



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION P.O. Box 600 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0600

CHRIS CHRISTIE Governor

KIM GUADAGNO Lt. Governor

March 11, 2014

Re: Safe Routes to School Request for Applications

Dear Applicant:

On behalf of Governor Chris Christie, I am pleased to announce that applications are being accepted for the 2014 Safe Routes to School Program (SRTS). The SRTS program is funded through the Federal Highway Administration's Federal Aid Program and is being administered by the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), in partnership with the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA), the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC), and the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization (SJTPO).

The objectives of the SRTS Program are:

- To enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school;
- To make bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, thereby encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age; and
- To facilitate the development and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity of New Jersey's primary and middle schools (Grades K-8).

Projects must be located within two miles of a school that serves students in grades K-8. Funding for the 2014 SRTS Program will be available for the construction of infrastructure projects only. Infrastructure projects may include the installation of sidewalks, crosswalks, bike lanes, multi-use paths, traffic calming measures, and other means to ensure the ease and safety of children walking or biking to school.

For this solicitation, Urban Aid Communities determined by the Department of Community Affairs, and municipalities containing Schools Development Authority (SDA) Districts outlined by the Educational Facilities Construction and Financing Act, may apply for design as well as construction funds.

Any municipality, school district, or county is eligible to apply for funding. Non-profit organizations are not eligible as direct grant recipients for this solicitation.

JAMES S. SIMPSON Commissioner However, non-profit organizations may partner with a local public agency that will assume responsibility and administration for the grant.

As with all federally funded programs, the funds will be disbursed on a reimbursement basis. The award of SRTS grants will be contingent upon the recipient's ability to comply with all applicable federal financial management, project implementation, and oversight regulations. Before applying, applicants should assess their capability to comply with state and federal requirements for the administration of federal-aid highway grants set forth in Title 23 - Highways, 48 CFR-Federal Acquisition Regulation; and 49 CFR 18-the Common Grant Rule.

Public rights-of-way and facilities are required to be accessible for all users through the statutes regardless of funding source. Recipients of federal and state grants will be required to comply with the provisions of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Applications for the SRTS Program are due on or before May 15, 2014 and must be submitted online through NJDOT SAGE at:

https://enterprisegrantapps.state.nj.us/NJSAGE/

Additional information on the SRTS Program is available at:

http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/business/localaid/srts.shtm

I recommend that you consult your Local Aid District Office and your corresponding Metropolitan Planning Organization for assistance in preparing applications for this program. Contact information is included.

Please take advantage of this opportunity to improve the safety of New Jersey's school children. I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

James S. Simpson

James S. Simpson Commissioner

Enclosure

c Municipal Clerk Municipal Engineer County Engineer