

## Community Focus Statement C: Improve public and equestrian safety within Muscoy.

### **Action Statement C.4: Establish a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program.**

C4

**Benchmark:** Implemented a successful, community-led SRTS program.

**Champion:** Volunteer group or person or can be identified by the community

**Estimated Cost:** variable depending on proposed improvements.



*In some cases, adding sidewalks to common routes for students may be able to create a safer environment to travel in. Photo source: Michael Baker International*

A Safe Routes to School program focuses on increasing the safety, convenience, and fun of walking and bicycling to and from school. The program can improve the health, social capital, and traffic in a community by giving kids and parents alternatives to traveling to school by car.

Congress approved funding for Safe Routes to School programs in 2005, which can still be used for projects such as bicycle lanes, pathways, and sidewalks as well as the launch, promotion, education, and enforcement of an SRTS program. By gathering people who wish to create safe streets for kids to walk and bike on and developing an action plan to evaluate issues and address challenges, the community can seek funding and improve the lives of residents. Local schools or parent-teacher groups are excellent choices for spearheading an SRTS program, with the ability to organize events such as a Walk to School Day or a walking school bus and spread information about the program.

Action	Action Leader	Timeline	Resources
1. Plan a Walk to School Day event to engage the community and stakeholders and raise awareness.	Champion San Bernardino City Unified School District	Month 1	Safe Routes Partnership <a href="http://www.saferoutespartnership.org">www.saferoutespartnership.org</a>
2. Using resources and information gathered from the Walk to School Day event, organize a SRTS team of advocates to work on a full-scale program, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School representatives</li> <li>• Parents</li> <li>• County officials</li> <li>• Police and fire departments</li> <li>• Local community groups and leaders</li> </ul>	Champion	Months 2 – 5	San Bernardino County Transit Authority (SBCTA) SRTS Plan <a href="http://www.gosbcta.com/plans-projects/index.html">http://www.gosbcta.com/plans-projects/index.html</a> Safe Routes to School Noteworthy Practices Guide <a href="http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/sites/default/files/resources/SRTS%20Noteworthy%20Practices%20Guide%20FINAL.pdf">http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/sites/default/files/resources/SRTS%20Noteworthy%20Practices%20Guide%20FINAL.pdf</a>
3. Check in with SBCTA SRTS program to find out where to start. Organize an active transportation “walk-a-bout” with the SRTS team and local planning, engineering, and other officials to assess the safety, convenience, and preferred routes for a SRTS program.	SRTS team	Month 6	California Active Transportation Resource Center: Tools <a href="http://www.casaferoutestoschool.org/get-assistance/tools/">http://www.casaferoutestoschool.org/get-assistance/tools/</a>
4. Evaluate the need, methods, and scope of a SRTS program.	SRTS team	Months 7 – 9	Safe Routes Info, SRTS Guide <a href="http://guide.saferoutesinfo.org/step/index.cfm">http://guide.saferoutesinfo.org/step/index.cfm</a>
5. Craft a SRTS program that includes the 5 E’s (Engineering, Education, Enforcement, Encouragement, and Evaluation) outlined by the Federal Highway Administration. Include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data and strategies under each E that will lead to increased active transportation to school</li> <li>• A timeline for each part of the plan</li> <li>• A map of the area covered by the plan</li> <li>• An explanation of the evaluation method that will be used to ensure the plan’s effectiveness</li> </ul>	SRTS team	Months 9 – 15	
6. Apply for funding to implement the strategies in the plan.	SRTS team	Month 15 – On-going	
7. Work as a team to implement the plan.	SRTS team	Month 15 – On-going	
8. Evaluate the plan and make adjustments as needed.	SRTS team	Year 2, and On-going	