

NEWS RELEASE

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Charles P. O'Leary, Commissioner

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Contacts: John Corrigan
Safe Routes to School
Coordinator
(603) 271-1980
Bill Boynton
Public Information Officer
(603) 271-6495

APPLICATIONS SOUGHT FOR SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM
REIMBURSEMENT FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR RANGE OF APPROACHES

Cities and towns across New Hampshire are one step closer to encouraging more students to walk or ride their bicycles to elementary and middle schools.

The New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) and Regional Planning Commissions are now accepting applications for the first round of reimbursement funding for the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program. Local schools, municipalities and organizations have until September 17, 2007 to submit applications. The awards are expected to be announced in December.

Reimbursements cover a wide variety of activities, including planning, bicycle and pedestrian education, walk-or-ride to school days, school zone traffic enforcement, and the construction and repair of sidewalks and bicycle facilities.

By substituting physical activity for rides in private vehicles for youngsters who live within two miles of school, the SRTS program works to improve child health, reduce traffic congestion, and enhance air quality.

“Wherever possible, we encourage elementary and middle schools to find ways to encourage students to walk or ride bicycles more often,” says John Corrigan, SRTS Coordinator for the NH Department of Transportation. “Our kids will be healthier and we will all breathe cleaner air.”

For more information, go to: www.nh.gov/dot/bureaus/planning/SRTS_home.htm

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