

Safe Routes to School Strategic Plan

PUBLIC SAFETY & HEALTH COMMITTEE | JUNE 4, 2021 – 9:00 AM

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS





Safe Routes to School (SRTS)

- International movement / federal program
- Programs and infrastructure to encourage children to walk and bicycle to school
- Wisconsin Bike Fed & MPS have well-established education & encouragement program

2021 Vision
Zero for Youth
Innovation
Award

A photograph of a group of children walking on a sidewalk. In the foreground, a young girl with braided hair is wearing a bright pink jacket with a black pattern. To her right, another girl is wearing a red jacket. In the background, other children are walking, and a street with a car and buildings is visible. The scene is outdoors during the day.

SRTS Strategic Plan

- Coordinate SRTS efforts across agencies & organizations
- Identify policies, programs, & initiatives to improve walking & biking to school
- Provide short- & long-term recommendations

The “Es” of SRTS in Milwaukee



Engineering:

Provide infrastructure that allows people to walk and bicycle safely to and from schools



Encouragement:

Promote walking and bicycling as fun ways to get to and from school



Empowerment:

Support families and school communities to develop their own programs to increase walking and biking



Education:

Ensure that everyone knows how to walk, bicycle, and drive safely



Evaluation:

Track progress toward achieving goals

Equity Lens

- Health outcome disparities particularly in communities of color in Milwaukee
- Ensure programs and projects are focused where they are needed most
- Equity guides recommendations and strategies in the plan



Example Near-term Opportunities

- Coordinate applications for upcoming grant cycle
- Use prioritization criteria to allocate infrastructure investments
 - 2021-22 SRTS Implementation project (8 schools)
 - 2021-22 SRTS Local Program pilot (Westside Academy)
- Revise ordinance to allow bikes on school grounds
- Engage school communities in project development process
 - Expand Child-friendly Cities curriculum to other MPS Community Schools



Questions?

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