



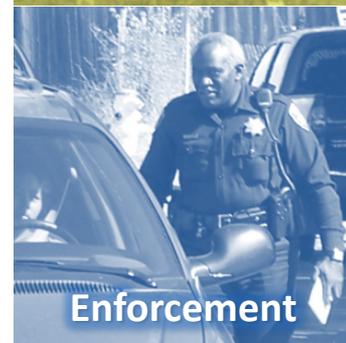
**STA** **Safe Routes to School** Program



Education



Encouragement



Enforcement



Engineering

League of California Cities Annual Conference & Expo – San Diego – September 6, 2012

City-County-School Partnerships to Create Safe Routes to Schools

# City-County-School Partnership



How did a City-County-School Partnership lead to the creation and successful implementation of the Solano Safe Routes to School Program?



# City-County-School Partnership



*“Do what you can, with what you have, where you are.”*

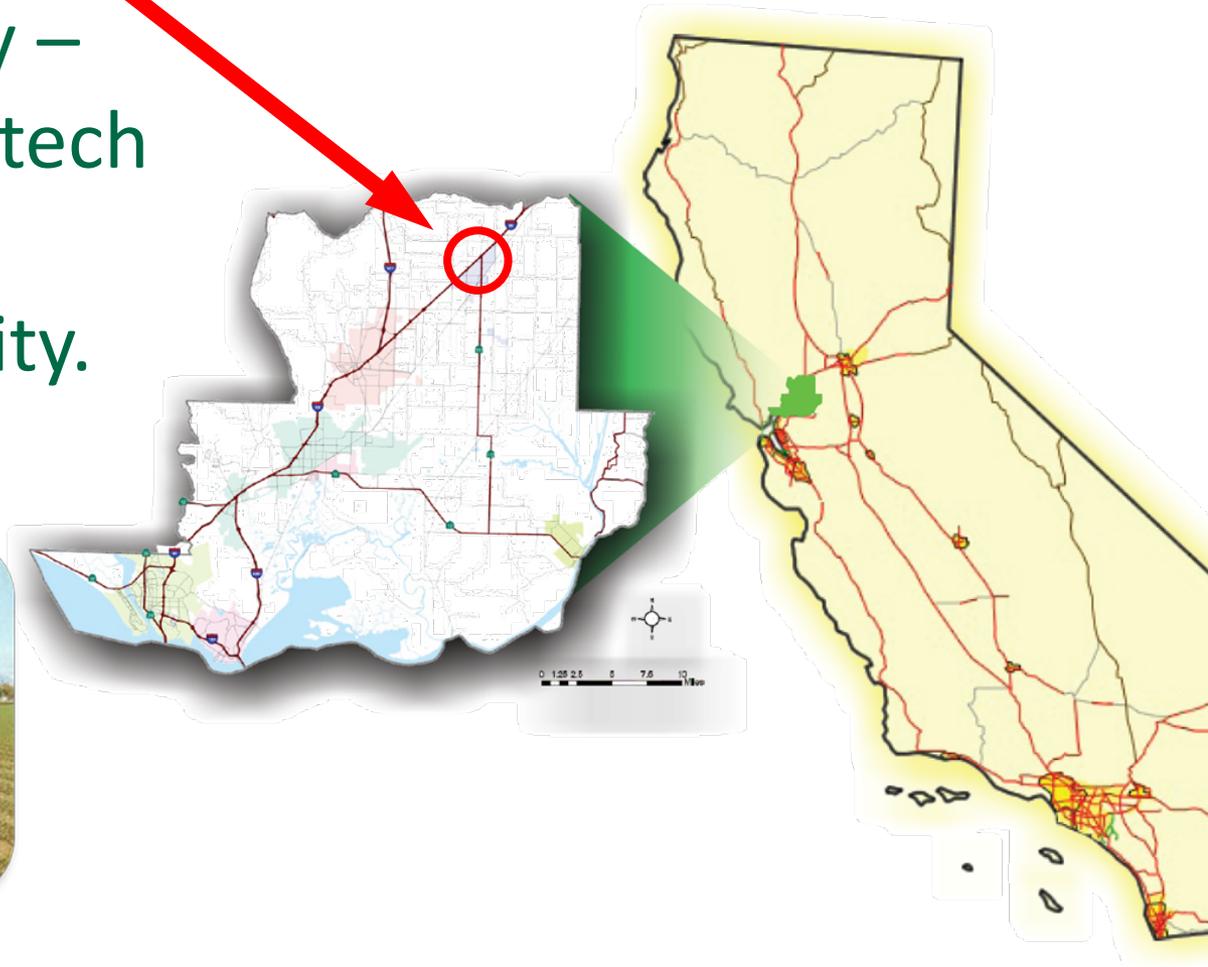
Theodore Roosevelt

# City of Dixon

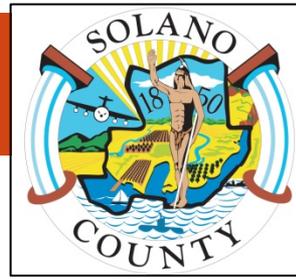


## City of Dixon:

- 18,000 people
- Rural community – has growing bio-tech and agricultural production activity.

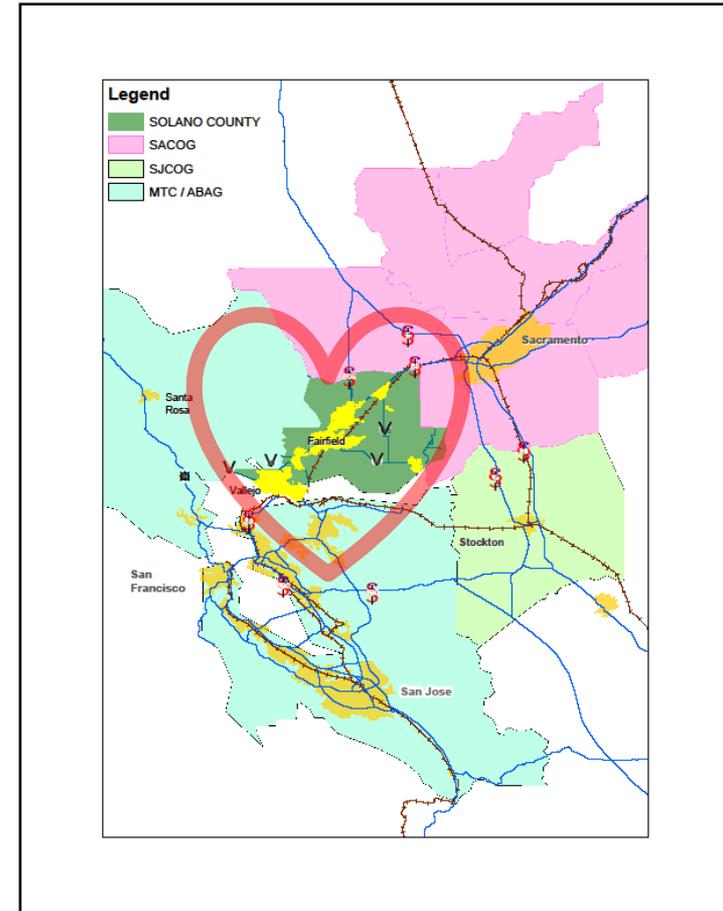


# Solano County



## Solano County:

- 425,000 people countywide
- Heart of the Northern California Mega-Region between San Francisco Bay Area and the Sacramento Metropolitan Region, and east of Napa and Sonoma wine regions





- Congestion Management Agency for Solano County, 7 cities including Dixon
- Plan, Fund, and Deliver transportation projects and programs
- Responsible for coordination and funding of Solano Safe Routes to School Program



- Partners:
  - Solano County's Transit Agencies



- Caltrans (State DOT) 
- Metropolitan Transportation Commission (Bay Area Metropolitan Planning Organization) 
- Association of Bay Area Governments



# Solano County's Call to Action



- In 2007 a high percentage of childhood obesity was reported in Solano County
- A call to action was issued by Solano County Board of Supervisors
- A summit was held to draw attention to the issue



*In Solano County, 60% of adults are overweight or obese. The rate of overweight children is among the highest in the Bay Area. The average 10-year old boy is 11 pounds heavier than a generation ago according to Dr. Ronald Chapman, Solano County Health Officer.*



# Solano County's Call to Action



- Roadways congested with traffic, and environments damaged by vehicle emissions present safety concerns for:
  - Pedestrians
  - Bicyclists



# Solano County's Call to Action



*"We cannot always build the future of our youth, but we can build our youth for the future."*

Franklin Delano Roosevelt

# Dixon



- Changed the location of the High School
- Changed district boundaries for elementary schools
- Closed one school

Resulted in more students crossing the railroad tracks to/from school because the Union Pacific tracks literally bisect the community



# Call to Action



- STA proposed, Solano County and all 7 cities agreed to develop a countywide SR2S study to address issue
- Public Health Department got involved with STA as facilitator
- Hired consultant to develop a countywide SR2S study.



# Starting Safe Routes to School



- STA proposed to involve school districts, cities, County law enforcement, engineers and advocates
- Recruited members for a Countywide Steering Committee for the study:
  - Two Public Works Directors
  - Two Police Chiefs
  - Two School District Superintendents
  - Two Bicycle & Pedestrian Advocates
  - One Air Quality District Representative
  - One County Public Health Department Representative



# Starting Safe Routes to School



- Developed planning process that would work best for Solano County.
- Early buy-in from all school Superintendents, County Sheriff and Police Chiefs, School Board members, City Council members and Board of Supervisors



# Starting Safe Routes to School



*“It’s the little details that are vital.  
Little things make big things  
happen.”*

John Wooden

# STA SR2S Program Goals



- STA Board adopted three SR2S goals:
  1. Increase healthy and safe alternatives to driving alone/chauffeured trips to school.
  2. Reduce number of driving alone/chauffeured trips and the number of student vs. vehicle accidents along routes to schools.
  3. Maximize interagency cooperation in all SR2S efforts.



# STA Study Phases



- STA Steering Committee designed STA Study Process:
  - Phase 1: Introduced SR2S Study to City Councils and School Boards
  - Phase 2: Created local SR2S Plans through community task forces and school planning events
  - Phase 3: Adopted local SR2S Plans and incorporated those community plans into the STA's Countywide SR2S Plan.



# Phase 2: Created Community SR2S Plans



## 1. Built a Team (Community Task Force)

- City Council Representative
- School District Representative
- Public Safety Representative (Police Departments)
- Public Works Representative
- Bicycle Advisory Representative
- Pedestrian Advisory Representative



## 2. Set an Example

- Each Community Task Force selected a pilot school for a walking audit & planning event
- Other schools held planning events afterwards



## 3. Made the Plans Official

- Community Task Forces reviewed publicly recommended projects and programs to add into the community SR2S Plan
- Community SR2S Plans were recommended to the city council and school board for adoption
- Required community boards and schools to adopt same



# Starting Safe Routes to School



*“If you want to make enemies, try to change something.”*

Woodrow Wilson

# Phase 2: What we learned



## 1. Built a Team (Community Task Force)

- Some cities had existing traffic safety committees, some with school district staff.
- School facilities and maintenance staff cooperation vital.



## 2. Set an Example

- Volunteer schools made the best plans.
- Schools pressured into the process reacted negatively.
- High School audits require student council participation.



## 3. Made the Plans Official

- Flexible action items
- Phased in commitments



# Phase 3: Community Adoption



## City Councils and School Boards:

- Recommended projects and programs found in the community SR2S plan to the STA for incorporation into the Countywide STA SR2S Plan
- Appointed community SR2S task force to continue to plan and implement SR2S projects and programs
- Adopted community SR2S Plan as the community task force's guiding document.



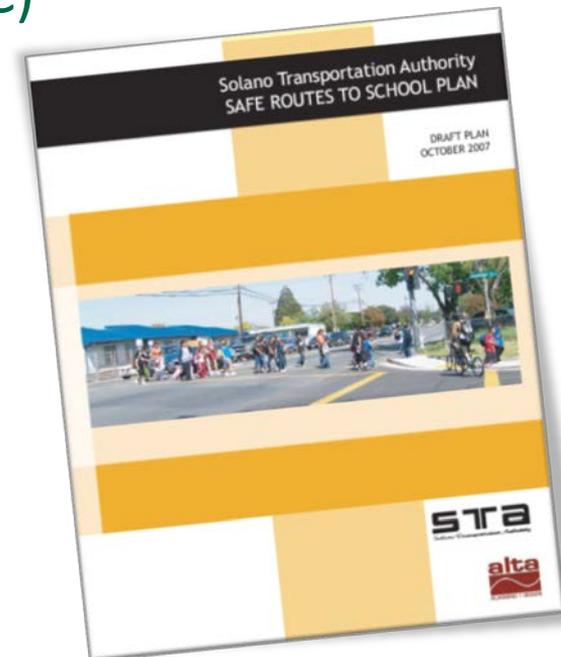
# Phase 3: STA Board Adoption



STA Committees reviewed countywide plan:

- SR2S Steering Committee
- Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)
- Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC)
- Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
- STA Board

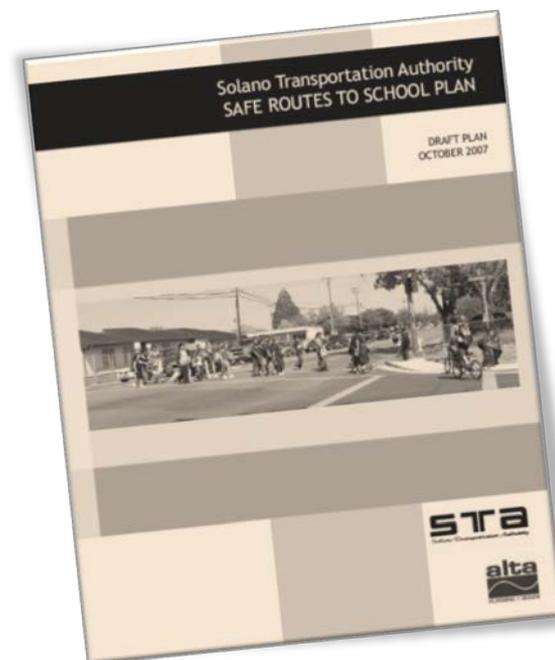
Feb 13, 2008 ADOPTION



# Draft Countywide Priorities



- Mostly Education and Encouragement activities.
  - Schools requested uniform educational materials and incentives/prizes
  - Countywide media campaigns
  - Suggested safe routes to school maps and classroom activities that teach to standards
  - Increased coordination efforts between schools, cities, law enforcement and engineering



# Walking Audit and Planning Events



## Two-part event

- Afternoon walking audit during school release
  - Available task force members observe safety issues
  - Photographs of identified issues provided for evening presentation
- Evening planning event
  - Presentation of SR2S project and program basics
  - Public reviews photographs from audit
  - Public plans projects and programs with large aerial maps and **SR2S Toolkits**.



# Events: What we learned



## Two-part event

- Afternoon walking audit during school release
  - Discussed hotspots with crossing guards/duties to take good photos
  - Carried event flyers for curious parents
- Evening planning event
  - OUTREACH!
  - Students love maps
  - Parents read flyers at Back to School nights and Open Houses, not take-home flyers



# Opportunity

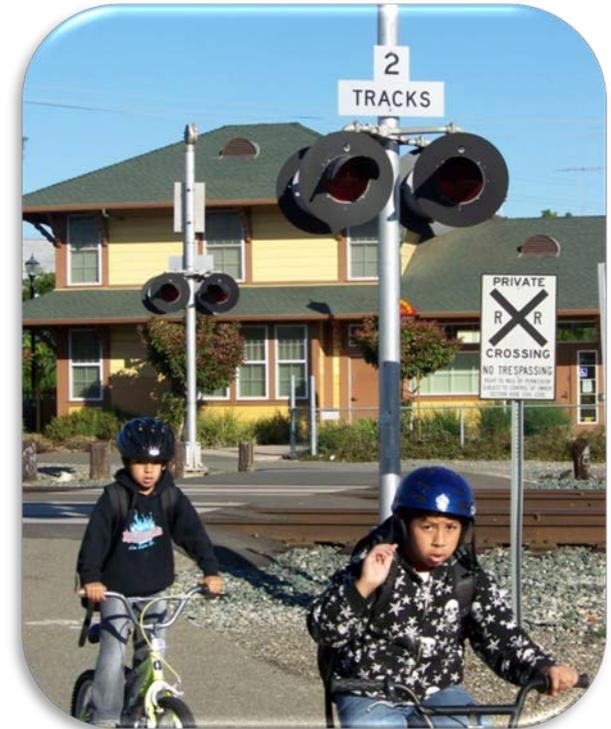


*“Opportunity is missed by most people, because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.”*

Thomas Edison



- 2 of 6 Dixon Unified School District schools selected by Dixon SR2S Advisory Committee to be part of 2008 STA SR2S Plan
- Improvements for Anderson Elementary
  - Widened sidewalk and adjusted crosswalks in front of school.
  - Funded by City of Dixon without grant funds.

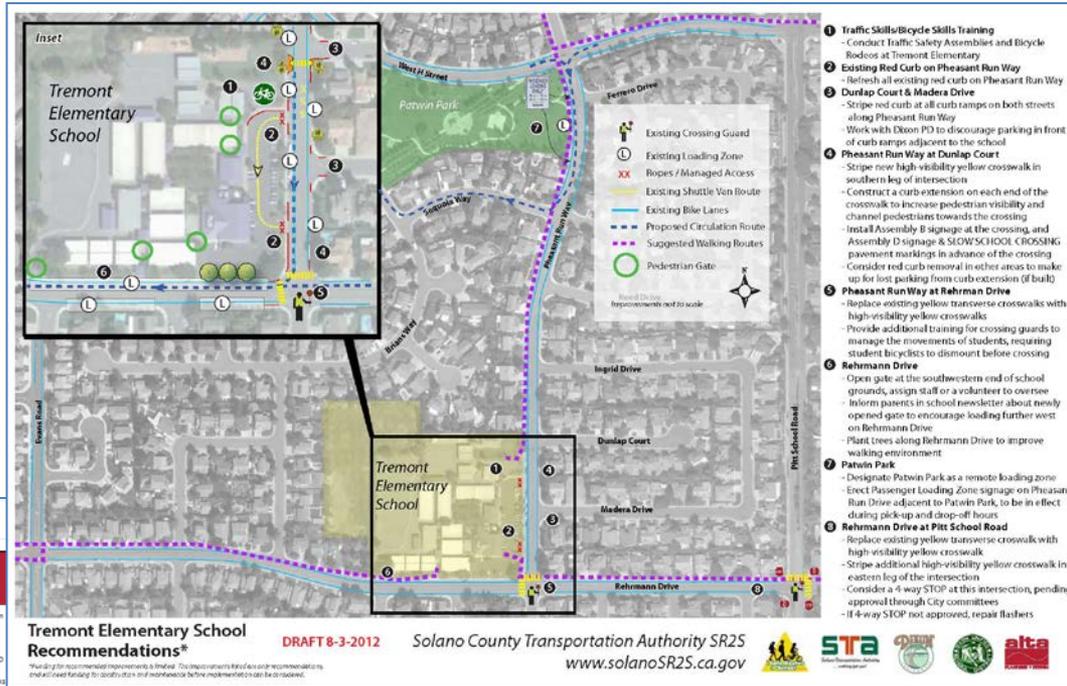




- SR-113 Flashing Crosswalk
  - \$90,000 through STA from ECMAQ/MTC
- West B. St Undercrossing at train tracks priority SR2S project.
- Spring 2010 events, 1 school, 2 events
- FY 2010-11, 1 school, 4 events
- **FY 2011-12, 1 school, 2 events**



# Dixon Community Plan



## Dixon - Safe Routes to School Capital Project List (DRAFT)

School District	School Name	Project ID # (from audit)	Project Description
Dixon Unified	C.A. Jacobs Intermediate	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construct curb extension along east side of N Lincoln Street</li> <li>• Replace transverse yellow crosswalks with high-visibility yellow ladder crosswalks</li> <li>• Restripe bike lanes on Rehmann Drive for CA MUTCD compliance</li> <li>• Tremont Elementary School High Visibility Crosswalks</li> </ul>
Dixon Unified	C.A. Jacobs Intermediate	4, Tremont 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replace existing yellow transverse crosswalk with high-visibility yellow crosswalk at Pitt School Road and Sabrin Drive</li> <li>• Stripe additional high-visibility yellow crosswalk in eastern leg of the intersection</li> <li>• Consider a 4-way STOP at this intersection, pending approval through City committees</li> <li>• If 4-way STOP not approved, repair flashers</li> <li>• Remove broken pedestrian-activated flashers</li> <li>• Consider feasibility of 4-way STOP warrant</li> </ul>
Dixon Unified	C.A. Jacobs Intermediate	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install overhead covering for bicycle parking</li> <li>• Install adult-sized inverted-U racks for parents on bicycle</li> </ul>
Dixon Unified	C.A. Jacobs Intermediate	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Train parent and student volunteers to assist loading</li> <li>• Consider closing parking lot with orange cones during loading times</li> <li>• Stripe yellow ladder crosswalks at east leg of N Lincoln St &amp; West B St</li> </ul>
Dixon Unified	C.A. Jacobs Intermediate	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install a gate in the fence break along north side of the pedestrian path, preventing pedestrian movement through the Silverville Montessori parking lot</li> </ul>
Dixon Unified	Tremont Elementary	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refresh all existing red curb on Phasants Run Way</li> </ul>
Dixon Unified	Tremont Elementary	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stripe red curb at all curb ramps on both Dunlap Court &amp; Madera Drive along Phasants Run Way</li> <li>• Work with Dixon PD to discourage parking in front of curb ramps adjacent to the school</li> </ul>
Dixon Unified	Tremont Elementary	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stripe new high-visibility yellow crosswalk in southern leg of intersection</li> <li>• Construct a curb extension on each end of the crosswalk to increase pedestrian visibility and channel pedestrians towards the crossing</li> <li>• Install Assembly B signage at the crossing, and Assembly D signage &amp; SLOW SCHOOL CROSSING pavement markings in advance of the crossing</li> <li>• Consider red curb removal in other areas to make up for lost parking from curb extension (if built)</li> </ul>
Dixon Unified	Tremont Elementary	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replace existing yellow transverse crosswalks with high-visibility yellow crosswalks</li> <li>• Provide additional training for crossing guards to manage the movements of students, requiring student bicycles to dismount before crossing</li> </ul>

Priority	Impact	Cost	Source	Notes
Medium	Medium	High	High	Medium
Medium	Medium	Low	Medium	Medium
Medium	Low	Medium	Low	Medium
Medium	Medium	High	Medium	Medium
Medium	Low	Medium	Low	Medium
Medium	Low	Medium	Low	Medium
Medium	Low	High	Low	High (Spain only)
Low	Low	High	Low	Medium
Low	Low	High	Low	Medium
Low	Low	High	Low	Medium



# Implementation by STA



- STA submitted countywide Safe Routes to School grant applications to 2 programs
- STA Safe Routes to School Program/Funding Strategy
  - Developed after the STA Board adopted the Countywide STA SR2S Plan in February 2008
- Created SR2S website



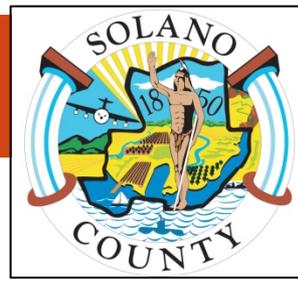
# Implementation by STA



- STA signed joint use agreements with all 7 cities and school districts
- STA developed funding for the Safe Routes to School Program
- STA provides and manages resources and coordinates 8 advisory committees



# Implementation by County



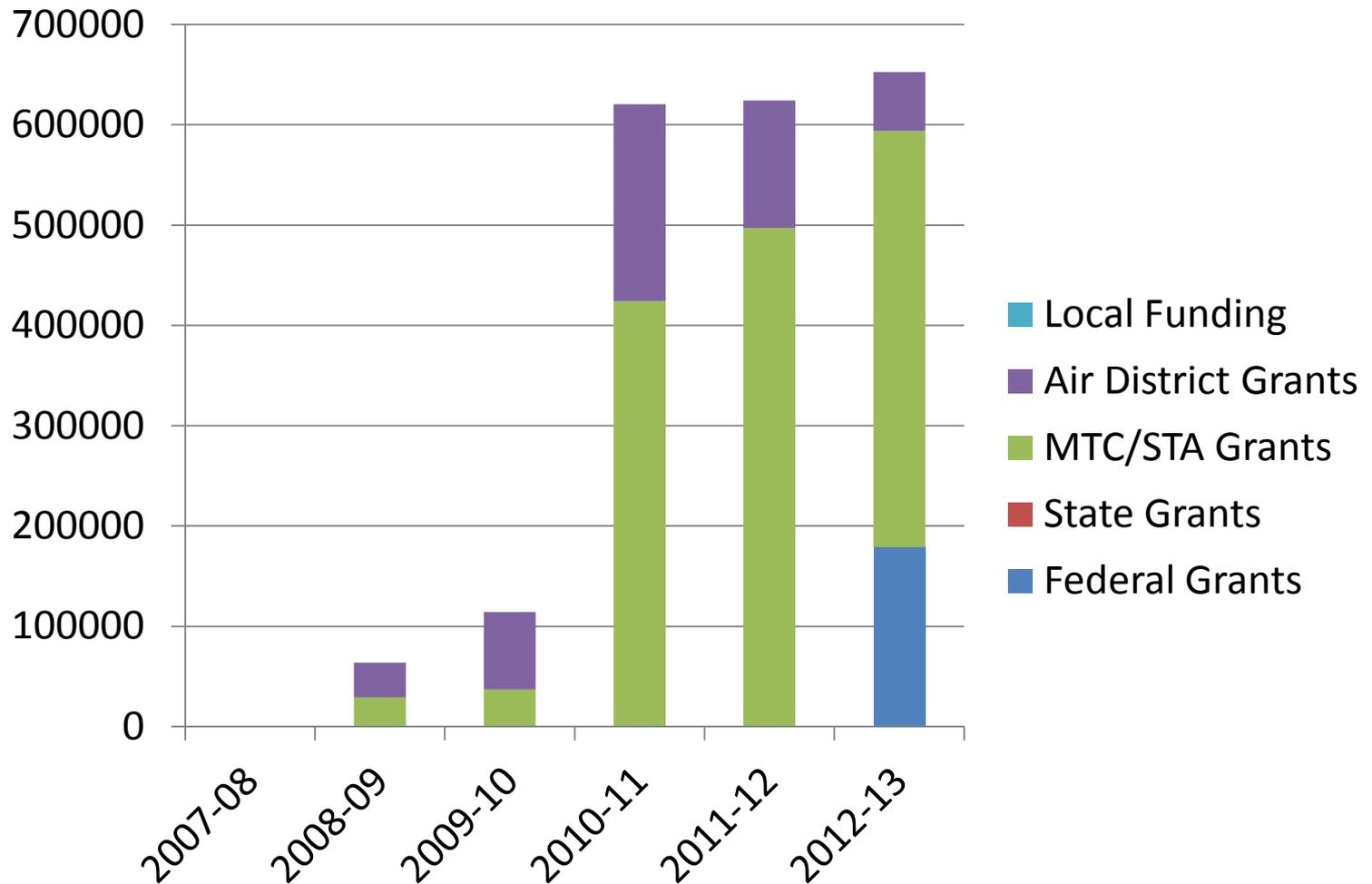
- Solano County Public Health implements education and encouragement part of program:
  - Dedicated staff to coordinate with schools and communities



# SR2S Program Funding



## STA SR2S Operations Expenditures by Grant



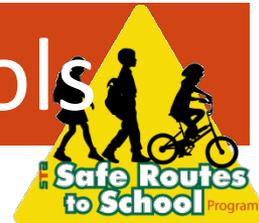
# Funding of SR2S Program



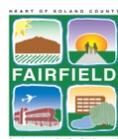
- \$3.96M total for non-infrastructure program since 2008
  - MTC/STA grants: \$2.90M
  - Federal SRTS grant: \$0.50M
  - Air District Grants: \$0.55M
  - No State or Local funding for STA non-infrastructure program
- \$10M in completed or developing SR2S engineering projects in the last 4 years
  - Compared to \$1.1M for engineering in the 10 years prior to the 2008 plan
  - \$1.2M requested for engineering for next 4 years (OBAG)



# Implementation by Cities and Schools



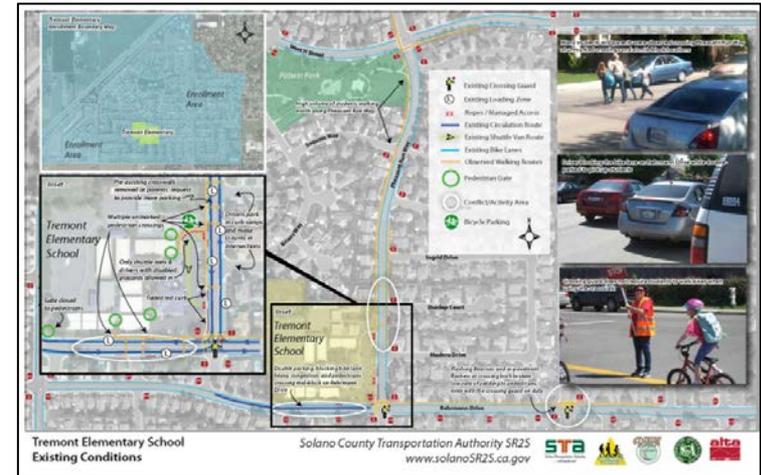
- School districts and cities sponsor projects
  - Most engineering projects are minor changes that don't require large grant funds.
- School districts work with County Public Health
  - Provide education and encouragement events
  - Revise site circulation patterns for parents
- Countywide student travel tally data is compiled by school districts to aid grant applications.
- City Councils and School Districts adopt community plans and make task forces permanent.



# Implementation by Dixon Schools



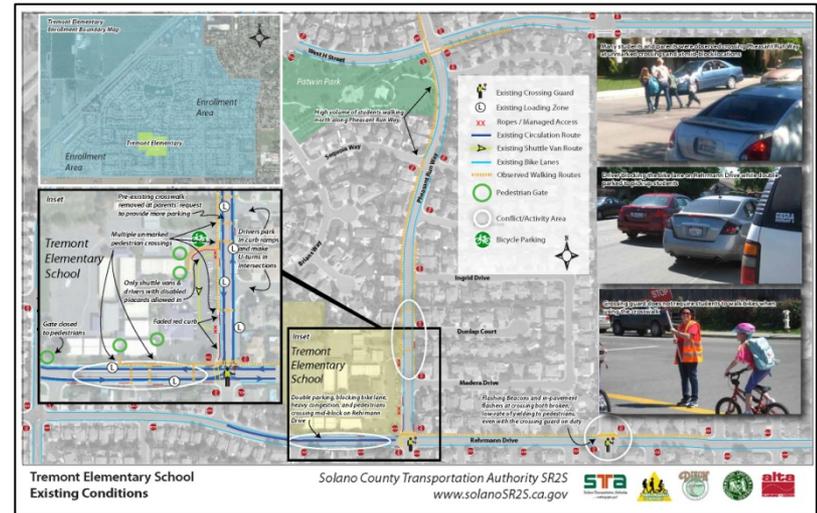
- Dixon Unified School District provides education and encouragement



# Implementation by Dixon



- Dixon Police Department provides targeted enforcement
- Dixon Public Works Department engineers projects



Teachers, here are simple instructions for using the form:

- Please contact your students to take their names to school on the day of the assigned walk.
- Before taking your students to take their names to school, the walk person that is correct for them.
- Ask your students to sign the number of students that come from their house for each.
- Please mark whether you observed the number of students that come from their house for each.
- Please mark the name of the person for the number. How do you plan to leave for home after school?
- Please contact the transportation department if you have any questions or need more forms.

Form 1: Fill in the number of students that come from their house for each.

Time	Number of Students	Name of Person	How do you plan to leave for home after school?
8:00 AM			
8:15 AM			
8:30 AM			
8:45 AM			
9:00 AM			
9:15 AM			
9:30 AM			
9:45 AM			
10:00 AM			
10:15 AM			
10:30 AM			
10:45 AM			
11:00 AM			
11:15 AM			
11:30 AM			
11:45 AM			
12:00 PM			
12:15 PM			
12:30 PM			
12:45 PM			
1:00 PM			
1:15 PM			
1:30 PM			
1:45 PM			
2:00 PM			
2:15 PM			
2:30 PM			
2:45 PM			
3:00 PM			
3:15 PM			
3:30 PM			
3:45 PM			
4:00 PM			
4:15 PM			
4:30 PM			
4:45 PM			
5:00 PM			
5:15 PM			
5:30 PM			
5:45 PM			
6:00 PM			
6:15 PM			
6:30 PM			
6:45 PM			
7:00 PM			
7:15 PM			
7:30 PM			
7:45 PM			
8:00 PM			
8:15 PM			
8:30 PM			
8:45 PM			
9:00 PM			
9:15 PM			
9:30 PM			
9:45 PM			
10:00 PM			
10:15 PM			
10:30 PM			
10:45 PM			
11:00 PM			
11:15 PM			
11:30 PM			
11:45 PM			
12:00 AM			

Comments: Please fill in any comments to help identify the school on the day of the walk.

Thank you for helping gather!



# Dixon Accomplishments



## EDUCATION/ENCOURAGEMENT

FY 2011-12, 1 school (Anderson Elementary)

2 events (Bike Rodeo, Walk & Roll)

## ENGINEERING

- 2 of 6 schools part of STA's SR2S Plan Update (CA Jacobs/Tremont Elementary)
- Dixon's SR2S planning process is conducted by its SR2S Community Task Force Members (Mayor, Law Enforcement, Civil Engineer, Chief Business Official, PAC member)

## PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

- West B. St Undercrossing at train tracks priority project (\$6.7M through STA)

## IMPROVEMENTS FOR CA JACOBS

- 4-way stop installed on Pitt School Road
- Flashing Beacons installed on North Almond and Adams/B. Street



# Dixon Accomplishments



## 2008 STA SR2S PLAN

- 2 of 6 schools part of 2008 STA SR2S Plan (Anderson/Tremont Elementary)

## IMPROVEMENTS FOR CA JACOBS

- Widened sidewalk and adjusted crosswalks in front of school (Funded by City of Dixon without grant funds).
- SR-113 Flashing Crosswalk \$90,000 funded through STA



# Countywide Accomplishments



## EDUCATION/ENCOURAGEMENT

- FY 2011-12, 55 events were held reaching 12,811 students
- 1 walking school bus was started at Markham Elementary School, which includes an ongoing parent training program

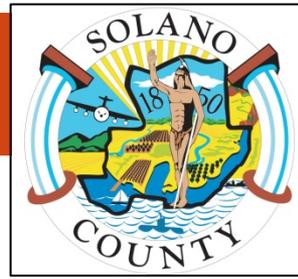
## ENFORCEMENT

*Through the \$100,000 STA SR2S Enforcement grant:*

- Maximum enforcement was provided to 7 schools in Fairfield-Suisun School District
  - 47 citations, 63 warnings were issued and 3 vehicles were towed as a result of enforcement*
- Suisun City PD developed a countywide crossing guard manual and test/Bike Rodeo DVD



# Countywide Accomplishments



## ENGINEERING

- 22 Community Task Force meetings were held (between 7 Community Task Forces countywide) and 17 walk audits were conducted for the SR2S Plan Update.
- Interactive mapping tool was developed for the SR2S website.
- Expected completion date for the SR2S Plan Update: November 2012.

## COMPLETED PROJECTS

- 30 Radar speed signs were installed countywide.
- Improvements were made at five schools.

## PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

- Two priority projects in process in Dixon and Suisun City.



# Partnership = Success



- Everyone in SR2S partnership plays an important role in the program's success



**SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL**  
**STUDENT ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TALLY SHEET**

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ # of students enrolled in class: \_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Monday's Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
School's Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Used to identify location conditions

Teachers, here are simple instructions for using this form:

- Please contact your county clerk at the top right of the assigned week.
- Before asking your students to enter their number to complete the survey, please be certain to correct for them.
- Make sure all students are present in this roll book at school today!
- Ask your students to enter the number of students that leave from your class.
- Please note and record the number of students that leave from your class.
- Please be sure to provide the number of students that leave from your class.
- Please be sure to provide the number of students that leave from your class.

Using this form, the teacher will record the number of students that arrive at school on the date listed.	Using this form, the teacher will record the number of students that leave from school on the date listed.
Arrived at school on the date listed.	Left school on the date listed.
Roll Book	Roll Book
Number of students that arrived at school on the date listed.	Number of students that left school on the date listed.
Mon AM	
Mon PM	
Tue AM	
Tue PM	
Wed AM	
Wed PM	
Thu AM	
Thu PM	
Fri AM	
Fri PM	

Comments: Please fill out any comments in these courts or any additional State conditions before the end of the day of the SR2S.

Thank you for helping gather this information!



# Partnership = Success



SR2S Bike Rodeo equipment is loaned out:

- Travis Air Force Base leads safety events for their on-base community
- NorthBay Medical Center leads safety events in the communities they serve



# Partnership = Success



The success of the SR2S Programs in Solano, Marin and Alameda counties have led to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission dedicating federal transportation funds to each of the 9 Bay Area counties for SR2S



# Partnership = Success



*“Alone we can do so little,  
together we can do so much.”*

Helen Keller



# More Information



More information online: [www.SolanoSR2S.ca.gov](http://www.SolanoSR2S.ca.gov)  
[www.facebook.com/solanoSR2S](http://www.facebook.com/solanoSR2S)



- Jack Batchelor, Jr., STA Board Chair, Mayor, City of Dixon
- Daryl K. Halls, Executive Director, Solano Transportation Authority

[www.sta.ca.gov](http://www.sta.ca.gov)

707-424-6075