

# Increasing School and City Engagement, Communication, and Collaboration: The School Travel Fellowship Model

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SAN MATEO  
COUNTY  
OFFICE OF  
EDUCATION

# Supporting Back to School Travel with Equity & Empathy



Reframing the historical transportation inequities and unethical practices to support our highest need communities when promoting **safe school travel**

**3 Ps: Programs, Projects, and Policies**

# The Idea!



Image Credit: The Old Motor

# Building the Plane While We Fly It

We received a lot of questions from applicants that weren't originally considered.

As prospective applicants asked questions, we refined the process.

*Built in flexibility is key!*



# The School Travel Fellowship

Technical assistance and support from Alta Planning + Design

Non-permanent quick build materials

Quarterly Meetings with every team

- Each meeting has different speakers who share best practices
- Teams check in about their project



Share best practices for supporting school travel and receive technical assistance.

**Fellowship participants will:**

- Receive technical assistance throughout the school year from Alta Planning + Design and attend up to three team specific meetings with Alta
- Attend School Travel Fellowship meetings (2 in-person; 2 virtual)
- Work together as a team - meet regularly; full participation from team members
- Complete the team identified project

**Participants may receive:**

- Suggested route maps for identified schools
- Walk audits
- Demonstration projects
- Quick build projects
- Walk to School Day support
- Bike/Ped education for identified schools
- Safety campaigns

Deadline to apply is January 19, 2023. Up to five city/school teams will be selected. The ideal team will include:

- at least one representative from public works
- a transportation planner and/or someone from the engineering department
- an elected official
- someone in economic development or chamber of commerce
- school or school district personnel\*

Cities/municipalities are encouraged to also include representatives from: the BPAC, community member/residents, neighborhood association, and other local stakeholders.

\*SMCOE SRTS staff can help connect cities/municipalities to appropriate school personnel

VIRTUAL INFO SESSION ZOOM LINK:

[tinyurl.com/STF2023](https://tinyurl.com/STF2023)

**December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2:00-3:00PM**

Questions? Contact: Theresa Vallez-Kelly, [tvkelly@smcoe.org](mailto:tvkelly@smcoe.org)



# Team Selection

## Scoring rubric

Breadth and diversity of team

Project innovation, scope, and feasibility

Project location and equity consideration



# Welcome, Fellowship Teams!

Millbrae



San Mateo



East Palo Alto



Menlo Park



Daly City



Redwood City



South San Francisco

# Fellowship Case Studies





# Millbrae | Student Involved Demonstration Project



# Menlo Park | Community-Led SRTS Initiative



Menlo Park

## Safe Routes to School

Rutas Seguras a la Escuela

Supporter • El Partidario



# Redwood City | Quick Build Design + Implementation



**CONSTRUCTION NOTES**

SYMBOL	DESCRIPTION
1	INS ALL 1" HX 12" X 18" CURB CROSSWALK 4' PER 2' CURB TRANSITION PER PLAN
2	INS ALL LIME MOHAWK PER CALTRANS STD PLAN ADAS 1 ASHP (TYP)
3	INS ALL CURB REPAIRS AS PER PLAN AND SPECIFICATIONS PER CALTRANS 11.7
4	INS ALL 1" HX 12" LIME MOHAWK CURB ALONG LEVELS OF FINISHED GRADATIONS
5	INSTALL RUBBER CURB 30' LENGTH 1 SECTION (TYP)
6	INS ALL CURB 30' LENGTH 1 SECTION ROUNDED PER CALTRANS 11.7 PER PLAN
7	INSTALL 12" STOP SIGN PER DETAIL 1 ON SHEET 2
8	CONVERT EXISTING CROSSWALK TO ADA PER DETAIL PER CALTRANS PER PLAN

- NOTES
1. FOLLOW MANUFACTURERS SPECIFICATIONS FOR INSTALLATION.
  2. ALL SIGNING AND STOP SIGNS SHALL CONFORM AND BE INSTALLED PER CALTRANS 2015 STANDARD PLAN SPECIFICATIONS AND CALTRANS ONLINE SIGN PLAN MANUAL VOLUME 3.
  3. FLUORESCENT COLOURS SHALL HAVE RETRO-REFLECTIVE PROPERTIES TO ENHANCE NIGHTTIME VISIBILITY.
  4. ADA ACCESSIBLE SIGN PER MAINTAINED WITHIN THE PROJECT RIGHT-OF-WAY.

PROJECT: 2023-08  
 DRAWN BY: [Name]  
 CHECKED BY: [Name]  
 DATE: 03/2024  
 SHEET: 1 OF 3



# Redwood City | Quick Build Design + Implementation



# Redwood City | Quick Build Design + Implementation



# East Palo Alto | Quick Build to Permanent Installation



# South San Francisco | Placemaking Through Quick Build



School St and Olive St



Hillside Blvd and Arden Ave



# Takeaways from City/School Teams

Cities have limited resources/capacities to implement demonstration projects. Having outside support helped them:

- Leverage existing funding/resources to support their projects
- Use the data collected during pop-up and design plans to secure outside grant funding
- Collaborate more effectively across agencies to maximize the community benefit
- Build relationships with their local schools



# Challenges/Lessons Learned

**Flexibility** is key

**Relationship building** up front is crucial

**Liability!** During the first year, Alta Planning + Design had to assume liability for the projects, which ate up a lot of project time, if possible, work with the city

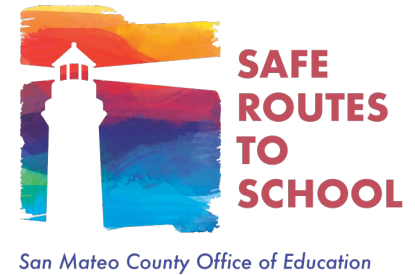
**Expense!** Projects can be more expensive than anticipated.

**Community trust** takes time, effort, and sometimes coffee and pastries

**Build the plane before you fly it!**



# The Future of the School Travel Fellowship



# Thank you!

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