
- Safety Patrol

Wyandotte County SRTS
- Individual school outreach
  - Principal\Staff\Champions
  - PTA & School Events
- SRTS Events
  - Breakfast of Champions Celebration
  - Regional SRTS Summit
- BikeWalkKC Bike Programming
- SRTS Road Map
**WYCO Safe Routes to School Road Map**

1. Initial Outreach
   - Engage
   - Meet with Safe Routes to School Team

2. Technical Assistance
   - Implement
   - TIP: Start small with a few activities to generate excitement about walking!

3. Safe Routes to School
   - Engage
   - Implement
   - Kick Off

4. Getting Started
   - Sustain
   - Walk to School KC

5. Kick Off
City of Austin SRTS

- 5 Training Staff at 2 schools everyday
- Service over 100 Schools
- Train over 48,000 students
- Rotate through 6 younger lessons and 6 older lessons

Wyandotte County SRTS

- WSB and Technical Assistance
- Pedestrian Safety Education
- Safety Patrol
- Traffic Circulation Evaluation
- Total of 40 elementary schools
Contact Information

City of Austin SRTS

Amir Emamian
Program Manager
Amir.Emamian@austintexas.gov
512-974-9319

Leti Richardson
Crossing Guard Manager
Leticia.Richardson@austintexas.gov
512-974-9181

Rhonda Bolick
Education Coordinator
Rhonda.Bolick@austintexas.gov
512-974-5633

Wyandotte County SRTS

Lideana Laboy, PE, PTOE
City Traffic Engineer - SRTS Program Manager
913-573-5771
llaboy@wycokck.org

Areiona King, CPST
Program Coordinator
816-205-7056, ext. 17
Areiona.king@bikewalkkc.org