2019 Safe Routes to School Conference: Active Travel for Equitable and Healthy Communities

Please note: this pdf application is for reference only. We will only accept requests through the [online form](#).

The Safe Routes to School National Partnership is excited to announce the 6th Safe Routes to School Conference to be held in Tampa, FL from November 12-14, 2019. Join us for a spectacular experience in a culturally vibrant city that is best explored by foot, bike, and public transportation. With the conference hub located in downtown Tampa, it’s a breeze to walk along the city’s famous Riverwalk or take a ride with Coast Bike Share. The conference will bring together hundreds of Safe Routes to School and active transportation professionals to exchange ideas and share knowledge about the most creative and innovative approaches to creating walkable, bikeable, healthy, and equitable communities where people can lead healthy and fulfilling lives.

Equity is a central component of our work to advance walking, biking, and Safe Routes to School. Equitable Safe Routes to School and active transportation initiatives benefit all demographic groups, with particular attention to ensuring safe, healthy, and fair outcomes for people with disabilities, low-income people, Native Americans, people of color, women, people who identify as LGBTQ, people who speak a language other than English, people experiencing homelessness, and other demographic groups. Rather than having a separate equity track, equity will be embedded in all elements of the 2019 conference. We strongly encourage all applicants to highlight how your program submission centers equitable approaches to creating healthy, active communities.

The Conference and the wider Safe Routes to School movement benefit from the innovative contributions, creative solutions, practical know-how, and community insights brought by people of different backgrounds. Diversity of experience, ideas, and viewpoints is a priority, and applicants with varied education levels, skills, and backgrounds are encouraged to submit applications. Program applications are strongly encouraged to highlight a panel of speakers that includes people of color, people with disabilities, and people of different religions, nationalities, genders, and sexual orientations.

**Program Themes**

**What’s Next for Safe Routes to School and Active Transportation?**

In over a decade of Safe Routes to School - what’s new and exciting? How is the role of walking and biking changing in the evolving transportation landscape of autonomous vehicles, rideshare, scooters, and dockless bikeshare? Does your Safe Routes to School program utilize technology for walk audits, student counts, or GPS tracking? We want to hear about how you, your SRTS program, school, or city are
integrating - or pushing back on - technology as it relates to walking and biking. What new and innovative approaches are working well for Safe Routes to School in your community?

**Context Matters: Safe Routes to School in YOUR Community**
Starting or maintaining a Safe Routes to School program looks different in every community. How do you involve and meet the needs of your community with your Safe Routes to School program? What about the setting of your Safe Routes to School program makes it distinct? How are schools and school districts making Safe Routes to School work rural communities? What makes Safe Routes to School programs in the high school setting unique? What strategies for partnerships and community outreach make your program successful? How does youth leadership play a role in your program? Does your program incorporate the needs of disabled students? How do you keep your program going in seasons of extreme weather?

**Funding and Sustainability: Keep your Program Walking and Rolling**
We're looking for conference proposals that talk about creative sources of funding for walking, biking, and Safe Routes to School; strategies for accessing these funds, and ideas for how to get programs going or sustain existing programs in the absence of funds. How have you used policies to incorporate Safe Routes to School into your city and regional plans? How do you pair Safe Routes to School with Vision Zero and Complete Streets policies? Has your school district decided to self-fund Safe Routes to School? Does your MPO have a creative way of scoring Safe Routes to School projects? Have you successfully worked with your state legislature to secure state Safe Routes to School funds? Have you crowdsourced funding for active transportation projects, programs, or events? We want to hear about it!

**Safe Routes Everywhere**
We started with the route to school, but along the way we found Safe Routes to parks, food, centers of faith, and more. How is your definition of Safe Routes broadening? What connections are you making with Safe Routes to School and environmental justice or housing needs in your community? How has anti-harassment and street safety played a role in the evolution of your program? How was your Safe Routes to School program been a jumping off point for other projects in your community? How can we be allies to movements that have shared visions and goals?

**Your Choice!**
If you have an innovative idea or story about Safe Routes to School that doesn’t fit in the themes above, submit your proposal with a suggested theme.

**Session Formats**
- **Panel** (75 minutes): Feature up to four presenters covering a specific topic with a joint question and answer session at the end.
- **Presentation** (15-20 minutes): Submit for a standalone presentation. We will group speakers with related content together.
- **Training or Hands-on Workshop** (90-120 minutes): Sessions can include multiple speakers, time for small groups, and breakouts. We encourage opportunities for hands-on learning.
Round Table Discussion (75 minutes): Propose a topic for a roundtable discussion; we will group several related discussions together. Each speaker will speak for 3-5 minutes on their topic and prepare discussion questions for participants to discuss together.

Other: please submit your creative session format with a description. Examples can include but are not limited to: Pecha Kucha, Campfire, Fishbowl.

Submissions are due by Friday, February 22, 2019. Applicants will be notified on the status of their submission via email by early April 2019.

Please review our conference code of conduct.

Note: selected speakers must register for the conference at a reduced speaker rate. Rates will be announced by March 2019.
Your Choice!

Format

- Panel (75 minutes): A group of speakers presenting and/or discussing a topic
- Presentation (15-20 minutes): Proposal submission for a standalone presentation. We will group speakers with related content together.
- Training or Hands-on Workshop (90-120 minutes): Sessions can include multiple speakers, time for small groups and breakouts. We encourage opportunities for hands-on learning.
- Round Table Discussion (75 minutes): Propose a topic for a roundtable discussion, you will speak for 3-5 minutes and prepare questions for a facilitated discussion. We will group related topics together.
- Other: Please submit your creative session format with a description. Examples can include but are not limited to: Pecha Kucha, Campfire, Fishbowl.

Proposal Details

Abstract (250 words)

Outline three learning objectives for attendees (50 words each)

What will attendees walk away from your session with? You are not limited to these, but some examples include: attendees will: learn how to conduct a walk audit, feel more confident talking about equity and transportation, learn strategies to fund programs through local transportation policies.

The following questions aim to help the conference planning committee to develop a program that brings together people with diverse backgrounds and experiences, and centers equity as a core component of creating healthy, active communities.
As noted above, we will prioritize sessions that include equity, diversity, and inclusion. Please describe how your proposed topic and/or proposed presenter(s) incorporates equity, diversity, and inclusion in active transportation. (200 words or less)

Identify how the proposed panel of speakers represents a diversity of lived experiences (e.g. race, color, national origin, gender, age, ability, income, languages, disciplines). You may wish to seek input from your co-presenters about how they identify. If you are submitting as a standalone presentation or solo, please answer for yourself. (50 words per speaker is sufficient)

Has this session been offered at a previous conference? Y/N

If yes, please note the conference and year below.

Is there anything else you would like the reviewers to know about your proposal?
Contact info for other people working on the proposal: First, Last, Affiliation, Email, Phone