



# SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

Task Force Meeting

March 21, 2024

## SRTS TASK FORCE'S OBJECTIVES

SRTS Task Force is a space to share information/ideas on SRTS, engage the community around SRTS, partner on events and activities and support schools and school districts in the implementation of the strategy.

### Roles

- Define and collaborate on objectives, goals, and milestones for the Menlo Park SRTS program;
- Help organize or support different tasks and activities; and
- Be a liaison to share information and market the program to your school community.

# AGENDA

1. Introductions
2. School Updates and Priorities
3. SRTS Program Updates
4. SMCOE School Travel Fellowship - update
5. E-bike Safety Discussion - update
6. Hillview Practice Bike Ride - discussion
7. Traffic and Safety Updates
8. City Project Updates - update
9. Announcements
10. Next Meeting



# 1) INTRODUCTIONS

## Introductions

- Name
- Agency / Organization



## 2) SCHOOL UPDATES AND PRIORITIES

## School updates

- Education and Encouragement activities
- Help needed/issues/challenges/ideas
- Other announcements



### **3) SRTS PROGRAM UPDATES**



## SRTS Program Updates

1. Bike Month Event
2. 2024 Poster and Video Challenge
3. Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Handbook  
*New section on driving safety tips to protect pedestrians and bicyclists*

# SRTS Program Updates



## 1. Bike Month Event: Bike to the Library

Collaboration with the Library Department

- **When:** Thursday, May 16
- **Time:** 2 pm – 5:30 pm
- **Where:** Menlo Park Central Library (Alma Street)



# SRTS Program Updates

## 1. Bike Month Event: Bike to the Library

### Event program:

- Bike Blender and Art
- Bike to Wherever Day energizer station – ***volunteer needed***
- Bike themed reading sessions
- Bike rodeo
- Food vendors
- Partners and organization booths
- ABC Quick Check and Helmet Fitting Stations

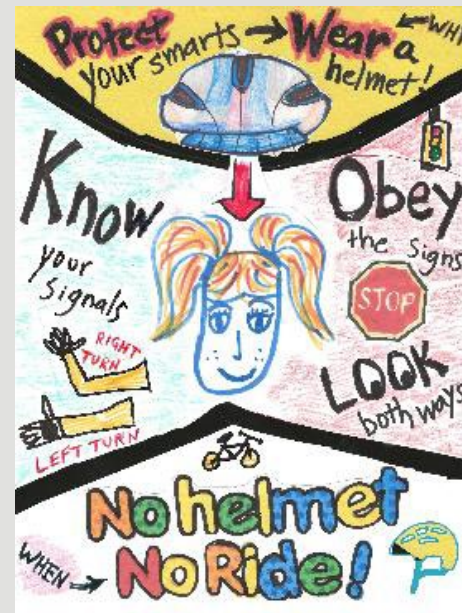
### Other ideas/questions for the group:

- Who would be able to plan bike buses from the schools to the library?

# SRTS Program Updates

## 2. Poster and Video Contest

- Poster contest for elementary students
- Video contest for middle and high school students
- Open until May 31<sup>st</sup>
- Prizes: Sports Basement, Keplers' Books and Coldstone gift certificates
- To participate: [MenloPark.gov/saferoutes](http://MenloPark.gov/saferoutes) > Video and Poster Contests tab



# SRTS Program Updates



## 3. Pedestrian & Bicyclist Safety Handbook

- **Walking Safety:** street crossing, walking without sidewalk
- **Biking Safety:** Before you go, California law, avoiding common collision
- ***Driving Safety Tips: protecting pedestrians and bicyclists***
- Examples specific to Menlo Park streets and schools

# SRTS Program Updates

15 MILES PER HOUR

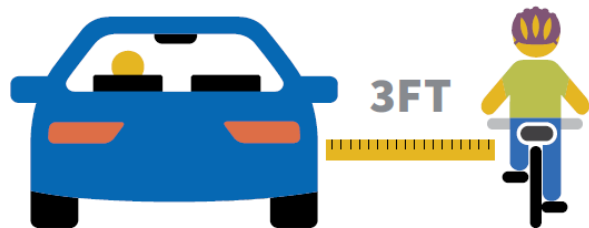


30 MILES PER HOUR



- Tunnel Vision and Speed

# SRTS Program Updates



## Keep a Safe Distance from Bicycles

People driving should always maintain a safe distance from people biking. In California, a minimum 3 feet of separation is required overtaking a bicyclist with a car. Ensure there is ample space and reduce speed to minimize the risk of collision. Give more space when local traffic conditions allow.

- Awareness of other road users
- “Anti-Dooring” method or Dutch reach



# SRTS Program Updates



- On the SRTS website ([menlopark.gov/saferoutes](https://menlopark.gov/saferoutes) > Resources tab), all images from the handbook available for download.













Resources City of Menlo Park

<https://menlopark.gov/Government/Departments/Public-Works/Transportation-Division/City-Safe-Routes-to-School-prog...>

run works or art. here are some [sample smoothie recipes](#) and [spin art ups](#) for inspiration. for more information or inquiries about renting for your school's event, please [email the Safe Routes to School Coordinator](#).

### Bicycle safety graphics

The following are graphics that may be downloaded for use in educational materials to help highlight safety.

-  **Bike and Car** (PNG, 105KB)
-  **Bike Box** (PNG, 107KB)
-  **Bike Lane** (PNG, 108KB)
-  **Bike Lock Icon** (PNG, 46KB)
-  **Biker** (PNG, 67KB)
-  **Ballards** (PNG, 206KB)
-  **Child Trailer** (PNG, 103KB)
-  **Clothing** (PNG, 108KB)
-  **Conflict Zone** (PNG, 142KB)
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## 4) SMCOE SCHOOL TRAVEL FELLOWSHIP



# SMCOE School Travel Fellowship



**Team:** San Mateo County, Menlo Park, Las Lomas and Oak Knoll Schools

**Project:** Implement a short-term demonstration project that will help increase connectivity between home and school.

**Timeline:** January 2024 through September 2024



## 5) E-BIKE SAFETY DISCUSSION

# E-Bike Safety Discussion

## Background

- Group discussion at the September task force meeting
- Review of initiatives in other communities
- Meeting with PD and middle school representatives in February 2024



**Image Source:**  
*TwoWheelingTots Website*

# E-Bike Safety Discussion

## Recap of the September Discussion

- **Concerns:** speed and weight of the e-bikes can cause more severe consequences in case of crash
- **Roles of parents:** assessing the readiness of their child to ride an e-bike, educating themselves on classes of e-bikes and the regulations
- **Roles of enforcement:** communication and education
- **Roles of the school:** collaboration with PD, communication and education with students and parents

## E-Bike Safety Discussion

### Findings from the review of initiatives in other communities

- Lack of data about e-bikes and crashes
- Initiatives are often hard to enforce (e.g., permit)
- Need for education and parent engagement
- Rely on vendors and PD for bike education

# E-Bike Safety Discussion

## In Menlo Park

- Common infractions are seen equally among students on e-bikes and students with regular bikes (no helmet, no stopping at stop signs, riding in wrong direction of traffic, ...)
- More than 30 students riding e-bikes at Hillview
- Some communication is done at Hillview about e-bikes (e.g., buying class 1 of e-bike), parents are usually supportive



# E-Bike Safety Discussion



## In Menlo Park - Proposition

- Work on messages on bike safety – e-bikes and regular bikes
- Include the broader community in the discussion: all schools, parents, residents, city staff
- Work on a unified front message: community agreement and pledge on bike safety in Menlo Park





# E-Bike Safety Discussion



## Next steps

- Convene a working group



## 6) HILLVIEW PRACTICE RIDE

# HILLVIEW PRACTICE RIDE





## 7) TRAFFIC AND SAFETY UPDATES



## 8) CITY PROJECT UPDATES

# CITY PROJECT UPDATES



- UC Berkeley SafeTREC Complete Streets Safety Assessment (CSSA) on Santa Cruz Ave and Sand Hill Rd

- Middle Avenue Complete Streets

*Collecting feedback on the Bike Lane pilot project, survey open until March 31*



## 9) ANNOUNCEMENTS

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



- SMCOE Parent Survey open until April 30
- WheelKids Middle School Bike Skills Workshop: June 8 and September 14
- SMCOE walk audits with Mark Fenton
  - Las Lomitas Elementary Walk Audit  
3/26, 7:45 am – 10 am.
  - 3/25-3/28
  - Deadline to register is today







# 10) NEXT MEETING

## SAVE THE DATE!

- Thursday, June 6 at 9 am.



**THANK YOU!**