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1250 SAN CARLOS AVE  
SAN CARLOS, CA 94070  
(650) 508-6200

September 10, 2020

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor of California  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 288 (Wiener) CEQA exemption: transportation related projects -- Request for Signature (As Enrolled on 8/31/20)

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of the San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans) the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (Caltrain) and the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (TA), I write to respectfully request that you sign SB 288 (Wiener), which accelerates sustainable transit projects that will get people back to work and increase transportation choices by providing a two-year CEQA exemption.

This bill would save critical time and money by creating specific CEQA exemptions for projects that make streets safer for walking and bicycling, speed up transit service in the public right of way, reduce parking, and install zero-emission infrastructure.

Notably, SB 288 contains important provisions to help ensure projects are delivering jobs for skilled and trained workers, identifying ways to benefit our most vulnerable communities and are designed to deliver strong value to taxpayers. To protect community involvement and support community led planning, the bill requires that public agencies must also provide opportunities for public participation in the project in order to receive the exemption. To ensure that the projects have no significant impact on the environment, the bill also requires that projects must be located in an urbanized area and located on existing public rights of way. Finally, large projects must also be incorporated in a regional transportation plan or another plan that complies with CEQA at the programmatic level.

This change is necessary at the state level in order to ensure that sustainable transit is part of all of California's recovery strategy. Making it easier to take transit, bike, and walk plays an important role in revitalizing main streets and local economies, which will be critical for the recovery of small businesses. The bill is a no-cost stimulus that has no economic impact on the state budget.

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
September 10, 2020  
2 of 2

For these reasons, I respectfully request that you sign SB 288. Please feel free to reach out to Casey Fromson, Director of Government and Community Affairs, at (650) 288-7625 or fromsonc@samtrans.com if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Jim Hartnett  
General Manager/CEO/Executive Director

Cc: San Mateo County Transit District Board of Directors  
Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board of Directors  
San Mateo County Transportation Authority Board of Directors  
Rachel Wagoner, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of Senator Scott Wiener

**From:** Safe Routes to School San Mateo County Office of Education  
**To:** [Board \(@smcta.com\)](mailto:Board (@smcta.com))  
**Subject:** SMCOE Safe Routes to School: Schools Reopening July/Aug 2020  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 08, 2020 9:15:25 AM

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[View this email in your browser](#)



## San Mateo County **SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL**

Healthy Kids • Green Communities • Safe Journeys

### September/October 2020

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year! It's sure to be a memorable one as we begin the school year in distance learning. Now that many of us are learning and working from home, it's more important than ever to go for a walk or a bike ride for some fresh air!



**Safe Routes to Anywhere**



Distance learning has students on their devices for multiple hours a day but it is still important to remind them to go outside to walk and bike! They can walk/bike to their local park, grocery store, or even just around the block.

Some other activities students can do to keep active include: jumping rope, [a backyard obstacle course](#), a scavenger hunt, or jumping jacks.

You can find more resources on our  
SRTS at Home website -

<https://sites.google.com/smcoe.org/srtshome>

## International Walk to Anywhere Week 2020 Poster Contest

**International Walk to Anywhere Week  
Poster Contest**



San Mateo County Safe Routes to School is hosting a contest to design the 2020 International Walk to Anywhere Day poster! Due to COVID-19, what was formerly known as International Walk to School Day is now Walk to Anywhere Week. **Students of all grade levels** are encouraged to submit their original artwork **sharing the positive impacts of walking to school**. Posters can be created by individual students, small groups or classrooms. **Winning entries will be made into posters and shared with schools countywide to promote this annual event!**

**Submissions must be turned in by September 18, 2020  
International Walk to Anywhere Week is October 5-9, 2020**

**Entry Rules and Guidelines:**

- ➔ All entries must be on an 8 1/2" x 11" sheet of paper and leave a 1/4" inch border around the perimeter
- ➔ Please do not use lined paper
- ➔ All words must be spelled correctly (English or Spanish)
- ➔ Please outline pictures and words in black marker and use markers (not crayons) to color in the poster
- ➔ Name, email address, grade-level, teacher, school and district must be written in ballpoint pen on the back of the submission
- ➔ Artwork should focus on one or more of the following themes:  
Walking to school is good for the environment!  
Walking to school is good for your health!  
Walking to school can build community!  
Walking to school is fun!

To submit your art, you can scan and email it to us at [srts@smcoe.org](mailto:srts@smcoe.org) or mail it to:  
**Safe Routes to School  
101 Twin Dolphin Drive  
Redwood City, CA  
94065**



**Concurso de Carteles de la Semana  
Internacional de Caminar a Cualquier Lugar**



San Mateo Safe Routes to School le invita a participar en un concurso para ayudar a diseñar un cartel para la **Semana Internacional de Caminata a Cualquier Lugar 2020**. Debido a COVID-19, lo que antes se conocía como Día Internacional de Caminar a la Escuela ahora es la Semana de Caminar a Cualquier Lugar. **Se animan los alumnos a cada nivel de grado a entregar su arte original que comparte los efectos positivos de caminar a la escuela**. Los carteles se pueden ser creados por los individuos, por los grupos pequeños o por las clases enteras. **Las obras ganadoras serán hechas en carteles que se compartirán con todas las escuelas a través el condado para promover este evento anual.**

**Las presentaciones deben entregarse antes del 18 de Septiembre de 2020 El día Internacional de Caminar a la Escuela es el 7 de Octubre de 2020**

**Las reglas y las directrices para entrar:**

- ➔ Todas las obras deben ser hechas en una hoja de papel de 8 1/2" x 11"
- ➔ Por favor, no use papel rayado
- ➔ Todas las obras deben ser escritas correctamente
- ➔ Por favor, perfile las imágenes y las palabras con un plumón negro y use plumones (no crayones) para colorear su cartel
- ➔ Incluya su nombre y apellido, correo electrónico, su nivel de grado, su maestro/a y el distrito escolar, con bolígrafo en la parte posterior de su obra
- ➔ Las obras de arte deben enfocarse en uno o más de los temas siguientes:  
¡Caminar es bueno para el medioambiente!  
¡Caminar es bueno para la salud!  
¡Caminar puede desarrollar una comunidad!  
¡Caminar es divertido!

Para enviar su arte, puede escanearlo y enviarlo por correo electrónico a [srts@smcoe.org](mailto:srts@smcoe.org) o enviarlo por correo a: **Safe Routes to School  
101 Twin Dolphin Drive  
Redwood City, CA  
94065**



San Mateo County Safe Routes to School is hosting a contest to design the 2020 International Walk to Anywhere Day poster! Due to COVID-19, what was formerly known as International Walk to School Day is now Walk to Anywhere Week. Students of all grade levels are encouraged to submit their original artwork sharing the positive impacts of walking. Posters can be created by individual students, small groups or classrooms. Winning entries will be made into posters and shared countywide to promote this annual event.

For more details on how to enter, [click here](#) to take a closer look at the flyer!

**Submissions are due by September 18, 2020. Students can submit their artwork by scanning and emailing it to us at [srts@smcoe.org](mailto:srts@smcoe.org) or mailing it to**

**this address:**

**Safe Routes to School  
101 Twin Dolphin Drive  
Redwood City, CA 94065**

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## **SamTrans COVID-19 Service Updates**

Although many school districts kicked off the school year in distance learning, remember to consider transportation options when in-person instruction resumes. Unfortunately, a significant amount of SamTrans' bus capacity will be reduced in order to accommodate social distancing and health/safety protocols for the protection of riders. Families who have relied on SamTrans for school-related travel should check with their schools to see how their routes will be impacted. For COVID-19 related updates, please visit SamTrans' website [here](#).

Now is a perfect time to plan a safe walking/biking route to school and practice with your child until he/she feels comfortable enough to try it on their own! If you have questions about how to do so safely, please let us know.

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## **September: Pedestrian Safety Month**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_

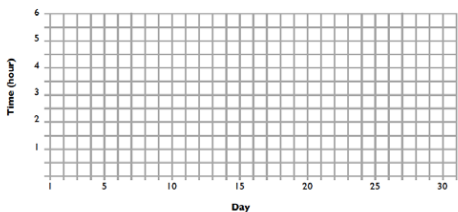
### PEDESTRIAN SAFETY MONTH CHALLENGE

SMCOE Safe Routes to School is challenging you to go outside at least one hour a day to be active by walk, bike, etc. Plan out your exercise for each day of the month. Write out your goals for how much you want to exercise each day or to learn something new. Then log the hours you exercise on the graph.

MONTH:						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
SAFETY TIP OF THE WEEK: If you are age 17 and under, you are required by law to wear a helmet when rolling.						
SAFETY TIP OF THE WEEK: Helmets are recommended to be replaced 5-10 years from manufacturer date.						
SAFETY TIP OF THE WEEK: Being aware on the streets is not just looking. It is important to listen to the sounds of the street. A vehicle that you can't see may be near.						
SAFETY TIP OF THE WEEK: Be sure to do the ABC check before riding your bike! (Air pressure, Brakes, Chain)						
SAFETY TIP OF THE WEEK: Drivers are not always aware of pedestrians crossing. Make eye contact with them before crossing.						

### Graph your daily exercise!



On average, how many hours did you exercise each week?

Week 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Week 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Week 3 \_\_\_\_\_ Week 4 \_\_\_\_\_







Was this challenge hard or easy? Why?  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Did you achieve your goals? If not, what could be improved to help you achieve those goals?  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

What was your favorite exercise?  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Completed the worksheet? Send it to us by **October 9th, 2020** and receive a Safe Routes to School Kit, loaded with lots of fun activities and items! You can scan and email it to [srts@smcoe.org](mailto:srts@smcoe.org) or mail it to:  
 Safe Routes to School  
 101 Twin Dolphin Drive  
 Redwood City, CA 94065

\*\*\*To qualify for the Safe Routes to School kit you must have logged at least one hour of exercise each day, completed the full worksheet, and filled out the information on top (this includes your name, grade, school, and mailing address)\*\*\*

SMCOE Safe Routes to School is challenging students to exercise and practice safe walking and biking. For the month of September, Pedestrian Safety Month, students can fill out the One Month Challenge worksheet and receive a Safe Routes to School Safety Kit! The kit includes awesome prizes to keep students safe on the streets.

[Click here](#) for the downloadable One Month Challenge PDF

**In order to qualify for the Safe Routes to School Safety Kit, students must log at least one hour of exercise each day and have completed the worksheet. Once the worksheet is completed, students can either scan and email it to [srts@smcoe.org](mailto:srts@smcoe.org) or mail it to:**

**Safe Routes to School  
 101 Twin Dolphin Drive  
 Redwood City, CA 94065**

**Worksheets must be sent by October 9th, 2020. Students will need to include their mailing address on the submitted worksheet for their Safe Routes to School Kit to be mailed.**



## Bay Area Bike to Wherever Days 2020

Originally known as Bike to Work Day, this annual event has now been dubbed Bike to Wherever Days! Check out Silicon Valley Bicycle's website for [events/updates](#), and handy [bike maintenance tips](#).

Throughout the month of September, the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition will have random prize drawings and competitions:

**Prizes:** Alaska Airline tickets, Surly Pugsley bike frame, Timbuk2 bike bags, bike helmets, gift certificates, and more!

**Competitions:** Points are awarded not only for riding but also for encouraging others to ride.

Planning to Ride? Why not [Pledge to Ride!](#)

**Register today for a chance to win fun prizes throughout September!** [Click here](#) to go the website and register.







## Maintaining Your Bike

With more families biking, it's important to understand bikes need to be regularly maintained to prevent rust and excessive wear down of parts. If you aren't sure how to change the bike tire or perform the ABC check, the Silicon Valley Bike Coalition has you covered.


[Click here](#) to check out a compilation of bike videos they have put together to help us keep our bikes in tip top shape!

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## Story Time with Safe Routes to School is Back!


## STORY TIME

with Safe Routes to School



Come take a lunch break with **San Mateo County Office of Education's Safe Routes Program** every Wednesday at 1PM. A chapter from a different book will be read each week. Join our reading adventure and gain a better understanding of pedestrian, bicycle, and traffic safety. **Most appropriate for Kindergarten to 8th graders.**

**Readings every Wednesday at 1:00 PM starting on October 7, 2020**  
**Register Here:**  
<https://tinyurl.com/StoryTimeSafeRoutes>



## HORA DE CUENTOS

con Rutas Seguras a la Escuela



¡Tome un descanso con el programa de **Rutas Seguras a la Escuela del Condado de San Mateo** todos los miércoles a la 1:00 pm empezando el 7 de octubre! Cada semana estaremos leyendo diferentes capítulos de diferentes libros. Únase a nuestra aventura de lectura para entender a profundidad la seguridad de peatones, ciclistas y la seguridad de tráfico. **Es más apropiado para estudiantes de Kinder a Octavo grado.**

**Lecturas cada miércoles a la 1:00 pm**  
**(será leído en inglés)**  
**Regístrese aquí:**  
<https://tinyurl.com/StoryTimeSafeRoutes>



We had so much fun reading and talking with students about pedestrian and bicycle safety that we are bringing Story Time back!

Join us October 7th through December 9th for a Zoom reading. Each week a passage from a different book that includes walking/biking will be read and activities will be played!

**If you are a teacher and are interested in bringing Story Time with Safe Routes to School to your virtual classroom, please email [bthurman@smcoe.org](mailto:bthurman@smcoe.org) for more information and to schedule a date and time.**

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## Safe Routes to School at Home

We have been working hard at creating activities for families to do at home. Check out the resources below and share them with others!

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## Halloween Alternatives

Days are getting a little shorter, mornings are a little brisker, and Halloween is right around the corner! Here are some safe alternatives to trick-or-treating parents can try:

1. Halloween Scavenger Hunt: Hide Halloween treats all around the house for kids to find!
2. Make your own haunted house: Use your furniture, blankets, flashlights, etc. to create a spooky environment.
3. Have a movie night: Watch your favorite Halloween movies and tell spooky ghost stories.

*If you do go out trick-or-treating this year, please remember to carry a flashlight, wear reflective gear and practice safe walking skills. [Click here](#) to download our Halloween Safety Flyer! Always remember to practice social distancing and wear appropriate face coverings.*

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## Safe Routes to School Video Series

The SMCOE Safe Routes Video Series is here! We are teaching kids how to be safe on the streets whether they are walking or biking.

Check out these links for the three videos that have been uploaded so far:

1. [How to Fit Your Helmet](#)
2. [How to Ride a Bike](#)
3. [How to Bike on the Streets](#)

#### 4. [How to Walk Safely](#)

Be sure to watch all the videos in the series to collect the badges at the end and become a Safe Routes to School Superstar! There will even be an exclusive parent video.

### First Video of the Series: How to Fit Your Helmet



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## Walk & Roll BINGO

Check out the Walk and Roll BINGO to keep students active and remind them to continue practicing safe walking and rolling.








[Downloadable PDF for the Walk and Roll Bingo.](#)

## WALKING BINGO

Cross off as many boxes you can after your walk. Compete with the other members in your household. Challenge your friends and call them to compare. Who is practicing street safety?



Was Cellphone Distraction Free	Walked 30 Minutes	Waved to a friend or a neighbor from 6 feet away	Stayed away from busy areas	Spotted 2 Different Types of Flowers
Walked with people in your household	Made Eye Contact with Driver Before Crossing	Wore a Face Mask	Did NOT Jaywalk	Followed Traffic Signals
Spotted 5 wildlife (birds, animals, insects)	Identified 2 Electric (Silent) Vehicles	Crossed Street Only at Corners	Listened for engine noises	Looked All Around Before Crossing Street
Was Aware of Driveways and Vehicles Backing Up	Stayed on Sidewalk	Did NOT wear earphones	Walked 1 Hour	Stayed 6 feet apart from others
Yielded for 5 Vehicles	Wore Bright, Reflective Clothes	Did NOT Run Out Into The Street	Spotted 2 Teddy Bears	Picked up 5 Pieces of Litter

## ROLLING BINGO

Cross off as many boxes you can after your exercise trip. Compete with the other members in your household. Challenge your friends and call them to compare. Who is practicing street safety?



Rolled 1 Hour	Wore Bright, Reflective Clothes	Did NOT Wear Earphones	Checked Tires/Wheels Before Riding	Noticed 2 Electric Vehicles
Did NOT Run a Stop Sign	Looked All Around Before Crossing Street	Was Aware of Driveways and Vehicles Backing Up	Yielded for 5 Vehicles	Used Hand Signals 10 Times
Spotted 5 wildlife (birds, animals, insects)	Rode in a Bike Lane	Was Cellphone Distraction Free	Checked Helmet Fitting Before Riding	Rolled 30 Minutes
Stayed on Sidewalk	Checked Brakes Before Riding	Spotted 2 Teddy Bears	Wore a Helmet	Made Eye Contact with Driver Before Crossing
Stayed 6 feet apart from others	Yielded for 5 Pedestrians	Avoided Objects on Street	Waved to a Friend or a Neighbor from 6 Feet Away	Picked up 5 pieces of litter










## Social Distancing

Social Distancing is a crucial strategy to help stop the spread of COVID-19. Check out our *Walking and Biking Safely While Social Distancing* Guide. It breaks down the importance of social distancing with helpful graphics and includes important safety reminders when venturing outside!

[Downloadable English PDF](#)

[Downloadable Spanish PDF](#)





## Bay Area Slow Streets

Cities in the Bay Area are closing their streets to cars and creating bigger spaces for pedestrians and bicyclists. This creates a better ability to practice social distancing and a safe space for families to get some fresh air. Click below to find slow streets in the following:

[San Mateo County](#)

[San Francisco](#)

[Oakland](#)

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