Safe Routes to School and Vision Zero

Margo Pedroso
Safe Routes to School National Partnership
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What is Safe Routes to School?

- Education
- Encouragement
- Engineering
- Enforcement
- Evaluation
- Equity
The Evidence is In: Safe Routes to School Works

- Safe Routes to School programs lead to a **35-45% increase in walking and bicycling** to school

- Safe Routes to School programs result in a **45-75% decrease in pedestrian injuries** near school

- Kids who walk and bike are **more physically active, fitter and have lower BMIs** than kids who don’t
Overcoming Disparities

2x as likely to walk or bicycle to school as children in affluent communities

children in low income communities
Healthy Communities

- Safe Routes to schools
- Safe routes to parks, healthy foods, etc.
- Complete Streets
- Vision Zero
- Shared use agreements
- School siting
- School wellness policies
Why Engage in Vision Zero?

- Tap into political leadership and new funding – often mayors, city councils leading Vision Zero
- Impact larger policy issues affecting safety around schools – such as reducing speed limits
- Data driven approach can help prioritize Safe Routes approaches across an entire city or school district rather than 1 school at a time—leading to investments where they are most needed
How to Get Involved

To push for a Vision Zero commitment:
• Reach out to biking/walking advocates to coordinate a campaign to push for a Vision Zero commitment
• Meet with policymakers to ask for a comprehensive safety effort to protect kids and families
• Use safety data to help make your case

To influence an existing Vision Zero plan:
• Contact the city’s Vision Zero lead to discuss Safe Routes to School
• Participate on the Vision Zero task force or stakeholder advisory group
• Turn out parents and students at Vision Zero hearings and events
• Show up at your city’s Traffic Safety or Bike/Ped committees
Examples of Vision Zero Strategies to Benefit School Zone Safety

- Advocate that maps of injuries and fatalities that guide infrastructure improvements include schools as key destinations
- Increase city investments/staffing for Safe Routes to School
- Offer comprehensive bike/ped safety education to all kids
- Reduce speeding and speed limits around schools
- Engage community groups to reach out to residents about safety
For more information:

• Makes the case for engaging in Vision Zero: an opportunity to tap into high-profile effort to improve safety
• Explains how to get involved in Vision Zero efforts
• Highlights Vision Zero strategies that advance Safe Routes to School

www.saferoutespartnership.org