

# APPLICATION

#### **Timeline for FY2011 Solicitation**

September 14, 2009: Application available for Round 3

March 25, 2010: Application period closes. All applications must be

postmarked by March 25, 2010

Fall of 2010: Successful applicants notified

For updates on program information, please email <u>angela.olson@state.sd.us</u> if you intend to apply

PLEASE STUDY THE APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS DOCUMENT BEFORE COMPLETING THIS APPLICATION FORM.

# SOUTH DAKOTA SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL (SDSRTS) FY2010 APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

# SECTION 1 Applicant Information

## 1A. Project Manager Contact Person Monica Heller Title Community Planning Coordinator Project Name Meadowbrook SRTS Applicant Organization City of Rapid City Address 300 Sixth Street State SD Zip 57701 City Rapid City Phone 605 394 4120 Fax 605 394 6636 Email monica.heller@rcgov.org **1B. School Information** for multiple schools please include this school information for each school on an attachment. Label any attachments "Section 1B." School Meadowbrook Elementary School School Principal Michael Donohoe Principal Signature (X) \_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_ School Address 3125 W. Flormann Street City Rapid City Zip 57702 County Pennington School Grades K-5 (ex. K-5 or 6-8) School District Rapid City Area Zip 57701 Phone 605 394 4031 Fax 605 394 2514 E-mail Superintendent of School District: Dr. Peter Wharton Superintendent Signature (X) \_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Do you agree to provide time for in-classroom bicycle/pedestrian safety education? No ☐ Yes ☒ Do you agree to send home information about SRTS to parents? No $\square$ Yes 🖂

Do you agree to promote at least one school-wide Walk and Bike to School event?

Yes 🏻

No  $\square$ 

#### **SECTION 2**

### Partnerships/Sponsor

| 2A. School Partne | erships |
|-------------------|---------|
|-------------------|---------|

Provide a list of contacts at various partner organizations and government bodies. Contact the organizations and government bodies and provide letters of support for the Safe Routes to School Applicant.

\*Required partner.

| Nequired part  | uici.  |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Metropolitan Pl  | Metropolitan Planning Organization (if applicable)                           |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| MPO Rapid Cit  | MPO Rapid City Area Contact Monica Heller                                    |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Title Communit   | Title Community Planning Coordinator Phone 605 394 4120                      |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Is a letter supporthis partner?  | orting Safe Rou  | ites to School o  | n behalf of the applicant   | school(s) included from  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| check one  | YES 🛚  | NO 🗌  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *City, Town, Co  | ounty or Tribal A  | Administrator/Of  | ficial City of Rapid City   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Administrator/C  | Official's Name  | Alan Hanks Pho  | one 605 394 4110 Title  | Mayor  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Is a letter supporthis partner?  | orting Safe Rou  | ites to School o  | n behalf of the applicant   | school(s) included from  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| check one  | YES 🛚  | NO 🗌  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Local Law Enf   | forcement Rapid  | d City Police De  | partment  | Phone 605 394 4130   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Contact James  | s Johns  | Title Lieutenant  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Is a letter supporthis partner?  | orting Safe Rou  | ites to School o  | n behalf of the applicant   | school(s) included from  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| check one  | YES 🛛  | NO 🗌  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Optional Letters of Support: You may provide letters of support from other community organizations, Tribal entities or individuals to demonstrate broad local support for this initiative. Possible supporting groups include the Recreation and Parks Department, Planning Commission, Department of Public Works, Tribal Transportation or Planning Departments, Tribal Councils or Committees, PTA, Parents, Health and Safety Advocates, etc. Label attachment "Section 2A." |  |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| city, county or and state procusponsor on spo  | onsor will be the<br>Tribal Governm<br>urement policies<br>onsor's letterhea | e fiscal agent for<br>ent. SRTS requ<br>s and procedure<br>ad. Label any at | the project and must be ires that the signing party s. Include a letter of comtachments "Section 2B." | a representative of the<br>y be familiar with federal<br>nmitment from the project |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Print name Ala   | an Hanks   | Title Mayor of  | City of Rapid City  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Signature  |  |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

# Section 3 Selection Criteria/Application Questions

The following selection criteria and your answers to the related questions will be used to evaluate your application to the South Dakota SRTS program. You must provide answers to all the questions for your application to be considered complete. Your answers will help us ensure that our program is a good match for your community. It is important that we thoroughly understand your vision and needs. Applicants will be selected based on responses to these questions and how well the selection criteria are met.

#### 3A. Comprehensive nature of program (45 pts.)

Describe your SRTS program and how it will address each of the following "Es" – Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, Evaluation, and Engineering\*. Provide specific examples under each category, including a proposal of who will be responsible and in what time frame the activities will take place. Include an explanation of the role of classroom teachers in the proposed program. Identify if/how SRTS will be an extension of existing activities at the school. Safe Routes to School was created to address children's health and safety. Include how your SRTS program will directly address these issues. Show how your plan will address parental concerns found in the Parent Surveys and School Travel Plan http://www.sddot.com/srts/docs/GettingStartedToolKit.pdf.

Carefully explain how the expenditures found in Appendices E & F are a key component of your SRTS program (justify your expense request).

Attach a location map of the school with a 2-mile radius clearly marked around the school. Identify <u>current and potential</u> safe walking and bicycling routes to school. Attach an aerial photograph when available. <u>Include detailed maps</u> and photos <u>of the exact location where engineering projects will take place. Provide a description of the engineering project and reasons why it is needed Documents should be no larger than 11" X 17" in size Label attachment "Section 3A."</u>

#### See Attached

\*If you do not plan to implement one or more of the "5E's" using SRTS funding because your school currently has a program in place that effectively promotes the "E" objective, please briefly describe the program and how it will complement your new SRTS plan. Your score will not be negatively affected for having the program already in place and choosing not to use SRTS funds for the existing program.

#### See Attached

#### 3B. Community collaboration and support (25 pts.)

One of the key elements of a successful local SRTS program is the formation of a **Safe Routes to School Team**. The Team should include school officials, such as school nurses, PE teachers and principals; municipal officials, such as commissioners and local police; parents; safety advocates; health advocates; students; and other interested parties. List members of your SRTS Team, their titles and the role each has in a successful SRTS Program.

#### See Attached

| Name of Person<br>1. | Role | Organization Name |
|----------------------|------|-------------------|
| 2.                   |      |                   |
| 3.                   |      |                   |
| 4.                   |      |                   |

|   | 5.   |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
|   | 6.   |  |  |
|   | 7.   |  |  |
|   | 8.   |  |  |
|   |  |  |  |
| 3 | Describe have con                                  | the nature of<br>nmitted to wo<br>to walk or rid   | your SRTS Team's proposed collaborative effort. What organizations rking together with the SRTS Team on this project to encourage more a bicycles to school? What are their respective roles?  |
| 3 | Describe barriers ( the school taken to obarriers? | the existing of the existing o | and bicycling (15 pts.) conditions for walking and bicycling in each school area. Identify any ural, or perceived) to walking and bicycling that have been identified by a parent surveys, or other means. What steps, if any, have already been se barriers? How will your SRTS Plan improve these conditions and alking or cycling children been injured or killed in crashes involving or from school in the last five years? |
| 3 | Describe   | elements that<br>centage of st   | dvantaged community (5 pts.) t indicate economic needs in your community. For example, indicate udents in each school are eligible for free or reduced-cost meals?   |
| 3 | For each populatio road(s) the                     | on centers/nei<br>nat provide ac<br>or along a bus   | ss (10 pts.) led in the application, describe the location of the school relative to ghborhoods in the community. Include a description(s) of the primary cess to the school (Would students be getting to school on neighborhood y highway, do they have to cross particularly wide or busy roads, etc.)  |
|   | bicycling  | chool free fro<br>to school?<br>No   | n any policies that discourage or prohibit students from walking or Yes ⊠  |
|   | the Safe   |  | be the above question, are you willing to revise any such policies as part of nool program? Yes $\square$  |
|   |  | school partic  | ipated in International Walk to School Day or South Dakota School's  |
|   | Walk?  | No 🖂   | Yes  |
|   | Brid<br>N/A  | •  | the event and activities involved.   |

Describe any existing programs or activities beyond International Walk to School Day or South Dakota School's Walk that currently support or encourage walking or bicycling to school.

#### **SECTION 4**

#### Data

Applications without completed surveys entered into the National Safe Routes to School Data Base will not be considered for funding. The information obtained from these surveys should be used to determine the concerns of the parents and your comprehensive plan should include how your program will address these issues.

#### 4A. Travel Data

Go to <a href="www.sddot.com/srts/">www.sddot.com/srts/</a> (South Dakota Safe Routes to School website) and download evaluation materials found under the "How to Apply" link. Use these materials for Student and Parent Surveys for section 4A. <a href="Please follow the instructions for submitting completed">Please follow the instructions for submitting completed tally sheets to be entered into the National SRTS database.

Provide the information below for the applicant school(s). "Number of students bused, driven, walk," etc. is determined by four (4) or more trips to or from school. For example, a child may be driven every morning, but walk home in the afternoon. This child walks 5 times and is driven 5 times in that week. Therefore, the child should be counted in the number of walkers and the number of students driven. However if a child only walks on Fridays, the child is not considered a walker and should not be listed in that category because the child only walks two times per week.

Total number of students in all grades 575

Number of students who live within 2 miles of school 400 Percentage of Total 70%

Number of students who are bused 52 Percentage of total 9%

Number of students who are bused within 2 miles of school ("Hazardous Conditions Busing") 0
Percentage of Total 0%

Number of students who are eligible for busing 81 Percentage of Total 14%

Number of students who are driven in private vehicles 425 Percentage of Total 74%

Number of students who walk 63 Percentage of Total 11%

Number of students who ride a bicycle 23 Percentage of Total 4%

Number of students transported by daycare facilities 12 Percentage of Total 2%

#### 4B. Potential participation

What percentage of students at the applicant school <u>can</u> and potentially <u>will</u> walk and/or bicycle if improvements and programming are implemented? Show evidence of parental and school support for improvements and commitment to participate and encourage behaviors.

Label attachment "Section 4B."

<u>Percentage</u> of total school population who potentially will walk and/or bicycle AFTER SRTS improvements are implemented 42%

Current total percentage of walking and bicycling students 15%

Improvement 28%

#### **SECTION 5**

#### 5A. Funding

Fill out South Dakota Safe Routes to School Project Cost Estimate Forms and include with this application. Non-Infrastructure program costs need to cover a two-year period and must be 10-30% of the total project cost to comply with federal regulations. See Appendices E & F.

Amount Requested for Non Infrastructure \$20,500

Amount Requested for Infrastructure \$146,800

Total Project Cost \$167,300

Percentage of Total Cost requested for Non Infrastructure 12.25%

#### 5B. Leveraging funds

Explain any opportunities to leverage funds. *Reminder*- federal funds (including Safe Routes to School funds) **may not** be used to match other federal program funds (i.e. Transportation Enhancement Grant Funds). No match is required for SRTS Funds. We encourage organizations, schools, and municipalities to work with each other to determine the availability of additional funds and the priorities of the community. Indicate dollar amounts to be leveraged and attach any documentation supporting the opportunity, how SRTS Funds will be utilized in conjunction with those other funds, and letters of commitment. Applicants are encouraged to include leveraging funds to show community buy in and support. Leveraging funds may include donated goods or services.

Label attachment "Section 5B."

| 5C.  | Will you accept | an award less t | han you ap  | oplied for?  | No 🗌     | Yes          | $\boxtimes$ |
|------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------|----------|--------------|-------------|
| lf : | vou checked ves | document what   | nart of the | project is m | net vita | I for the su | 00          |

If you checked yes, document what part of the project is most vital for the success of your program. Breakout the costs associated with that part or segment of the program. If you are not willing to accept an award less than you applied for, your project may not be funded. Partial awards are made if insufficient funding is available to cover your whole project or if the Selection Committee chooses to fund only a portion of your SRST grant application. Please keep in mind the 10-30% federal requirement for non infrastructure funding. Label attachment "Section 5C."

See Attached

#### SECTION 6 Signature

| I hereby certify that, | , to the best of my k | nowledge, t | he information   | submitted in   | this application | and |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|-----|
| in the documents at    | ttached is accurate.  | I acknowled | dge that this ap | plication is n | ot a contract.   |     |

| Signature (X)                           | Date |
|---|------|
| • |      |

Printed Name

Appendix E: South Dakota Safe Routes to School Project Cost Estimate Non-Infrastructure

| lta m                                     | Overetite | l lait | Linit Drice | Requested    | Committed<br>Leveraging | Value of Donated<br>Goods or Services | Tatal Coat   |
|---|-----------|--------|-------------|--------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Item                                      | Quantity  | Unit   | Unit Price  | SRTS Funds   | Funds                   | (in-kind)                             | Total Cost   |
| EDUCATION                                 |           |        |             |              |                         |                                       |              |
| Promote Walk to School Day                | 1         |        | \$ 750.00   | \$ 750.00    |                         |                                       | \$ 750.00    |
| PE Class Handouts                         | 575       | Each   | \$ 1.00     | \$ 575.00    |                         |                                       | \$ 575.00    |
| Pedometers and recording sheets           | 575       | Each   | \$ 6.00     | \$ 3,450.00  |                         |                                       | \$ 3,450.00  |
| Parent Handouts                           | 575       | Each   | \$ 1.00     | \$ 575.00    |                         |                                       | \$ 575.00    |
| Bike Rodeo Materials                      | 1         |        | \$ 750.00   | \$ 750.00    |                         |                                       | \$ 750.00    |
|   |           |        |             |              |                         |                                       |              |
| ENCOURAGEMENT                             |           |        |             |              |                         |                                       |              |
| Bike (Student)                            | 2         | Each   | \$ 300.00   | \$ 600.00    |                         |                                       | \$ 600.00    |
| Cargo Trailer                             | 2         | Each   | \$ 200.00   | \$ 400.00    |                         |                                       | \$ 400.00    |
| Give-aways K- 5 (stickers, water bottles) | 575       | Each   | \$ 2.00     | \$ 1,150.00  |                         |                                       | \$ 1,150.00  |
| Printings of Banners and Flyers           | 1         |        | \$ 2,500.00 | \$ 2,500.00  |                         |                                       | \$ 2,500.00  |
| Advertisement in Local Paper              | 1         |        | \$ 500.00   | \$ 500.00    |                         |                                       | \$ 500.00    |
| Incentives                                | 250       | Each   | \$ 5.00     | \$ 1,250.00  |                         |                                       | \$ 1,250.00  |
| ENFORCEMENT                               |           |        |             |              |                         |                                       |              |
| Crossing Guard                            | 2         | year   | \$ 4,000.00 | \$ 8,000.00  |                         |                                       | \$ 8,000.00  |
| EVALUATION                                |           |        |             |              |                         |                                       |              |
| Parent Follow-up Surveys                  |           |        |             |              |                         | \$ 500.00                             | \$ 500.00    |
|   |           |        |             |              |                         |                                       |              |
| TOTAL                                     |           |        |             | \$ 20,500.00 |                         | 500                                   | \$ 21,000.00 |

Appendix F: South Dakota Safe Routes to School Project Cost Estimate Infrastructure

|                           |                                 |          |             |    |           |            | Value of Donated  |    |           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|-------------|----|-----------|------------|-------------------|----|-----------|
|                           |                                 |          |             |    |           | Requested  | Goods or Services |    |           |
| Location                  | Item                            | Quantity | Unit        | Uı | nit Price | SRTS Funds | (in-kind)         | Т  | otal Cost |
|                           |                                 |          |             |    |           |            | , ,               |    |           |
| Tomahawk/Arrowhead        | Beacons                         | 4        | unit        | \$ | 4,000     | \$ 16,000  | \$ 1,000          | \$ | 17,000    |
|                           | Speed Display Signs             | 2        | unit        | \$ | 4,000     | \$ 8,000   | \$ 500            | \$ | 8,500     |
|                           | Crosswalk                       | 2        |             | \$ | 200       | \$ 400     | \$ 100            | \$ | 500       |
|                           | School Zone and Pedestrian Xing | 12       | sign        | \$ | 100       | \$ 1,200   | \$ 800            | \$ | 2,000     |
|                           |                                 |          |             |    |           | \$ -       |                   |    |           |
| Sheridan Lake/Flormann    | Speed Display Signs             | 2        | unit        | \$ | 4,000     | \$ 8,000   | \$ 500            | \$ | 8,500     |
|                           | Count Down Ped Signals          | 6        | unit        | \$ | 200       | \$ 1,200   | \$ 100            | \$ | 1,300     |
|                           | Crossing Guard                  | 2        | year        | \$ | 4,000     | \$ 8,000   |                   | \$ | 8,000     |
|                           |                                 |          |             |    |           | \$ -       |                   |    |           |
| Flormann                  | Beacons                         | 1        | unit        | \$ | 4,000     | \$ 4,000   | \$ 250            | \$ | 4,250     |
|                           |                                 |          |             |    |           | \$ -       |                   |    |           |
| Arrowhead to School       | Sidewalk                        | 400      | lineal feet | \$ | 25        | \$ 10,000  | \$ 1,000          | \$ | 11,000    |
|                           |                                 |          |             |    |           | \$ -       |                   |    |           |
| Various Intersections (9) | H/C ramps                       | 72       | Ramp        | \$ | 1,250     | \$ 90,000  | \$ 9,000          | \$ | 99,000    |
|                           |                                 |          |             |    |           |            |                   |    |           |
| Total                     |                                 |          |             |    |           | \$ 146,800 | \$ 13,250         | \$ | 160,050   |

### **Application Checklist**

| Application completed  |
|--|
| Non-infrastructure projects total between 10-30% of total project cost                 |
| Project Sponsor is identified  |
| Maps are clear and legible   |
| All sections are answered in concise narrative   |
| All required attachments are provided (i.e. maps, letters of support, etc.)            |
| All photos have captions   |
| Evaluation forms are completed and submitted to National SRTS.                         |
| Project includes a combination of Education, Enforcement, Encouragement, Evaluation,   |
| and Engineering. (Only engineering is optional)  |
| Cost Estimate Sheet is completed   |
| Thirteen printed copies of application and attachments to be sent to SRTS Angela Olson |

### **Submitting your Applications**

Submit 12 copies of the completed application along with 12 copies of all attachments to:

South Dakota Department of Transportation Attention: Angela Olson Safe Routes to School 700 East Broadway Avenue Pierre SD 57501

Applications must be postmarked by March 25, 2010. Any application or attachments postmarked after the due date will <u>not</u> be considered. Do <u>not</u> send copies of the application instructions.

### Faxed applications will not be accepted.

If you have any questions about the program or application please submit them to:

Angela.olson@state.sd.us

Or call 605-773-2402

# 2A – Letters of Support



# **Rapid City Police Department**

300 Kansas City Street Rapid City, South Dakota 57701-2890 605-394-4131 An Internationally Accredited Law Enforcement Agency Steve Allender, Chief of Police Alan Hanks, Mayor



March 2, 2010

Angela Olson Department of Transportation South Dakota Safe Routes to School Coordinator 700 East Broadway Avenue Pierre SD 57501

Dear Ms. Olson,

This letter is authored to acknowledge the Rapid City Police Department is committed to assisting Meadowbrook Elementary School with their "Safe Routes to School" program. We will continue to assist school staff with projects, trainging of staff, and enforcement efforts at the school and in the neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Field Services

Tristan Rosson Áresident of PTA Meadowbrook Elementary School Rapid City, SD

SRTS Committee,

I am writing to you let you know the PTA of Meadowbrook supports a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program at Meadowbrook Elementary School.

Funds have been approved for the purchase of educational materials intended to promote the knowledge and practice of safe-commuting to school by foot or bicycle for Meadowbrooks students.

Furthermore, the PTA is interested in sponsoring a mileage program (including incentives to last the full school year), a bicycle rodeo (Spring 2010) and the International Walk to School Day event, October 6, 2010.

We take the safety and health of our children seriously and want to ensure that the proper education and infrastructure exists for them to enjoy an active childhood.

Please consider our application seriously so we can help the children at Meadowbrook Elementary school learn, live, and love a healthy lifestyle.

Tristan Rosson

Yours truly,

Dear Safe Routes to School committee,

We are in the early stages of starting a Safe Routes to School Program at Meadowbrook Elementary in Rapid City. This is an awesome program that we hope to implement as a spring board to healthy living and active lifestyles in our community.

Since we are practicing physical therapists, we see first hand what can happen when one does not take proper care of themselves. As our population's rate obesity on the rise, the consequences are grim. Activity needs to become a lifestyle and that lifestyle needs to be implemented at an early age. Imagine the impact active kids who become healthy, active adults can have on many of our country's biggest challenges: obesity, diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure, depression and even dependence on foreign oil.

Children (and often their parents) should to be reminded that walking and biking are viable forms of transportation. As such, functional exercise can be an important component to maintaining a healthy lifestyle. SRTS will provide a pivotal role in educating Meadowbrook's students about the options of walking and biking for exercise and function as well as how to safely engage in both activities. Additionally, the SRTS program will promote participation through incentives.

In summary, we support the SRTS program at Meadowbrook because it encompasses education, encouragement and enforcement and has a track record of success in other communities. As parents of students at Meadowbrook, we will use our energy and resources to ensure that this program is successful in our community as well.

Please help up us make our dream of an active and healthy community come true by supporting Meadowbrook and their efforts to establish a SRTS program.

Sincerely,

Nancy and Phil Rusching

### Section 3A -E and 5C

#### 3.A. Comprehensive Nature of Program

Meadowbrook Elementary School plans to use the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program to educate children and parents about the benefits of walking and biking. The school intends to promote walking and biking as a safe and healthy alternative to get to school. The Meadowbrook Elementary SRTS Program consists of a balance between adding safe and convenient sidewalks and street crossings to the school and providing the appropriate education, enforcement, evaluation and encouragement to the students and parents to provide them with the necessary tools to live healthy and active lifestyles.

Meadowbrook Elementary School has a high percentage of students living within two miles of the school. Installing safe and convenient sidewalks and street crossings and ensuring a safe zone around the school by educating the parents and students will make walking and bicycling more appealing for students and parents.

In order to have a successful program, Meadowbrook Elementary School and the Rapid City School District will made it a priority to ensure that the "Five E's" of the program are addressed in an effective manner. The method to accomplish incorporating each of the categories is addressed below.

#### **Education:**

Education is essential in creating a safe environment for children to travel to and from school by means of walking and bicycling. Meadowbrook Elementary School is committed to educating children about the importance of physical activity and healthy living choices and will continue to provide such educational programs. Meadowbrook Elementary School currently has the third graders participate in the "Don't Thump Your Melon" program at Rapid City Regional Hospital. The police department liason officer actively participates by teaching the kids about "stranger danger" and biking and walking safely and is often on site to monitor the parents behavior during pick up and drop off times. Just recently, the Parent Teacher's Association has purchased two DVDs for the school on walking and biking and the PE Teacher has agreed to incorporate these into the curriculum. A walking course has been set up in side the school to encourage kids and teachers to walk even when the weather is bad. A bike rodeo is planned in May 2010 and the school's newletter has been promoting biking and walking.

Prior to the beginning of the school year, flyers will be sent to all parents to provide information on the best walking and biking routes to school and to inform the parents of traffic circulation and safety issues when driving around the school. Meadowbrook School will also participate in a Walk to School Day and incorporate more walking programs in their curriculum, including the use of pedometers.

#### **Encouragement:**

In an effort to make bicycling and walking activities that children are excited about doing, Meadowbrook Elementary School has put together a plan to encourage these activities. The school will offer incentives to the children who bike and walk to school and will also have a walking/running club so that children who live too far to walk to school can still participate to receive incentives. Students will be awarded with incentives such as helmets, bike locks and backpacks for participating in the walking and bicycling activities or meeting established milestones.

Several parents have expressed an interested in starting a walking school bus. Due to the age of elementary school students some concern has been expressed about children walking without an adult and also about the amount of material children need to carry. A walking school bus that has access to a cargo trailer would address both of these concerns.

The City of Rapid City and Meadowbrook Elementary School will utilized the local media to promote activities relating to walking and bicycling by inviting the television stations to events encouraging these activities. The local newspaper and the school newsletter and website also promoted these activities.

#### **Enforcement:**

The school principal and police department liaison officer will continue to monitor traffic flow around the school and educate parents and students on proper safety procedures when mixing cars, pedestrian and bicycle in this congested area. Notifying the members of the community about the importance of driving safely in school zones is essential for a successful program. The additional school zone and speed limit display signs will help remind drivers that they are near a school and will also help with enforcement efforts.

The comment made the most on the parent surveys was the need for a crossing guard at Sheridan Lake Rd and Flormann St. Sheridan Lake Road is a four lane road with over 13,000 cars a day and is posted at 35 mph. There is currently a traffic signal with pedestrian signals at the intersection, but parents are still concerns with their elementary age students crossing this intersection. The grant application proposes funding a crossing guard at this intersection for two years, the installation of count down pedestrian signals and speed display signs prior to the intersection on Sheridan Lake Road. At the end of the two year period, the City of Rapid City will evaluate the number of students to determine if a crossing guard is warranted. If a crossing guard is warranted the City of Rapid City will continue to fund the crossing guard position.

The City of Rapid City will also work with residents along Sheridan Lake Road to ensure that vehicles are not parked blocking the sidewalk and that vegetation is trimmed to ensure adequate sight distance. Both of these issues were identified in the parent survey. The Rapid City Police Department will also continue to enforce speed limits and laws in the City of Rapid City.

#### **Evaluation:**

The Safe Routes to School Program will be evaluated by surveying parents, staff and students. Survey results will be used to determine what has been effective and what activities, if any, need to be modified.

#### **Engineering:**

The infrastructure portion of the grant application focuses on safe and convenient sidewalks and street crossings. Nine intersections have been identified along major pedestrian routes to the school that need handicap ramps; the installation of the handicap ramps will be especially beneficial to those riding a bike to school. In addition to the handicap ramps there

is a portion of sidewalk (200 feet) that needs to be replaced along Arrowhead Dr and a portion of sidewalk (200 feet) that needs to be constructed along the west side of the driveway to the south parking lot of the school. There is currently a sidewalk on the east side of the driveway, but the majority of students using this access are coming from the west.

In addition to the construction of handicap ramps and sidewalks, the infrastructure portion also addresses signing and pavement markings. The following signing and pavement marking items are requested: an additional school zone and crossings at the intersection of Arrowhead Dr and Tomahawk Dr, speed display signs on Arrowhead Dr, school zone beacons on Flormann St between Argyle St and Arrowhead Dr, count down pedestrian signals at Sheridan Lake Road and Flormann St, and speed display signs on Sheridan Lake Road.

The City of Rapid City has committed to providing the design and construction management of the handicap ramps and sidewalks and will install all the pavement markings and signs.

#### 3.B. Community Collaboration and Support

| Name of Person | Role                             | Organization Name         |
|----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Monica Heller  | Community Planning Coordinator   | City of Rapid City/MPO    |
| Kip Harrington | Planner                          | City of Rapid City/MPO    |
| John Less      | City Traffic Engineer            | City of Rapid City        |
| Jerry Cole     | Director of Parks and Recreation | City of Rapid City        |
| Jeff Alexander | Liaison Officer                  | City of Rapid City Police |
| Nancy Busching | Parent                           |                           |
| Tristan Rosson | Parent                           | President of the PTA      |
| Mike Donohoe   | Principal                        | Meadowbrook Elementary    |

The City of Rapid City will take the lead on the engineering component of the 5E's and will provide the design and construction management of the handicap ramps and sidewalks and install the pavement markings and signs. The Meadowbrook PTA, teachers and the Rapid City Police department will collaborate on the education, encouragement, enforcement and evaluation.

#### 3.C. Barriers to Walking and Bicycling

Physical conditions that prevent students from walking and biking to school include lack of handicap ramps at intersections, lack of crossing guard at the intersection of Sheridan Lake Road and Flormann Street, and perceive speed of traffic on Sheridan Lake Road and Arrowhead Dr. Surveys completed by parents indicated that many of the parents would be willing to allow children to walk or bike to school, but due to the lack of safe routes for children they do not feel it would be safe to allow them to walk and bike to school without parental supervision.

Installing handicap ramps, the addition of a school zone and crossing on Arrowhead, and safety improvements to the intersection of Sheridan Lake Road and Flormann Str. will make walking and bicycling more appealing for students and parents. Meadowbrook Elementary School, the PTA and the Rapid City Police Department will be able to educate the community and students about the benefits walking and biking to school.

#### 3.D. Economically Disadvantaged Community

The percentage of students who qualify to receive a reduced or free school lunches is 13%.

#### 3.E. Potential for Success

The City of Rapid City, the Rapid City School District, and members of the community are committed to working together on a Safe Routes to School Plan that can be implemented successfully and will result in more children walking and bicycling to school.

The Infrastructure Plan consists of carefully the obstacles noted by parents in the survey and City and School staff. The application proposes to constructive handicap ramps along key routes to school, add a school zone and crossing and improve a crossing of a major four lane road by adding countdown timers and a crossing guard.

Meadowbrook Elementary School is very excited about encouraging and educating their parents and students about walking and biking to school. Every year the school's third graders participate in the "Don't Thump Your Melon" program. The school also has adequate bicycle racks for students chosing to ride their bikes to school. The polic department liason officer actively participates by teaching the kids about "stranger danger" and biking and walking safely and is often on site to monitor the parents behavior during pick up and drop off times. Just recently, the Parent Teacher's Association has purchased two DVDs for the school on walking and biking and the PE Teacher has agreed to incorporate these into the curriculum. A walking course has been set up in side the school to encourage kids and teachers to walk even when the weather is bad. A bike rodeo is planned in May 2010 and the school's newletter has been promoting biking and walking.

With the added infrastructure requested in this grant application and the additional educational, ecouragement and enforcement programs that this grant will make possible, the potential for success if very high for Meadowbrook Elementary School's Safe Routes to School program.

#### 5.C. Will the City of Rapid City Accept an Award for Less than Applied for?

The City of Rapid City will accept an award for less than the total amount applied for. Cost estimates are included in Attachment F. The most important elements of the infrastructure program are the school zone signs, beacons, speed display signs; count down pedestrian signals and repairing (200 feet) and adding (200 feet) sidewalk. These items would cost \$56,080. The second priority would be the handicap ramps along Flormann (5 intersections), which would cost \$50,000 and the third priority would be the handicap ramps at the four remaining intersections, which would cost \$40,000.