



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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News Release

EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE

November 4, 2010

\$3.4 Million Promotes Walking and Biking to 39 Indiana Schools

INDIANAPOLIS – Students will soon find it safer to walk or bike to 39 Indiana schools thanks to \$3.4 million in awards announced today by the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) and the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE). Now in its fifth year, Indiana's Safe Routes to School program promotes walking and biking among schoolchildren by investing Federal transportation funds in approved engineering, education and enforcement programs.

For 2010, Indiana Safe Routes to School (SRTS) applications representing 58 schools were submitted requesting \$5.7 million. INDOT has funded an increasing percentage of these applications, this year approving more than 60 percent. Along with representatives from the Federal Highway Administration and Indiana's Metropolitan Planning Organizations, INDOT, ISDH and IDOE sit on the SRTS Advisory Committee that reviews and approves applications.

“This year INDOT received many outstanding applications and was very encouraged by the caliber of the proposals,” said INDOT Commissioner Michael B. Cline. “INDOT was pleased to approve an increased amount this year for both urban and rural schools across the state.”

Safe Routes to School awards comes in addition to pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure built under the Major Moves initiative and Hoosiers on the Move statewide trails plan. Over the past four years, Indiana's trails network has grown by more than 50 percent and 263 miles of new or rebuilt sidewalks have been installed along state highways.

“Indiana has made bicycle and pedestrian programs a priority in support of Gov. Mitch Daniels' INShape Indiana statewide health initiative,” said State Health Commissioner, Gregory Larkin, M.D. “Safe Routes to School responds to growing childhood health and safety concerns by promoting walking and bicycling among Indiana's youngest commuters.”

2010 Safe Routes to School awards to local agencies and school systems are listed below. More information is available on Indiana's Safe Routes to School Web site at <http://SafeRoutes.IN.gov>.

“These schools should be congratulated for developing innovative plans to ensure students have a variety of safe options for travelling to and from school,” said State Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Tony Bennett. “Indiana's Safe Routes to School program helps ensure students reach school ready for a full day of rigorous academic instruction.”

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Indianapolis Area

- \$250,000 for traffic calming measures, bike parking, pedestrian countdown signals, sidewalk reconstruction, drainage improvements and equipment for Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic School and Indianapolis Public School (IPS) No. 84 Center for Inquiry
- \$250,000 for shared use paths, crosswalks, curb ramps and signs at Eagle and Brown Elementary schools in Brownsburg
- \$250,000 for sidewalk construction and a pedestrian bridge for Center Grove Elementary and Middle schools in Johnson County
- \$243,126 for construction of sidewalks, a shared-use path, crosswalks and signals for Belzer Middle School and Harrison Hill, Sunnyside and Amy Beverland Elementary schools in Lawrence
- \$75,000 for a comprehensive Safe Routes plan, encouragement, outreach, education, training and incentives for IPS Thomas D. Gregg School 15

Northwest Indiana Urban Area

- \$210,375 for sidewalks, curb ramps, speed feedback signs and bike racks for Memorial Elementary School in Valparaiso
- \$61,300 for sidewalks, crosswalks, ramps for Timothy Ball Elementary School in Crown Point

Non-Urban Areas

- \$287,540 for a comprehensive Safe Routes plan, shared-use paths, crosswalks, curb ramps, signs, speed feedback signs, education, training and incentives for Delphi Community Elementary and Middle schools
- \$250,000 for sidewalks and curb ramps for Hendry Park Elementary in Angola
- \$250,000 for sidewalk construction, crosswalks, curb ramps and flashing beacons for Culver Elementary and Community Middle schools
- \$250,000 for sidewalk construction, crosswalks, curb ramps and signs for Spencer Elementary School
- \$249,400 for sidewalk construction, crosswalks, ramps and signs for Baker and Willard Elementary schools in Winchester
- \$219,393 for sidewalk construction, crosswalks, curb ramps, signs and school flashers for Galveston Elementary School
- \$75,000 for a comprehensive Safe Routes plan, training, encouragement, promotion, enforcement, speed trailers, equipment and incentives for Eastern Pulaski Elementary and Winamac Community Middle schools
- \$45,000 for a comprehensive Safe Routes plan for Triton Elementary and Junior/Senior High schools in Bourbon
- \$41,000 for travel planning, encouragement, training, promotion, equipment and incentives for J.E. Ober Elementary, Garrett Middle and St. Joseph Catholic schools in Garrett
- \$35,480 for travel planning, encouragement, education, training, equipment and incentives for Woodburn Elementary and Lutheran schools
- \$29,192 for a comprehensive Safe Routes Plan, outreach and promotion for Alexandria-Monroe Elementary, Intermediate and Junior High schools

South Bend Area

- \$247,965 for sidewalk replacement, curb ramps, crosswalks and signs for Emmons Grade School in Mishawaka
- \$146,000 for sidewalks, crosswalks and signs for Mary Frank Elementary and Northpoint Elementary schools in St. Joseph County

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