



July 23, 2007

Metropolitan Policy Committee
Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization
c/o Lane Council of Governments
99 East Broadway
Eugene, OR 97401
Attn: Susan Payne, Senior Planner

Dear MPC Members,

Commuter Solutions is pleased to announce that several schools in the Eugene/Springfield area have prepared and submitted Safe Routes to School Action Plans and applications for federal funding to implement projects identified in the action plans as important for encouraging walking and bicycling to school.

Background

The national Safe Routes to School program is new. Coming out of the SAFETEA-LU program, it is designed to encourage more walking and bicycling to school by children for health and environmental reasons. It encourages conscientious evaluation of the routes children must use to walk or bicycle to school and then action to make those trips safer and more enjoyable. And it asks communities and schools to consider a whole range of issues, from engineering, to education, encouragement, enforcement, and evaluation.

Once these issues have been considered, the schools can apply for funding through ODOT for either infrastructure (paths, bicycle racks, sidewalks, etc) or non-infrastructure (educational or encouragement programs, additional enforcement, etc.) projects that would make it easier for their children to walk or bicycle to school. During this round of funding, \$2.1M is available statewide for these projects. More information about the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program is available on the website www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TS/saferoutes.shtml

2007-08 Funding Applications

The following schools have completed comprehensive Safe Routes to School Action Plans and will be asking ODOT to fund these projects identified in the plans:

Monroe Middle School, Eugene: Bicycle and skateboard parking shelter with raingear storage and new bicycle racks on school property (\$45,893), and a two-year campaign to encourage walking and bicycling with incentives for parents and students (\$15,702)

COMMUTER SOLUTIONS
Providing Information and Resources
for Smart Transportation Choices

P.O. Box 7070

Eugene, Oregon 97401-0470

Voice
541-682-6213

Fax
541-682-6111

E-mail
commutersolutions@ltd.org

Web
www.commutersolutions.ltd.org

ADVISORY ORGANIZATIONS

City of Eugene

City of Springfield

Lane County

Lane Council of Governments

Lane Regional Air Pollution Authority

Lane Transit District

Oregon Department of Transportation

Roosevelt Middle School, Eugene: Part-time Safe Routes to School coordinator to run campaigns to encourage walking and bicycling in the school and region for one year, plus the materials needed for that program (\$31,721 for coordinator and \$5,890 for materials and equipment)

Thurston Elementary School, Springfield: Construction of 500' path and bicycle shelter on school property (\$214,300 SRTS funds, \$4,300 district funds)

Veneta Elementary School, Veneta: Construction of 8 blocks of sidewalk on McCutcheon Street (\$170,480 SRTS funds, \$255,720 city funds), and a Safe Routes to School coordinator to run campaigns to encourage walking and bicycling, and the materials needed for that program (\$13,080 for coordinator and event staff and \$1,159 for materials)

Sincerely,



Connie Bloom Williams, Program Manager
Commuter Solutions
Lane Transit District
PO Box 7070
Eugene, OR 97401