



# TEXAS PEDESTRIAN SAFETY COALITION

TPSC Meeting  
March 23, 2022



# Agenda

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10:00 – 10:10: Welcome and Introductions

10:10 – 10:15: Upcoming Events

10:15 – 10:45: NCTCOG Safe Routes to School

- Shawn Conrad, North Central Texas Council of Governments

10:45 – 11:15: Youth Transportation Safety Update

- Gabriella Kolodzy, Texas A&M Transportation Institute

11:15 – 11:30: Stakeholder Updates

11:30: Adjourn



# Upcoming Events

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- Coalition Meetings
- Webinars
- Annual Pedestrian Safety Forum



# Upcoming Coalition Meetings

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- March 23, 2022, 10:00 – 11:30
  - Youth Transportation Safety
  - Safe Routes to School
- June 22, 2022, 10:00 – 11:30
  - Pedestrian safety and public health
  - TBD
- September 13, 2022, 10:00 – 11:30
  - Forum wrap up
  - Upcoming grant year activities
  - TBD



# Webinars

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- Tuesday, April 26, 2022, 12:00 – 1:00
  - Statewide Active Transportation Plan Inventory
    - Noah Heath, Texas Department of Transportation
- Tuesday, May 24, 2022, 10:00 – 1:00
  - Pedestrian Safety Funding
    - Josh Peterman, Fehr and Peers
    - Matthew Ridgeway, Fehr and Peers
- July 13, 2022, 12:00 – 1:00
  - Pedestrian Safety and Impairment
    - Speakers TBD



# Annual Pedestrian Safety Forum

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- Thursday, August 4, 2022
  - Intent is for event to be in-person with virtual option
  - TTI will defer to state and local guidelines regarding pandemic
- Call for presenters and/or session ideas is open:
  - <https://www.texaspedafety.org/call-for-presenters-2022-texas-pedestrian-safety-forum/>



# Annual Pedestrian Safety Forum



## Session Topic Ideas:

- Metrics associated with enhancements in street safety (i.e., changes in crash/fatality rates associated with changes in street design and/or driver/pedestrian behavior).
- Working with local decision makers to apply safer policies and funding priorities.
- Crash Modification Factors (CMF) development for ped and bike crashes.
- Proven and innovative countermeasures and engineering solutions
- Implementing countermeasures equitably
- Design guidelines for usability, not just compliance
- Solutions and innovative approaches to pedestrian safety from other countries.
- Overcoming public education and enforcement challenges
- Pedestrian safety for youth
- School zone safety



# Annual Pedestrian Safety Forum



## Session Topic Ideas (cont.):

- Law enforcement challenges and adaptations associated with the new pedestrian safety laws starting September 1, 2021.
- Policy and funding changes that are needed to support Road to Zero/Vision Zero goals.
- Discussions about trials/deployment of autonomous tech trials and pedestrian safety topics
- Creating off-system arterial corridors for ped/bikes
- Level of Comfort Analysis for Pedestrians
- How to measure functionality of infrastructure network for all abilities (above and beyond ADA minimums)
- Speed Management policies
- Consistent hands free / distracted driving policies for the entire state
- Equity implications of pedestrian safety initiatives







NCTCOG PRESENTATION

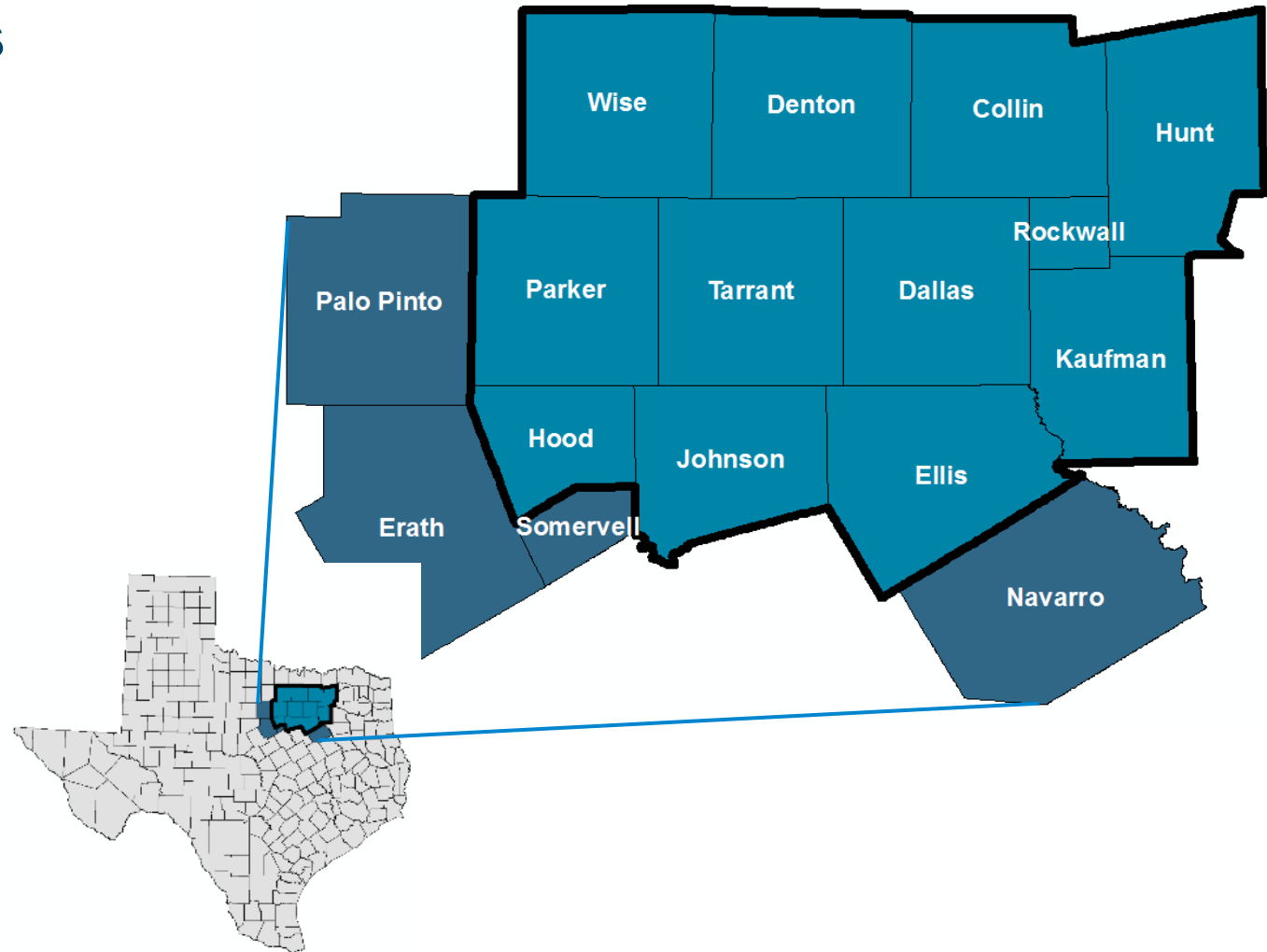
# SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL IN NORTH TEXAS

SHAWN CONRAD  
TEXAS PEDESTRIAN SAFETY COALITION MEETING  
3.23.22

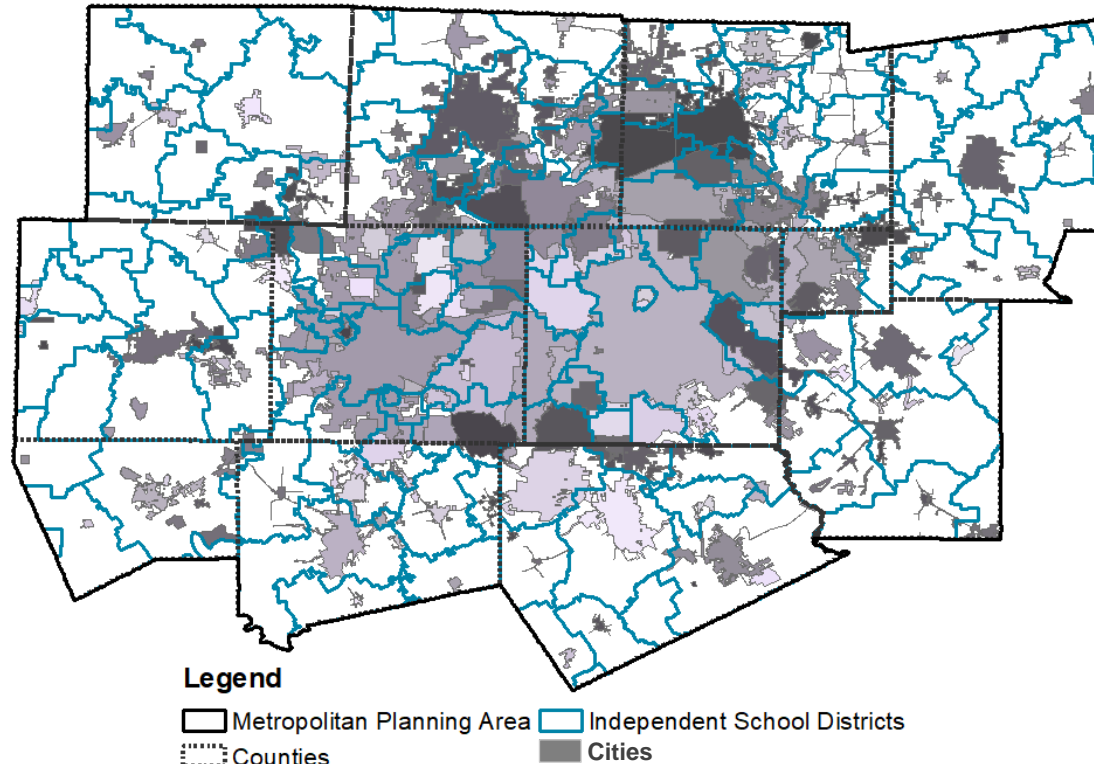
# North Central Texas Council of Governments

 **North Central Texas  
Council of  
Governments  
(NCTCOG) Region**  
(16 counties)

 **Metropolitan  
Planning Area  
(MPA)**  
(12 counties)



# Metropolitan Planning Area Statistics

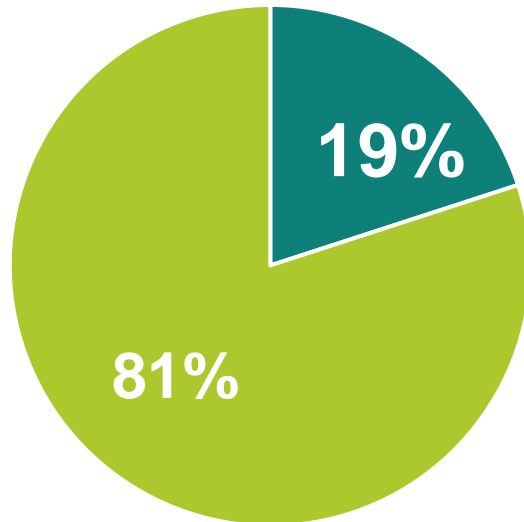


- » **9,300** square miles  
(larger than the states of New Hampshire, New Jersey, Connecticut, Delaware, and Rhode Island)
- » **>7.7 million** people
- » **252** cities
- » **143** Independent School Districts (ISDs)

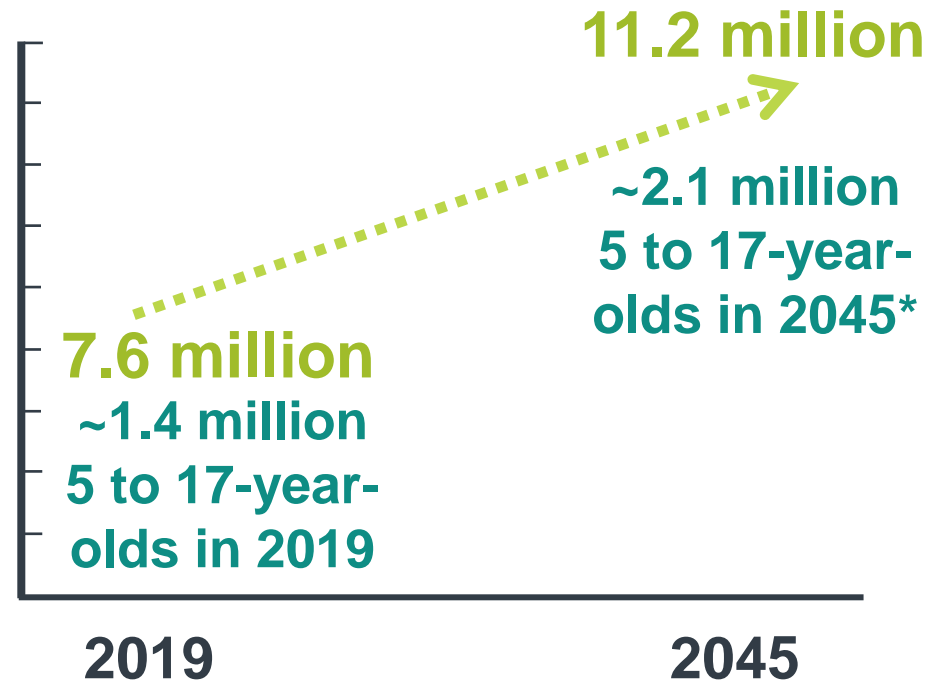


# Population Growth in the Region

**2019 Population**  
(12-County MPA)



- 5-17 Age Group
- All Other Ages



\*Assuming proportion of 5-17-year-olds will remain 19% in 2045

» ***How will we accommodate the increase of students?***



# Regional Transportation Council Policy Supporting School Districts

## Active Transportation:

Advocate for:

- Safe Routes to School Program
- Precious Cargo Program
- Transportation Alternatives Program

## Outreach & Engagement:

- Engage students to design the cover of Progress North Texas
- Advocate for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields



## School Siting:

- Pilot school siting Programs
- School bus stop coordination
- Technical assistance for school districts

## Air Quality:

- RTC Clean Fleet Vehicle Policy
- Clean school bus Programs
- Energy audit Programs
- Vehicle idling-reduction Programs
- Air quality-friendly contracting initiatives





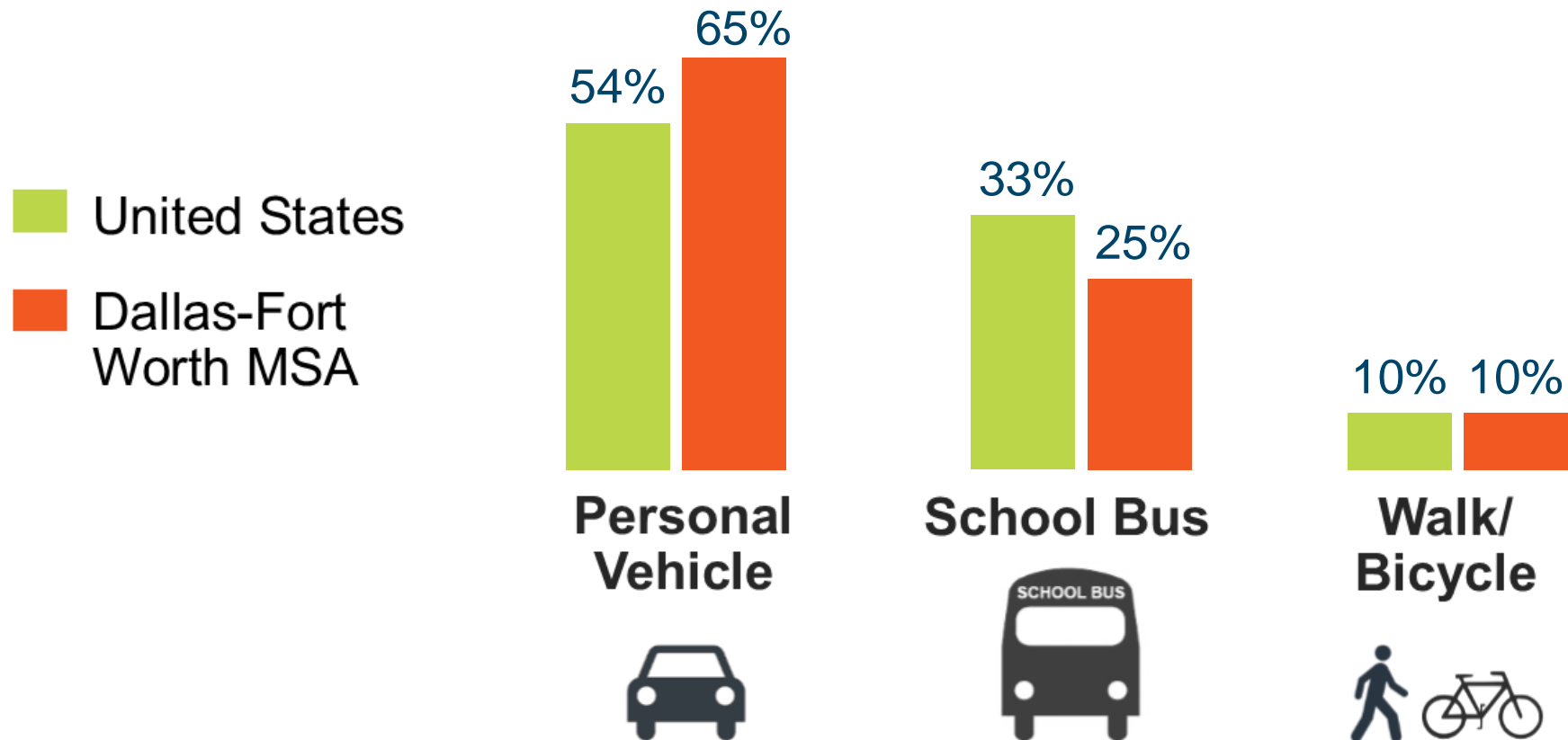
# Why Do We Need Safe Routes to School Programs?

- Reduction of students walking and biking to school in favor of commuting via private vehicle in past 50 years
  - Vehicle trips to K-12 schools now account for 10-14% of traffic during the morning commute
- Easier, safer routes for students to walk and bike to school
- Healthier students from increased exercise
- Reduce school transportation costs, reduce need for hazard busing
- Household cost savings from reduced gas and car use

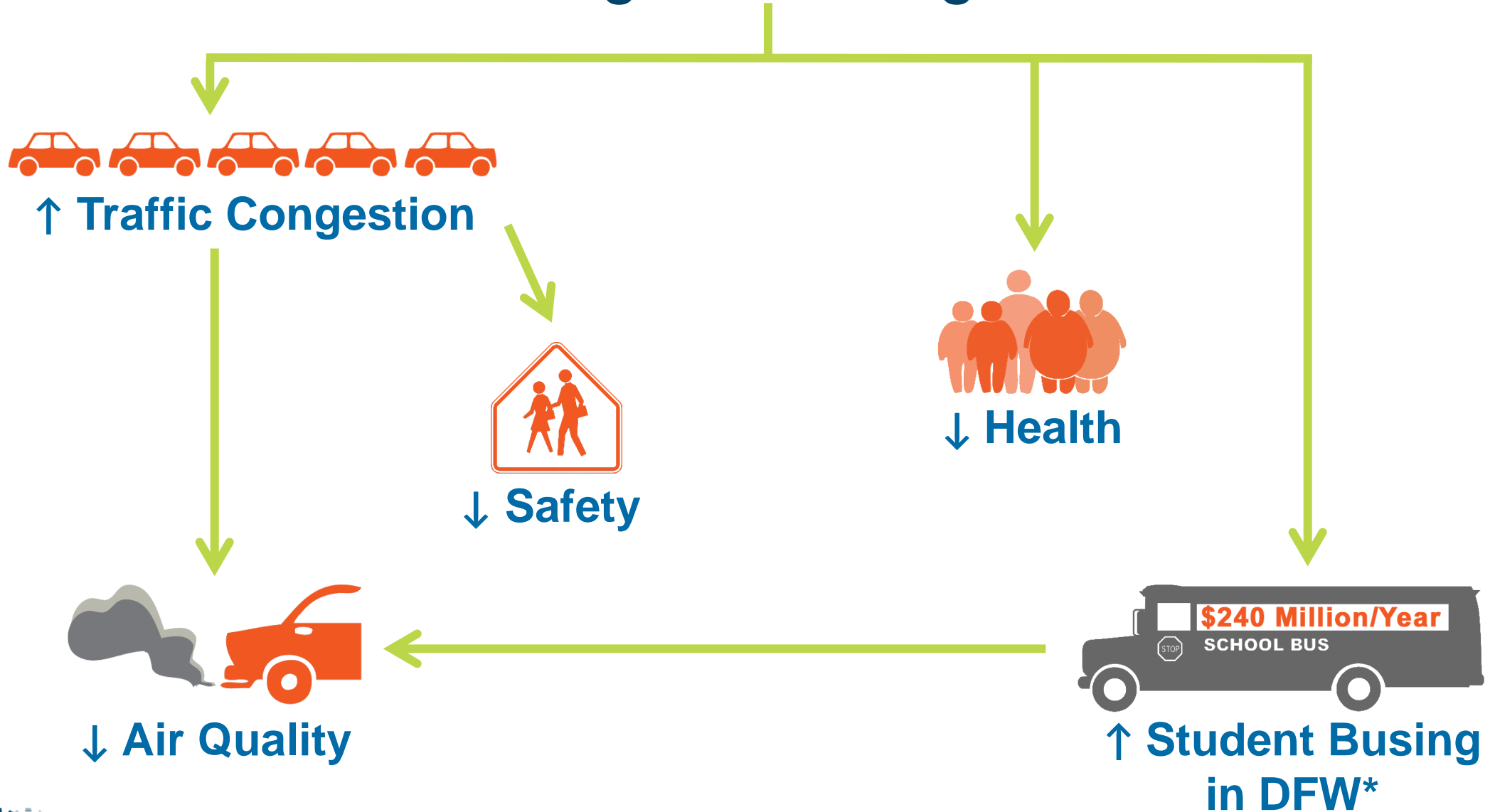


# Decline in Walking and Biking to School

## 2017 Mode Share



# Less Walking and Biking to School



*\*Source: Texas Comptroller, 2014.*



# Barriers to Walking/Biking to School

2005 CDC Survey of parents on barriers that prevented them from allowing their children to walk to school

- Distance to School: 61.5%
- Traffic-related danger: 30.4%
- Weather: 18.6%
- Crime Danger: 11.7%
- Opposing School Policy: 6%



Photo Courtesy of the City of Fort Worth



# Children's Physical Activity

The CDC recommends that children and adolescents ages 6-17 do 60+ minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity every day

- Only **24%** of children 6-17 meet this guidance

Students who are physically active tend to have better grades, school attendance, cognitive performance, and classroom behaviors





# The 5 E's of SRTS

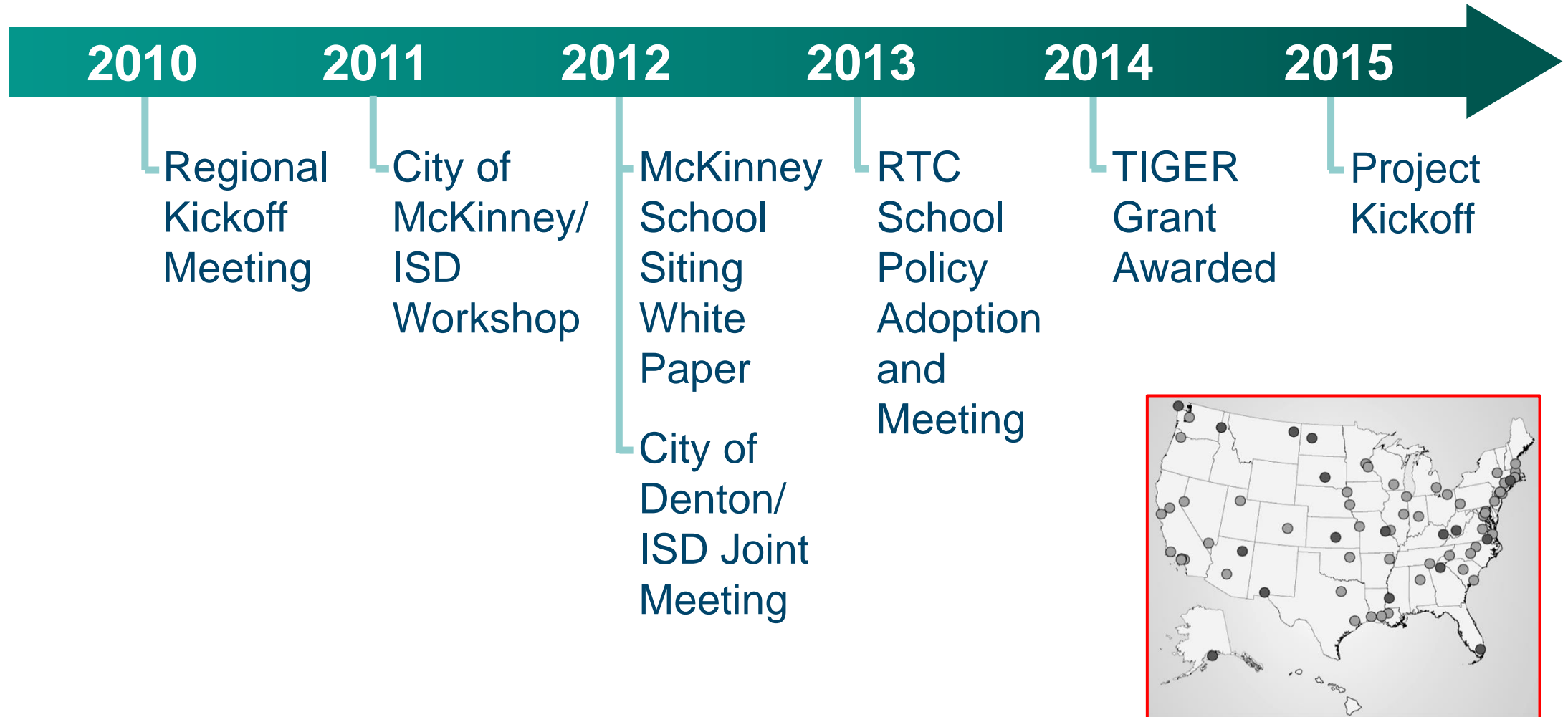
1. Engineering
2. Education
3. Enforcement
4. Encouragement
5. Evaluation



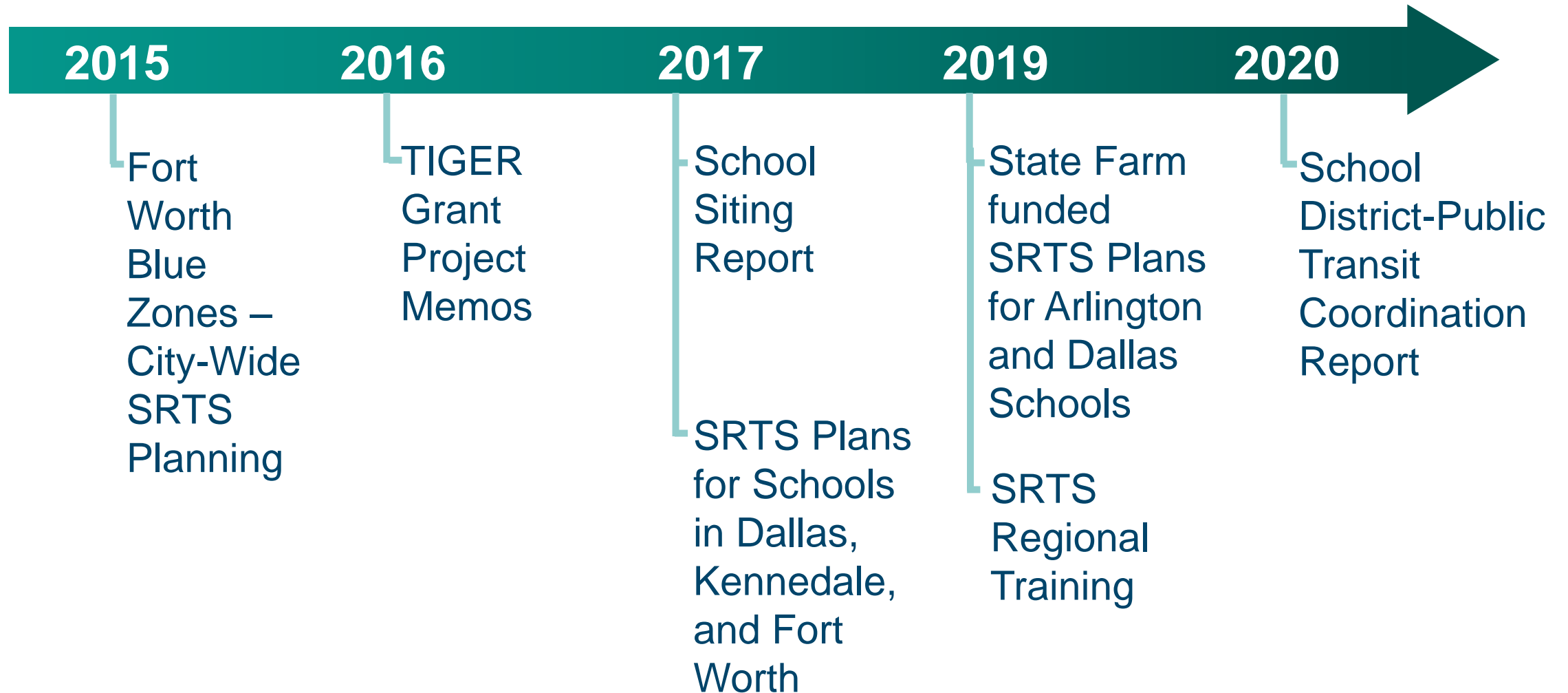
# NCTCOG Safe Routes to School Initiatives



# Sustainable Development: Previous Initiatives



# Sustainable Development: Previous Initiatives, Part 2





# Work Products

## **School District - Public Transit Coordination in the Dallas-Fort Worth Region:**

- Information and tools for building partnerships between school districts and local public transit agencies

## **Planning for Community-Oriented Schools: A Guide To School Siting in North Texas**

- Methods for advancing long-term planning for school siting and building community-oriented schools

## **Memos**

- Coordinating Demographic Projections
- Review of State Legislation and Policies Related to School Siting Requirements
- Land Banking Programs and Best Practices Research

## **Safe Routes to School Plans**

- Dallas, Kennedale, Fort Worth

All Work Products posted at [www.nctcog.org/saferoutestoschool](http://www.nctcog.org/saferoutestoschool) and [www.nctcog.org/schoolsiting](http://www.nctcog.org/schoolsiting)



# State Farm SRTS Plan Grants: 2018

## Grant prioritized schools with:

- >80% of students designated as economically disadvantaged
- At least one crash in the school's vicinity
- No previous SRTS funding

## SRTS Plans:

- Evaluate existing conditions and provide recommendations to improve student safety and comfort walking/bicycling to school

## Plans Created:

- Combined South Dallas Plan: Salazar Elementary, Cowart Elementary, and Stockard Middle School
- Arlington: Speer Elementary Plan and Webb Elementary Plan

Posted at [www.nctcog.org/saferoutestoschool](http://www.nctcog.org/saferoutestoschool)





# Funding Opportunities for SRTS

Transportation Alternatives Call for Projects (TA CFP): Approximately every three years

Previous TA CFP Funding:

- 2020: \$7 million to 7 SRTS projects
- 2017: \$12.2 million to 22 SRTS projects
- 2014: \$5.7 million to 13 SRTS Projects

Summer 2022: Anticipated Call for Projects



# NCTCOG Policy Bundle: Joint Coordination

The NCTCOG Policy Bundle is a voluntary list of policies local governments and transportation agencies can choose to adopt in exchange for Transportation Development Credits.

## Schools Coordination:

“Engage TxDOT, the city, and all Independent School Districts within their jurisdiction to collaborate on topics related to school siting and safety.”



# Current and Upcoming Activities/Initiatives



# Technical Assistance

- Safe Routes to School Plan Development (UPWP)
- Safe Routes to School Project Implementation
- School Siting Planning
- General Information and Educational Presentations to Boards/Councils





# Safe Routes to School Regional Action Plan

- Summarize SRTS activities in the region to date, provide analysis of trends and need for SRTS
- Develop recommendations for SRTS programs in different land-use contexts in the region
- Support City SRTS efforts
- Create a framework for prioritizing funding in the region
- Plan in progress, expected 2022



# Walk To School Day Promotion

- Celebrates benefits of walking and bicycling
- NCTCOG provided planning resources and free prizes to participating schools
- 5,129 Walk to School events were held in 2019
  - >95 Schools in North Texas participated in 2019
- Walk to School Day promotion assistance returning for October 2022 Walk to School Day



Photo Courtesy of the City of Fort Worth





# Education

## Upcoming Workshops:

- Planning Street Networks for Fiscal Sustainability: Safe Routes to School Series Webinar 2 (Summer 2022)
- RTC Community Schools and Transportation Workshop (2022)

## Previous Workshops:

- Subdivision Planning and Street Connectivity Webinar – First in Planning for Safe Routes to School Series (January 2022)
- Building Schools, Building Communities: A School Siting and Collaboration Workshop (February 2019)



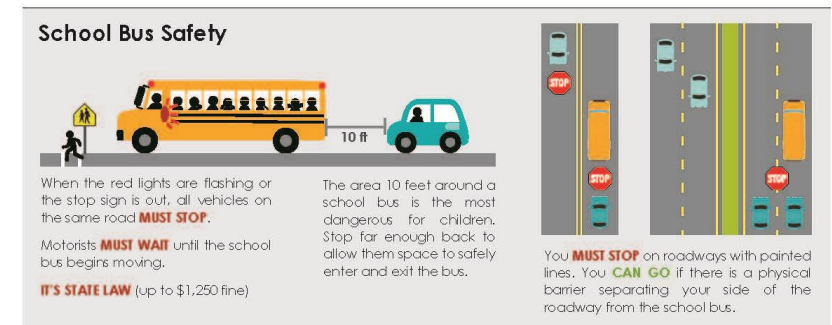
# Education/Outreach Materials

SRTS and Safety Materials, Tools for Parents/Schools ([www.nctcog.org/saferoutestoschool](http://www.nctcog.org/saferoutestoschool), [www.nctcog.org/schoolsiting](http://www.nctcog.org/schoolsiting))

- SRTS Brochure
- Tips for Safe Bicycling and Walking
- School Zone Safety Tips
- Other Resources
  - Safe Routes to School National Partnership
  - Local Examples
  - EPA Smart School Siting Tool

Look Out Texans Program ([www.lookouttexans.org](http://www.lookouttexans.org))

- Safety tips for walking, biking, and driving safely
- School Resources: lesson plans, educational videos (TEKS)





# Contact Us



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# Impacting Safety Culture



23 March 2022



# About YTS

The Youth Transportation Safety Program's vision is to ensure that America's youth live long and healthy lives through safe practices on our transportation system.



PEER-TO-PEER



BEHAVIOR FOCUSED



COLLABORATIVE



YEAR ROUND






# CAR CRASHES

are a leading cause of injury  
and death for teens in the U.S.

NHTSA





Annual teen crash deaths  
is equivalent to a school bus full of teens  
crashing every week.



Driver inexperience  
is the #1 contributor for teen crashes.



**DISTRACTIONS**



**NIGHT  
DRIVING**



**SPEEDING**



**SEAT  
BELTS**



**IMPAIRED  
DRIVING**

NSC

## Trucks & Buses

Trucks and buses are extremely large, travel long distances, and deliver the goods we need. In 2018, 5,096 large trucks and buses were involved in fatal crashes, a 1-percent increase from 2017.

Source: FMCSA 2018



## Bicyclists & Pedestrians

Every 88 minute a pedestrian is killed in the U.S. Texas is ranked among the top 3 states for pedestrian fatalities and bicyclist fatalities.

Source: NHTSA 2019



## Trains & Tracks

About every three hours, a trespasser or highway user is hit by a train. In 2019, there were nearly 2,216 railroad crossing incidents and approximately 293 deaths.

Source: Union Pacific Cares 2019



# Sharing the Road



# But there is more...



Inexperience

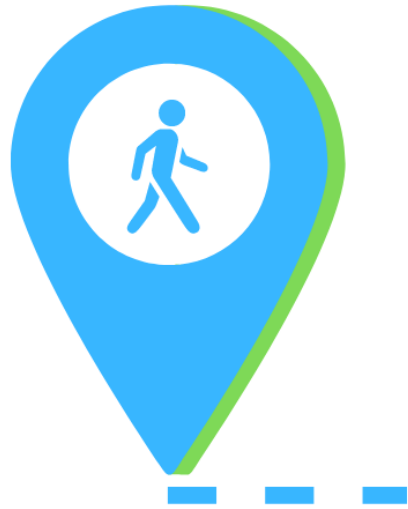


Risky Behavior



Respect





# STREET SMARTS



TO RESPECT THE RULES OF THE ROAD



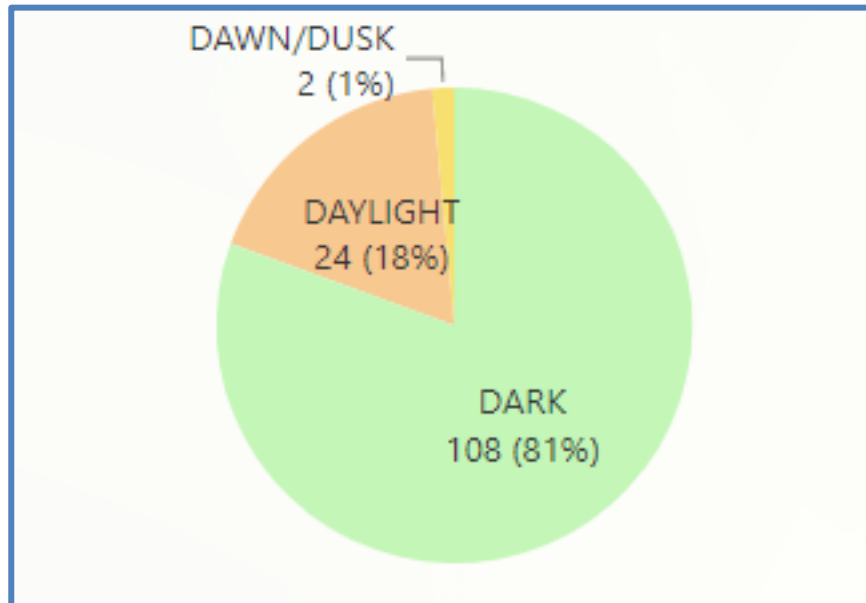
ESTABLISHED STATEWIDE 2020



# The Problem

- 135 teen pedestrian fatalities (14-18 yrs old) between 2015-2020, in Texas.  
(TXDOT CRIS)
- Texas is ranked among the top 3 states for pedestrian fatalities.  
(NHTSA, 2019)

## Lighting Conditions



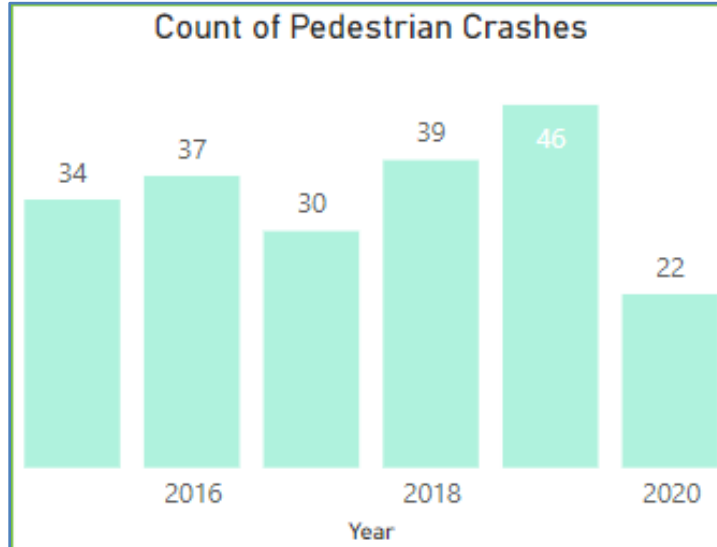
## Teen Pedestrian Crash Locations, 2020



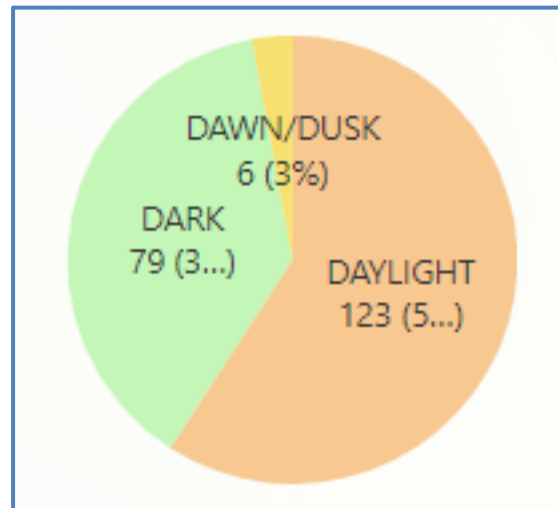
# The Problem

- 22 teen pedestrian-involved crashes (14-18 yrs old) in 2020 in Austin TxDOT district (**TXDOT CRIS**).
- 11 teen fatalities in Austin TxDOT District in 2015-2020.

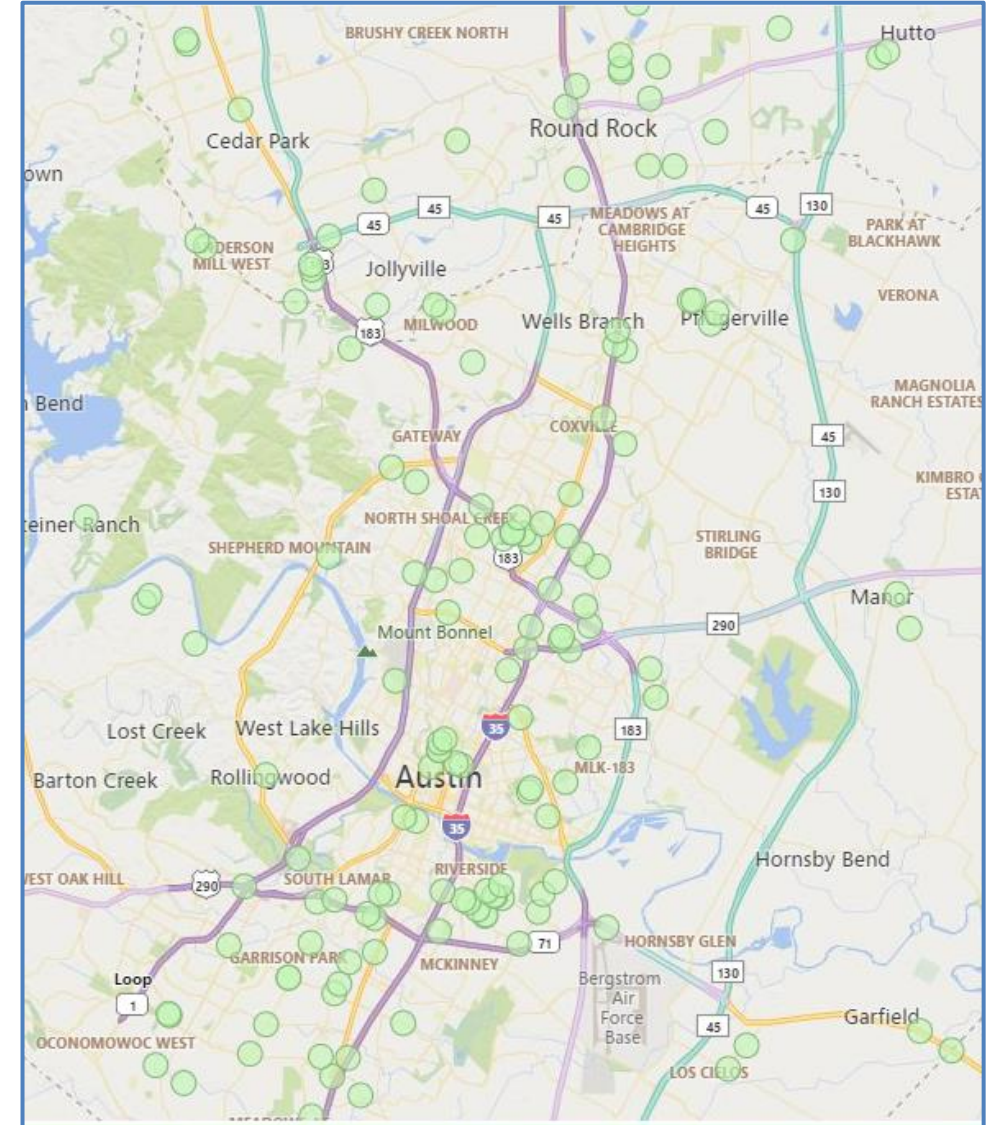
## 14-18 yr old Fatal Crashes



## All Injury Lighting Conditions



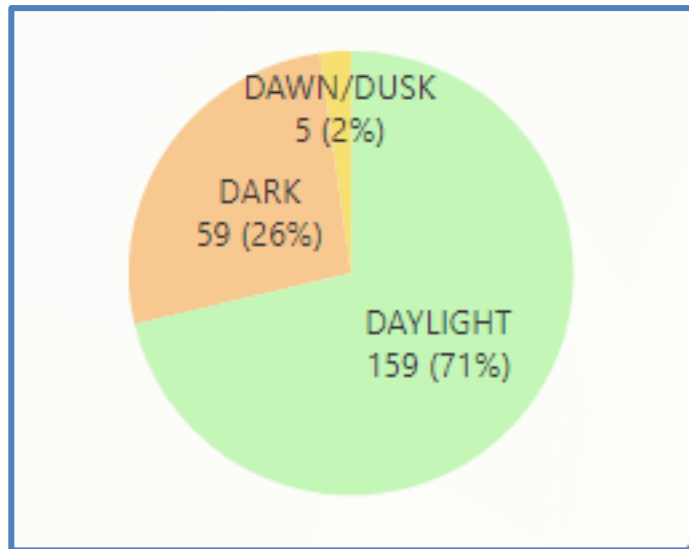
## 208 Teen Pedestrian Crash Locations Austin TxDOT District, 2015-2020



# The Problem

- Texas is ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the U.S. for bicyclist fatalities (NHTSA, 2019)
- 28 teen cyclist fatalities (14-18 yrs old) from 2015-2020.
- In 2020, there were 223 teen cyclists involved crashes in Texas.

## Lighting Conditions



## Teen Cyclist Crash Locations, Texas 2020



***IT'S TIME TO***

***BE THE  
CHANGE***



PEER LEADERSHIP



# About Teens in the Driver Seat

FREE  
SIGN UP  
FOR TDS!

The screenshot displays the website for the Teens in the Driver Seat (TDS) program. The browser's address bar shows the URL [t-driver.com](http://t-driver.com). The page features a green header with navigation links: "Know the Risks", "Be Involved", "Take Action", "Events & Contests", "You in the Driver Seat App", and "About Us". A secondary navigation bar includes the text "Text iDrive to 31996 for text messages." and social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube. The main content area has a blue banner with the text "ONLINE RESOURCES" and "TRAFFIC SAFETY RESOURCES FOR DISTANCE LEARNING". Below this, a green box contains the text "Be the change in Teen Traffic Safety. Start saving lives today. Sign up to start a Teens in the Driver Seat program at your school! How does the program work? It's simple." The page is divided into three columns: "WE PROVIDE INFO + MATERIALS", "YOU SHARE WITH YOUR FRIENDS", and "YOUR SCHOOL WINS CASH". At the bottom, there are three featured sections: "TDS News" with a "OCTOBER UPDATE VIDEO", "Events & Activities" with an "EXTRA MILE SENIOR PROJECT", and "New Resources" with a video titled "BE EMPOWERED DISTRACTED DRIVING".

385 + New Edit Page Insights Events Copy to a new draft Howdy, Stacey Tisdale

Know the Risks Be Involved Take Action Events & Contests You in the Driver Seat App About Us

Text iDrive to 31996 for text messages.

**TEENS IN THE DRIVER SEAT**

**ONLINE RESOURCES**  
TRAFFIC SAFETY RESOURCES FOR DISTANCE LEARNING

Be the change in Teen Traffic Safety. Start saving lives today. Sign up to start a Teens in the Driver Seat program at your school! How does the program work? It's simple.

**WE PROVIDE INFO + MATERIALS** **YOU SHARE WITH YOUR FRIENDS** **YOUR SCHOOL WINS CASH**

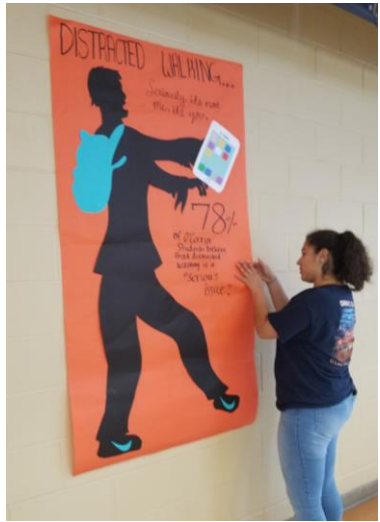
**TDS News**  
**OCTOBER UPDATE VIDEO**

**Events & Activities**  
**EXTRA MILE SENIOR PROJECT**

**New Resources**  
**BE EMPOWERED DISTRACTED DRIVING**

t-driver.com

# Interactive Activities



Bingo  
Conduct

Relay Race

Distracted  
Walking  
Obstacle  
Course



Distracted  
Walking  
Observatio

Walkability  
Tour

Trivia  
Hangout  
with  
Kabootl



Create  
Banners &  
Posters

Sidewalk  
Chalk with  
Safety  
Messages

Online  
Road User  
Learning  
Games







Texas Resource Kits



# Questions?

Feel free to get in touch with us.



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Texas A&M Transportation Institute

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## Youth Transportation **SAFETY** P R O G R A M

### Follow Us on Social Media!

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Instagram - @YouthWalkBikeSafe

Facebook - @YouthWalkBikeSafe

Thank you to our project sponsors:



GENERAL MOTORS

