

# Maryland Safe Routes to School Program

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# Federal Funding Legislation

- The Safe Routes to School Program (SRTS):
  - Last authorized under Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU)
    - Signed into law on August 10, 2005
- The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP):
  - Authorized under Federal Transportation Funding Act Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21)
    - Signed into law on July 6, 2012
    - Funding established fiscal years 2013 & 2014

# MAP-21: Transportation Alternatives

## SAFETEA-LU

Transportation  
Enhancements

Safe Routes to  
School

Recreational  
Trails

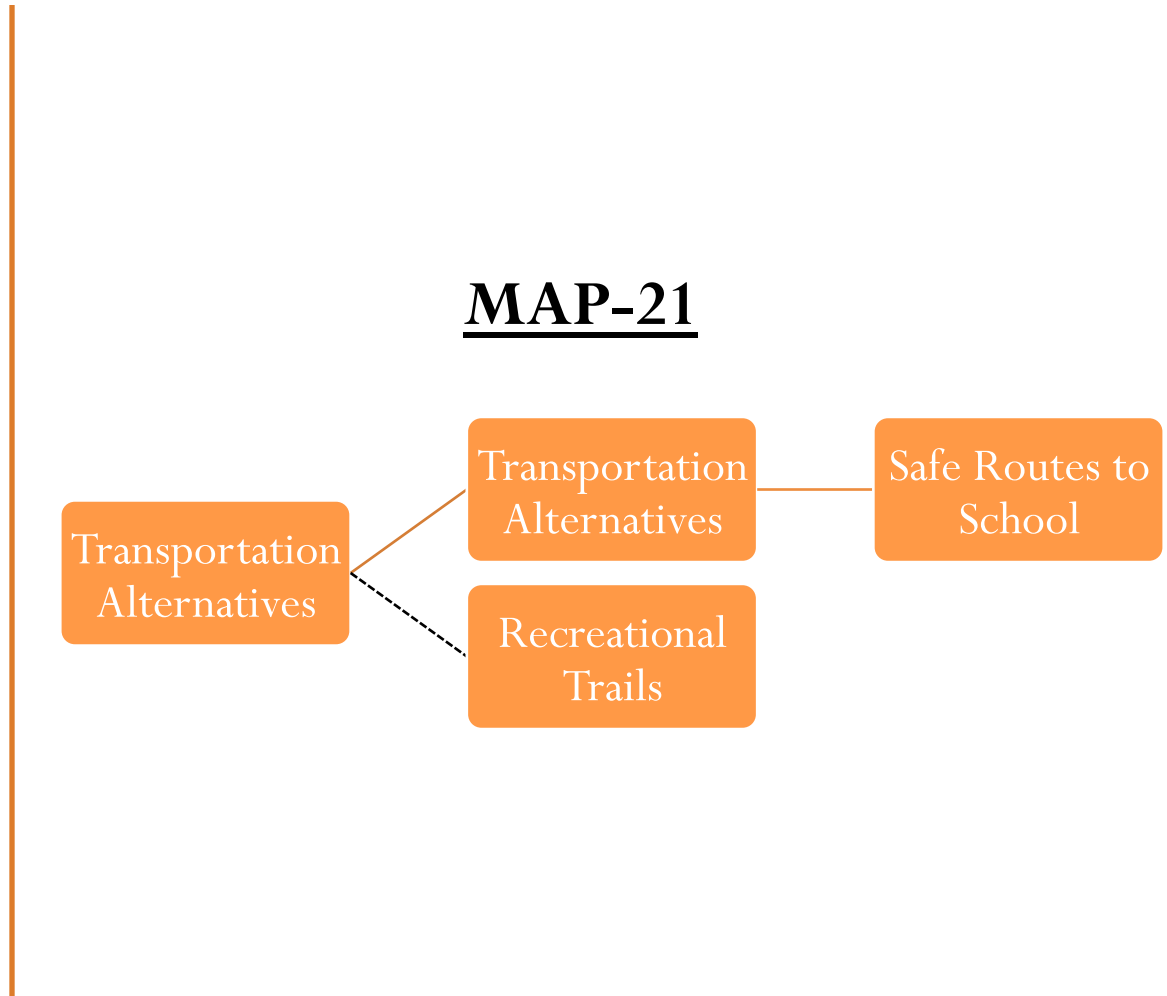
## MAP-21

Transportation  
Alternatives

Transportation  
Alternatives

Recreational  
Trails

Safe Routes to  
School



# Funding

- Safe Routes to School
  - SAFETEA-LU (remaining funds)
    - Only SRTS Activities
    - 100% Reimbursement
    - Approximately \$3 million to allocate in 2014
    - Applications accepted February 17<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>
- Transportation Alternatives
  - MAP-21
    - SRTS eligible activities and other categories
      - Bike/Pedestrian improvements, historic preservation, environmental mitigation activities, etc.
    - SHA is NOT an eligible sponsor
    - 80% Reimbursement/20% sponsor match
    - Approximately, \$10 million to allocation in 2014
    - Applications accepted April 15<sup>th</sup> – May 15<sup>th</sup>



# Why SRTS Matters

- Fewer kids are biking and walking: More parents are driving.

1969

48% walked or biked

12% driven

2009

13% walked or biked

44% driven

*(U.S. DOT, 2009)*



# Safe Routes to School

- Goals:
  - Enable and encourage children to safely walk or bicycle to school
  - Improve children's safety
  - Improve children's health & physical activity
  - Reduce traffic congestion around schools
  - Reduce emissions & poor air quality



# Steps in Creating a SRTS Program

- Bring together the right people
- Gather information and identify issues
- Find solutions
- Make a plan
- Get the plan funded- Apply to SHA!
- Act on the plan
- Evaluate and make changes if needed



# The 5 Eligible SRTS Activities

- Engineering
  - Sidewalks
  - On-Street bicycling
  - Pathways
  - Connectivity
- Education
  - Pedestrian and bicyclist safety
  - Personal security
  - Health Benefits/Environment
- Encouragement
  - Walking school buses
  - Individual competition/Contests/Events
- Enforcement
  - Training Crossing Guards/Parents/Community
  - Law Enforcement
- Evaluation





# Challenges

- Federal Funding Requirements
- Getting local jurisdictions/eligible sponsors to apply
- Getting applications from areas with the highest safety needs
  - Distribution throughout MD
- Getting schools to register their Walk to School and Bike to School Day events
  - 2013 only 7 schools registered for Bike to School Day

# 2014 Application Submittal

**Application Period February 17<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>**

Send Application to:

[JSilwick@sha.state.md.us](mailto:JSilwick@sha.state.md.us)

or

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Must be received COB Friday the 28<sup>th</sup>.

<http://www.roads.maryland.gov/Index.aspx?PageId=735>