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

Theresa ValleKelly, San Mateo County Office of Education
Kristin Haukom, Alta Planning + Design
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!
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

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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.

VIRTUAL INFO SESSION ZOOM LINK:
tinyurl.com/STF2023
December 20th, 2:00–3:00PM
Questions? Contact:Teresa Valdez-Kelly, 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
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!

Theresa Vallez-Kelly, tvkelly@smcoe.org

Kristin Haukom
kristinhaukom@altaplanning.com