

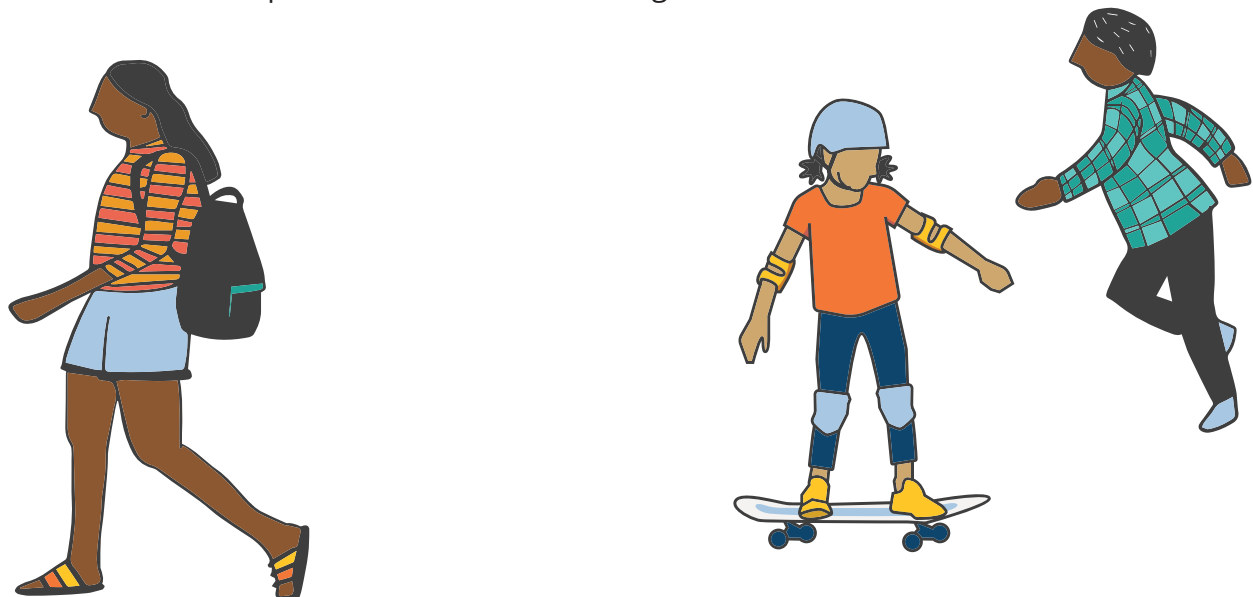
# Virginia Safe Routes to School

Program Annual Report - 2020-2022

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Just a generation ago, 90% of students living within a mile of school walked or biked to school. Today, just over 10% of students walk or bike to school. Federal legislatures recognized the need to reverse this trend in 2005, passing legislation to establish the federal SRTS program. **The goals of SRTS are to enable and encourage children to walk and bike to school while making biking and walking to school safer and more appealing.** The Virginia Safe Routes to School program provides a comprehensive approach to building local SRTS programs, with strategies that aim to build safe streets, welcoming campuses, safe behaviors, and a supportive culture. The program also offers several grants to help your local program grow!

This annual report will highlight ways that the program continued to flourish throughout the unfamiliar times of the COVID-19 pandemic. From the total closure of schools in 2020, to the gradual return by the '21-'22 school year, the program maintained its resiliency. Through Bike to Anywhere Day, neighborhood scavenger hunts, and more, the program has continued to impact communities across Virginia.



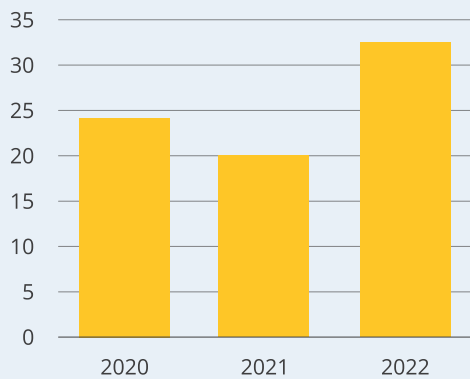
# Grant Recipients



QuickStart Mini-grant Applicant Role

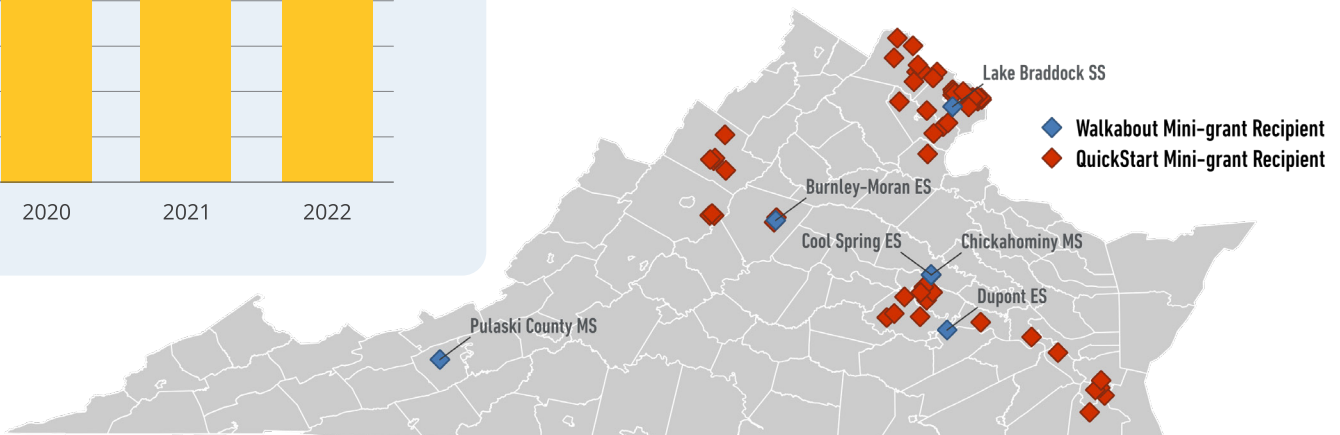
Role	#
Safe Routes to School Coordinator	24
P.E. Teacher	18
PTA Member	5
Parent	5
President of local organization	4
School administration	3
Other	18

Funded QuickStart Mini-grants by Year



## QuickStart Mini-grants

More than **75 QuickStart mini-grants were awarded from 2020 to 2022**. Schools used these \$1,000 grants to purchase safety equipment and fun incentives to encourage students to participate in events. Uplifting disadvantaged communities is important to Virginia SRTS, and **half of all grant funds went to Title 1 schools**. Many different people applied for QuickStart mini-grants, including Local SRTS Coordinators, PE teachers, PTA members, and caregivers.



## Walkabout Mini-grants

Walkabout Mini-grants gather students, school staff, local government representatives, and community groups to **identify solutions for walking and biking issues near a school**. These grants are designed to prepare recipients to then apply for TAP infrastructure funding to implement the identified solutions. The Virginia SRTS team helps to identify infrastructure improvements and changes to arrival and dismissal processes. Throughout COVID, the Virginia SRTS team continued to administer socially distanced Walkabout Mini-grants. **Half of the grant recipients from 2020-2022 were Title 1 schools.**

Walkabout Mini-grant Recipients

Year	School	City	VDOT District	Title 1 Status
2020	Burnley Moran Elementary School	Charlottesville	Culpeper	Title 1
2020	Pulaski Middle School	Pulaski	Salem	N/A
2021	Chickahominy Middle School	Mechanicsville	Richmond	N/A
2021	Cool Spring Elementary School	Mechanicsville	Richmond	Title 1
2022	Dupont Elementary School	Hopewell	Richmond	Title 1
2022	Lake Braddock Secondary School	Burke	Northern Virginia	N/A

# Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grants



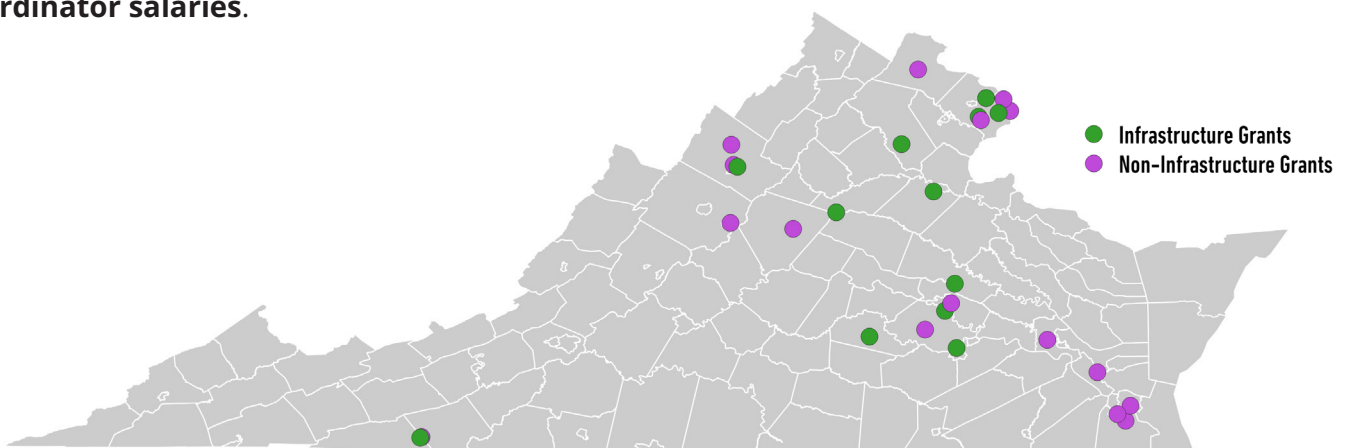
## Infrastructure Grants

Between 2020 and 2022, **over fifteen million dollars in SRTS funding was awarded to improve the safety of children walking and biking to schools across Virginia.** VDOT, through TAP, funded thirteen projects. These included constructing new sidewalks, filling in sidewalk gaps, and improving crossings with curb extensions, pedestrian signals, and refuge islands. Although the program recognizes that the grant recipients are not geographically diverse, that is a priority of the program moving forward when selecting awardees.

## Non-Infrastructure Grants

The non-infrastructure components of the TAP Grants are focused on funding Local SRTS Coordinator positions. The Local SRTS Coordinators are full and part-time roles within school divisions, local governments and health organizations. They teach bike units, host local events, connect with families and school staff, and support additional activities that foster a culture of walking and biking.

Between 2020-2022, **1.3 million dollars were distributed across the state to fund Local Coordinator salaries.**



Project Name	Location	VDOT District	Project Summary	Schools Impacted	Award Amount
SRTS Gordon-Barbour Access	Gordonsville	Culpepper	Construction of sidewalk and crosswalks around Gordon-Barbour ES filling gaps in the existing pedestrian network	Gordon-Barbour Elementary	\$563,980
SRTS Grace Miller ES	Fauquier County	Culpepper	Construct sidewalk from north side of Rt 28 along Independence Rd to Grace Miller ES and Liberty HS; including crosswalk with pedestrian signal at Rt 28	Grace Miller Elementary	\$678,075
Shreveewood ES SRTS	Fairfax County	Northern Virginia	The project will add three new crosswalks with sidewalk connections serving Shreveewood ES and the W&OD Trail	Shreveewood Elementary	\$700,000
Orange Hunt ES SRTS	Fairfax County	Northern Virginia	Safety improvement to existing crossing at Hunstman Blvd between the path to Orange Hunt ES and Spelman Dr, by adding a pedestrian refuge island and curb extensions	Orange Hunt Elementary	\$200,000
Greene ES SRTS	Richmond	Richmond	Construct new sidewalks on Catalina Dr from Clarkson Rd to Cranford Ave	Greene Elementary	\$675,000
Bush Hill ES SRTS	Fairfax County	Northern Virginia	The proposed project will complete a missing link of sidewalk along Bush Hill Drive between Ninian Avenue and Larno Avenue which is approximately 850 feet long and located approximately 800 feet walking distance from the main entrance to the BHES building. Completing this missing sidewalk link will improve safety and accessibility for children walking and bicycling to school to and from the northeast of BHES.	Bush Hill Elementary	\$3,646,380
Shreveewood ES SRTS	Fairfax County	Northern Virginia	The proposed project will add two new marked crosswalks across Shreve Road: one at Fairwood Lane to the west that will provide access for walking and bicycling students from the northwest; and one at the eastern driveway that will cross the bifurcated portion of Shreve Road and, along with a third crosswalk across Virginia Lane at Virginia Avenue, will provide access for students to the northeast of the school. These crosswalks will include new connections to existing sidewalks and paths, curb ramps, curb extensions where feasible, and school crosswalk signing and markings.	Shreveewood Elementary	\$2,477,232
Amelia County Schools Sidewalk Project	Amelia County	Richmond	The County of Amelia proposes to construct new sidewalk on Route 38 (Five Forks Road) and Route 614 (Otterburn Road). This project would provide pedestrian access to Amelia County's three (3) public schools, and connect them with an existing sidewalk further up Five Forks Road - near Amelia Academy - which provides pedestrian access to the Amelia Court House Village (thereby connecting the three public schools with the Court House Village).	Amelia County Elementary, Amelia County Middle, Amelia County High	\$2,525,356



Project Name	Location	VDOT District	Project Summary	Schools Impacted	Award Amount
Cool Spring ES Safe Routes to School	Hanover County	Richmond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install a high-visibility crosswalk across Honey Meadows Rd at Merricroft Ct and across School Access Rd</li> <li>• Replace the painted medians on Honey Meadows Rd with a curbed median and pedestrian refuge at Merricroft Ct</li> <li>• Extend ~70' of sidewalk from the CSES driveway to Honey Meadows Rd</li> <li>• Extend ~450' of sidewalk from the CSES driveway to School Access Rd</li> <li>• Add/replace sidewalk ramps associated with sidewalk extensions</li> </ul>	Cool Spring Elementary	\$253,661
SRTS Phase III Middle School Sidewalks	Colonial Heights	Richmond	Installation of approximately 200 feet of sidewalk adjacent to Colonial Height Middle School. To complete sidewalk connections to allow students safe walking paths from nearby neighborhoods to CHMS.	Colonial Height Middle School	\$160,407
W. Stuart Dr. Sidewalk	Galax	Salem	Extending approximately 450 LF SRTS sidewalk on W. Stuart Drive from Stanford St. to Murphy St. to connect Public Library. Work includes crosswalks, ADA Accessibility improvements to existing crosswalk landings and related improvements.	Galax Elementary	\$369,414
Country Club Rd Sidewalk - SRTS	Harrisonburg	Staunton	The project will construct approximately 950 linear feet of 5' wide sidewalk, with variable width grass buffer, along the south side of Country Club Road between Linda Lane and the private road at Spotswood Homes Trailer Park. A crosswalk, with ADA curb ramps and audible pedestrian signals, will be constructed on the east side of the Linda Lane & Country Club Road intersection to connect the sidewalk to the shared use path on Linda Lane. Approximately 500 linear feet of curb and gutter, CG-6, will be constructed so that there is continuous curb and gutter along this segment. A curb ramp with detectable warning will provide access to the sidewalk from the private road. Additional storm sewer and stormwater structures will be constructed as necessary. Major utility relocations are not anticipated, but additional easement or ROW will be required for the sidewalk.	Smithland Elementary, Skyline Middle	\$609,916
Chancellor Park Drive Sidewalk	Spotsylvania County	Fredericksburg	To construct a 5 foot sidewalk along Chancellor Park Drive between Willow Pond Road and Harrison Road Elementary School. Project would complete a gap between planned sidewalk at the Chancellor Park Drive/Willow Pond Road intersection and existing sidewalk at Harrison Road Elementary School.	Harrison Road Elementary	\$4,113,864

## Activity Highlights

- Local, VDOT funded coordinators conducted virtual bike and PE classes
- The local coordinator in Galax held virtual story times with walking and biking themed books
- Weekly neighborhood scavenger hunts took place in Harrisonburg. Students could pick up prizes and other walk/bike incentives during meal pick-up.
- Statewide, continued to host national events, but with a twist to adhere to COVID restrictions



## Bike to Anywhere Day

In the absence of Bike to School Day the National Center for Safe Routes to School continued to host national events, such as Bike to Anywhere Day. Due to COVID restrictions students could no longer bike in large groups to school, instead students were encouraged to bike, walk, and run, in uncrowded areas. **Bike to Anywhere Day was established to encourage students to remain active.** The first event took place on May 6, 2020.

In addition to hosting Bike to School Day alternatives we provided parents and students with ideas and suggestions to keep them active while remaining compliant with COVID regulations. **Walk to School Day Any Way You Can** resources were put on the [walkbiketoschool.org](http://walkbiketoschool.org) website for parents and students to access. Those who wanted to register an event were able to do so from the site and were encouraged to register even if they only had a few participants.

**Walk to School Day, Any Way You Can!**  
**Virginia was #1 in registrations, with 239 events at 209 schools.**

