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GOVERNOR

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Dear Safe Routes to School Applicant:

In response to Governor Corzine's commitment to improving pedestrian safety in New Jersey, I am pleased to announce the New Jersey Department of Transportation's (NJDOT) federal-aid Safe Routes to School Program. **Please note that the brochure is available on NJDOT's web site at:**

<http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/community/srts/application.shtm>

The objectives of the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program are:

1. to enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school
2. 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
3. to facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity (approximately 2 miles) of primary and middle schools (Grades K-8).

Funds are available for two different types of projects - infrastructure and non-infrastructure activities. Infrastructure-related grants can fund the planning, design, and construction of such things as sidewalks, crosswalks, bike lanes, multi-use paths, and traffic calming within two miles of an elementary or middle school. Non-infrastructure projects can include enforcement, education and encouragement programs.

If you are a local or regional government, a school or school district, or a community non-profit organization that is ready, willing and able to implement SRTS initiatives, you are invited to submit an application.

There are several changes to the grant application process this year. The first is that the NJDOT is utilizing the System for Administering Grants Electronically (SAGE) management system. Applications to the SRTS program must now be completed and filed electronically. The second modification is that applications for infrastructure and non-infrastructure projects are separate. Applicants must still show that they have initiated enforcement, education or encouragement programs when applying for infrastructure funds, but the engineering application is separate from the others. A third change is that applicants may only apply for one phase of their infrastructure project at a time. Planning, design, right-of-way acquisition and construction funds must each be applied for separately.

Accessing the on-line guidelines will provide the necessary information for you to complete your application and will answer any questions you may have about program eligibility and requirements.

Please feel free to share this information with other governmental agencies and non-profits organizations in your community.

The online application can be accessed through the above website or you can also access it through The Local Aid website at

<http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/business/localaid/>

If you require any additional information on the Safe Routes to School Program please contact the Local Aid district office in your area (See attached map):

Mount Arlington	973-770-5068
Newark	973-877-1500
Freehold	732-308-4002
Cherry Hill	856-486-6618

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY NOON ON April 18, 2008.

I hope you will take advantage of this opportunity and submit an application for the funding of a project that will improve the health and safety of New Jersey's school children. NJDOT looks forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Kris Kolluri
Commissioner

c Mayor
School District Superintendent