

# BEAVERTON



Safe Routes to School

## Beaverton School District Safe Routes to School- Annual Report, June 2016

Beaverton School District's Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program is finishing its first full year. BSD has received Safe Routes to School funding over the years, but this past year was the first to have dedicated full time staff. The district was awarded a \$158,000 Regional Travel Options grant through Metro to hire a SRTS Coordinator. Our main objectives are to increase walking, biking and busing to school and decrease driving to school to increase student and community health and safety.

It's been an exciting year! This Annual Report briefly outlines our accomplishments and plans to continue to support and promote healthy, safe and active transportation to and from school.

### Events

- Over 3,000 students from 23 schools participated in October's Walk + Bike to School Day.
- Twelve schools participated in May's Walk+Bike Challenge Month, up from 6 in 2014.

### Education

- Oak Hills Bike Club held weekly after school rides and lessons throughout the Oak Hills neighborhood.
- Created [Crossing Safety Video](#) for back to school.
- Monthly active transportation articles to homes through Beaverton Briefs.

### Community Collaboration

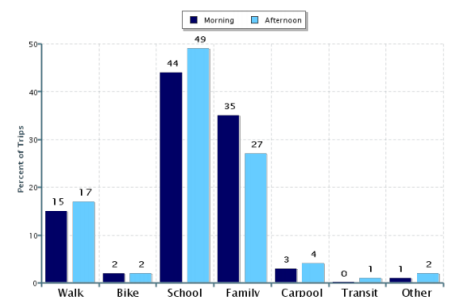
- Coordination with Washington County to help prioritize Schools Access Project list.
- Worked with Washington Co Sheriff's Office to produce [Hallowe'en Safety](#) video.
- Member of Washington County's Transportation Safety Action Plan task force.
- Represented BSD on Oregon's and Metro's SRTS Task Force.

### Data Collection

Travel Tallies and Parent Surveys completed at most elementary and middle schools to measure present travel mode rate, parent/guardian concerns and comments.



Morning and Afternoon Travel Mode Comparison



Spring 2016 Summary Data



## School Teams and Action Plans

Safe Routes to School Teams have been shown to be valuable in creating a community where walking and biking to school is accepted, safe, normal and fun. We have asked schools to identify two staff and two community members to be members of the school team. Six schools now have teams, often part of the Green Team or Active School team. These schools also have Action Plans. Four schools now have finalized action plans and two schools' action plans are pending review.

Safe Routes to School Action Plans help to identify barriers to walking and biking to school and prioritizes options to address these. Strategies to address barriers include education, encouragement, enforcement and engineering plans and projects.

Sexton Mountain ES	Ridgewood ES	Springville K-8
Oak Hills ES	Fir Grove ES	Greenway ES

These plans will be given to Washington County and/or City of Beaverton so engineering and enforcement projects are on their radar. The SRTS Coordinator will use these to advocate agencies to prioritize projects that allow more active transportation opportunities for more people.

## Engineering

One goal for the Safe Routes to School program is that each school will have an action plan with prioritized projects for increased walking and biking to school.

**For example, five of the seven** Washington County's URMDAC projects affecting school access being built in 2016/17 include:

School	What		Benefit
Beaver Acres	Augusta Lane-sidewalk	200 feet of 5-foot-wide sidewalk	Provide access to Beaver Acres Elementary.
Meadow Park MS	Butner Rd-sidewalk	120 feet of 5-foot-wide sidewalk	Provide routes along the north side of Butner between 140th and 139 <sup>th</sup> .
Aloha Huber	Farmington Rd-pathway	650 feet of 5-foot-wide paved pathway, separated from the travel lane	Continuous pedestrian walkway along the north side of Farmington Road from Kinnaman Road to 170th Avenue.
Findley	Saltzman Rd-pathway	375 feet of 5-foot-wide paved pathway	Continuous pedestrian walkway along the east side of Saltzman Road from Hartford to Thompson.

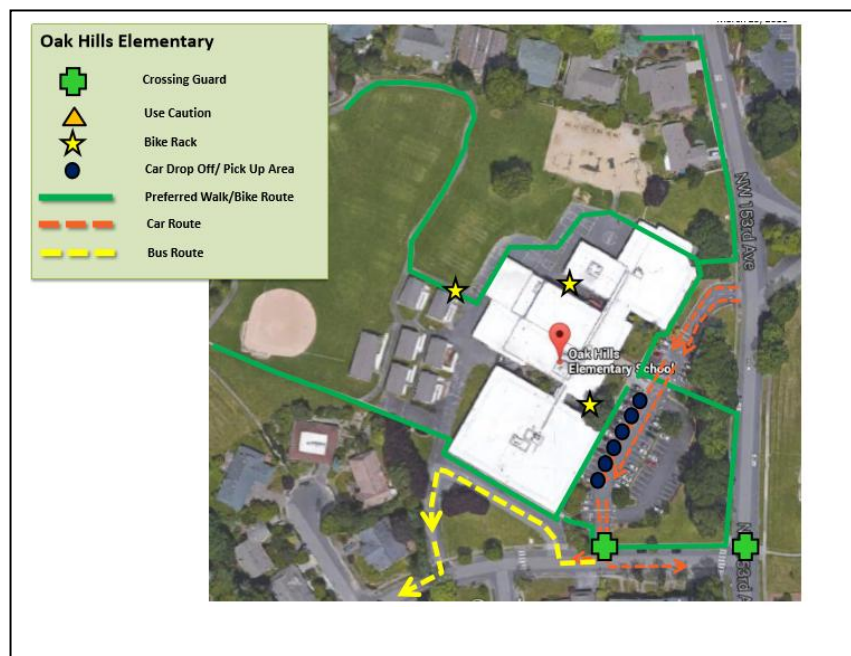
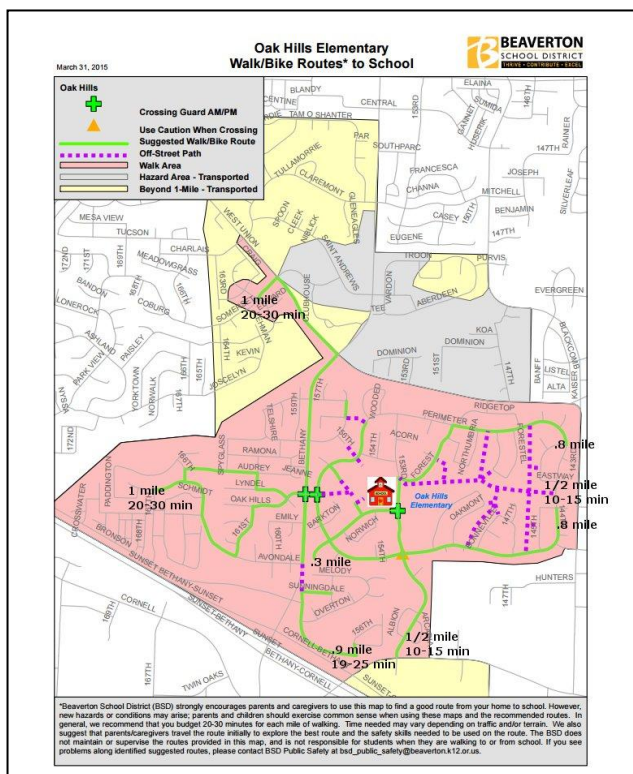


## Supplemental Plans

- Evaluated routes for nine schools affected by Supplemental Plan changes.
- Lead walks and discussions regarding safe walking and biking practices.
- Identified areas for consideration of future Supplemental Plan changes at four schools.

## Maps

Preferred Travel Maps and Arrival Departure Maps originally completed in 2012 are being updated and available for school publication and promotion. We continue to update these maps as information becomes available.



## Website

Beaverton School District's SRTS website was launched in April with all maps, tools, publications and resources for schools to use to promote, educate and encourage their families to choose active transportation mode for their trips to and from school.

[www.beavertonsaferoutes.org](http://www.beavertonsaferoutes.org)

## Goals for 2016- 2017

- Action Plans at 10 additional schools.
- Update 20 school preferred travel maps and arrival/ dismissal maps.
- Develop and host at least one volunteer crossing guard/ walk leader training workshop.
- Host Bicycle and/or Pedestrian Safety teacher training workshop.
- Host at least one PTO training to advance individual school issues.
- Coordinate programs and after-school services with THPRD.
- Provide one crossing guard training and post best practices website material.
- Develop SRTS Self Assessment Award System.
- Continue to work with BSD's Active Schools Initiative.
- Continue to respond to individual school requests.
- Continue to develop material for schools and community about safe active transportation.



## Final Thoughts

We have a huge opportunity to make the choice to walk and bike to school the easy one. The majority of students live in the walk/bike zone or are offered bus service; however, up to 59% of students are being driven to school each day. We see that our parking lots and roads cannot handle the volume. The majority of parents report traffic speed and volume as their primary reason for driving their children to school, though 20% or more of morning and afternoon traffic is from parents driving students to/ from school.

Given this, we must encourage and promote more families to find alternatives to driving their students and prioritize walking, biking and busing. We must also continue to work with the City of Beaverton and Washington County to advocate for improved conditions on the preferred routes.

**We need this! It's for the health and safety of our community and our kids!**