ANNOUNCEMENT: Call for Cycle 8 State-legislated Safe Routes to School projects
Posted: January 15, 2009
Application Submittal Deadline: April 15, 2009

What is the State-legislated Safe Routes to School (SR2S) Program?
A reimbursement funding program for reducing injuries and fatalities through capital projects that improve safety for children in grades K-12 who walk or bicycle to school.

How much funding is available?
$24.25M in State funds was approved in the FY 2008/09 State budget. However, double that amount - $48.50M worth of projects will be selected in Cycle 8. This multi-year approach is being implemented to 1) fund projects that are ready to go first, 2) allow better planning for projects that are selected for the following year, 3) minimize workload for District and Headquarters staff, and 4) improve chances of continued funding for the SR2S program during the budget development process if decision-makers are aware that projects have already been selected and ready for funding.

How are projects selected?
Caltrans Districts are apportioned funds based on student enrollment. District review committees will score and rate applications using standardized evaluation forms furnished by Caltrans Headquarters and develop two lists. Once projects are selected and prioritized, Districts will then determine which projects will be placed on the Tier I list (those that are ready to go now), and on the Tier II list (thosethat are selected for future funds) based on the project's delivery schedule. Projects in Tier I will be funded with FY 08/09 funds up to FY08/09 apportionment level, while Tier II projects will be funded when the next round of funding becomes available. Caltrans Headquarters will validate District selections and compile a statewide list of selected projects for each cycle for Director approval. Districts will notify all applicants of the results.

Who is eligible to apply?
Any incorporated city or county

What types of projects are eligible?
Capital projects must fall under the broad categories of pedestrian facilities, traffic calming measures, installation of traffic control devices, construction of bicycle facilities, and public outreach/education/enforcement. See guidelines for examples. Up to 10% of the construction cost can fund an education/encouragement/enforcement element.

Is there a local match required, and what is the maximum amount of funding that can be requested?
There is a 10% local match required; $900,000 is the maximum amount that can be requested.

Where are the guidelines and applications posted, and how can I get more information?
www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/saferoutes/saferoutes.htm or contact: Joyce Parks, Safe Routes to School Coordinator at Caltrans Headquarters at: (916) 653-6920 or at: joyce_parks@dot.ca.gov

Where do I send my application(s)?
Original and 1 copy must be sent to your Caltrans District Local Assistance Engineer (DLAE) by the deadline. Applications postmarked on the deadline are acceptable. DLAE information is available at: www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/dlae.htm

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