Connecticut Department of Transportation

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Infrastructure Program Federal Fiscal Years 2010-11

Application Form

Note: In order to qualify for funding, projects must be within a 1-mile radius of an elementary or middle school site.

1. Applicant Information (To be completed by project sponsor):

Applicant: (Project Sponsor) Town of Mansfield/Lon Hultgren, Director of Public Works

Address: A.P. Beck Municipal Building, 4 South Eagleville Road

City: Mansfield Zip Code 06268-2599

Phone: 860.429.3332 Ext.: _____ E-mail: HultgrenLR@mansfieldct.org

School Name(s): Southeast Elementary School

School District(s): Mansfield Public Schools

School Contact Name(s): Fred A. Baruzzi, Superintendent, Mansfield Public Schools

Phone: 860.429.3356 Ext.: _____ E-mail: BaruzziFA@mansfieldct.org

Eligible Project Classifications: (See Eligible Projects in Appendix A)

- ✓ Sidewalk Improvements
- ___ Traffic Calming and Speed Reduction
- ___ Bicycle Parking Facilities
- ___ Traffic signals
- ✓ Crosswalks
- ___ Warning Devices
- ___ Signing
- ___ Pavement Markings
- ___ Other _____

Connecticut Department of Transportation
Safe Routes to School
Infrastructure Program
FFY 2010-11

The applicant's responses to the following will be used to evaluate the proposed project. Please limit text responses to each question to 2 pages.

2. **Please submit a comprehensive pre-existing SRTS Master Plan with each copy of application. Color coded mapping should reflect true color (do not submit black and white copies).** A comprehensive SRTS Master Plan should include the 5 "E"'s. Pre-existing SRTS Master Plan must contain at a minimum, the following information:

   - Identification of SRTS Team
   - Community involvement meetings. Meeting notes and/or public comments should be provided in the plan
   - Evaluation through analysis of a school-wide travel survey to assess the various transportation modes students use to go to and from school; and attitudinal surveys administered to parents and students, identifying their concerns. Evaluation efforts are an essential part of a comprehensive SRTS Master Plan and a requirement for applying for infrastructure funding. Submitted applications without this information will be removed from further consideration.
   - Assessment of current conditions in vicinity of school, including but not limited to, street traffic, parent and bus drop-off locations, sidewalks, crossings, and the overall safety of existing routes to school
   - A list of planned infrastructure engineering improvement(s) for consideration by local government entity for funding. Financial support from government entity for funding construction is recommended, in case project is selected for funding by SRTS program.
   - Any existing or planned enforcement, encouragement and education activities for students. Some examples of activities are "walking school bus" programs, "bike train programs" and other bicycle and pedestrian "safety" initiatives. See Appendix B for sample Noninfrastructure Activities.

Please see attached SRTS Master Plan for Southeast Elementary School.

3. **Existing Conditions** - Provide a physical description of the current pedestrian/bicycling operations. Safety hazards (physical or perceived) or risks facing children who walk and/or bicycle to and from the school site(s) should be identified.

Southeast Elementary School is located along the east side of Warrenville Road/Route 89 in Mansfield Center. No sidewalks or bikeways exist either to the north or the south of the school. Approximately six tenths of a mile to the south, there is a Town walkway on both sides of Storrs Road /Route 195 which connects the houses and businesses along Route 195 in Mansfield Center (between Route 89 and Bassetts Bridge Road). The northern termination of this walkway is at the signalized intersection at Routes 195 and 89.

In addition to Southeast School, there are several other family attractions located along this section of Route 89, all on the east side of the road. The Town's Library is located on the same (east side) of Route 89 approximately four tenths of a mile to the south of the school. A playground is located on the northern side of the library.

Left: View of Mansfield Public Library from Route 89 northbound.

Right: Playground at Mansfield Public Library

To the immediate north of the school are the Town's major youth baseball complex (3 fields), a football practice field (used by both the high school and youth football groups) and an entrance to the Mansfield Hollow State Park via trails and parking areas.

Ballfields adjacent to Southeast School

Route 89 itself is a 2-lane highway with moderate traffic. Due to the alignment and width of Route 89, traffic travels considerably faster than the 30 MPH posted speed limit, and as such walking or biking along the shoulder of the road is not advisable, particularly for elementary school-age children.

The photos above provide examples of the varying shoulder conditions along the east side of Route 89. As can be seen in the photos, due to the changing shoulder width and various obstructions along the edge of the right-of-way, there is no continuous safe zone for pedestrians or bicyclists to use.

Route 89 near Route 195 is bounded by wetlands to the east and south and has a 90 degree bend with very little shoulder making walking or biking through this area very dangerous. Because of the curve and the lack of shoulder, one cannot even walk off the road in this location.

Looking north along Route 89 from intersection with Route 195

There are two intersections between the school and Route 195 along Route 89: The first is at the intersection of Centre Street just past the above-mentioned curve, and the second is at Pinewoods Lane between the Library and the school. There are also several residential driveways along this stretch of road and the two driveways north and south of the Town's Library serving small parking areas on either side of the complex.

Intersection of Route 89 with Centre Street

Although the eastern side shoulder is minimal and adjacent to lower/wet areas at the south end of Route 89, the land along the road shoulder from the 90 degree curve up to the school is reasonably flat and "at grade" except for a section approximately two hundred feet long just south of the school which borders one residence.

4. **Purpose and Need** – Provide a brief description of how the project will resolve the existing safety hazards.

As noted under Existing Conditions, above, Southeast Elementary School is located on a winding two-lane highway with minimal shoulders and no off-road pedestrian facilities. While the traffic volume is considered moderate (4,100 ADT[1]), many vehicles are traveling at speeds greater than the posted 30 MPH speed limit. The Resident Trooper provided the following information on traffic enforcement incidents along Route 89 for the time period starting July 1, 2010 and ending June 30, 2011:

- **Driving Under the Influence: 3**
- **Traffic Accident-No Injuries: 8**
- **Traffic Accident-With Injuries: 9**
- **Traffic Stops: 140**
- **Traffic Stop/Multi-Enforcement: 2**

These conditions present very real safety challenges for all pedestrians, as evidenced by responses to the parental survey conducted by Southeast Elementary School. As shown below, safety was key factor for the 104 respondents in determining whether they would let their children walk to school.

- **When asked what issues affect the decision to let children walk or bike to school, the top three responses were:**
  - **No sidewalks/pathways all the way to school**
  - **Cars go too fast along route**
  - **Too much traffic along route**
- **When asked to rate the safety of walking to school, 78.9% of respondents responded unsafe (40.2%) or very unsafe (38.5%)**
- **Specific comments received included:**
  - **Would love to have our child walk/bike to school, there is a great need for a sidewalk from 195 to Southeast**
  - **There is really no way for my kids to walk to school and be safe, there is no sidewalk for them to walk on the main road**
  - **I would fully support walking to school if there were sidewalks**
  - **I used to walk to school and wish my kids could be the same. It is healthy and great for the environment. The only reason they do not walk is the lack of safe sidewalks.**

[1] Source: 2008 Traffic Count Map for Mansfield prepared by ConnDot (Station Number 38 just east of Rt. 195/Rt.89 intersection). Data collection period was July-September 2008.

- **We go to the library from school rather frequently and it would be fun if we could walk there**
- **Mansfield needs more walking routes that are safe, our town has no shoulders on the roads**

The map to the right identifies students that live within close proximity to Southeast School (located by the Route 89 symbol) and could benefit from the addition of a safe pedestrian connection.

To address the issues identified above, the proposed project would add a 5-foot wide walkway along the east side of Route 89 from Route 195 to the Southeast School and crosswalks at the intersections of Route 89 with Centre Street and Pinewoods Lane. These improvements will allow Southeast School students and other pedestrians to walk between Route 195 and the school, where walking is now dangerous due to the conditions described in under Existing Conditions, above.

In addition to allowing residents and children who live along this stretch of Route 89, in the Centre Street/Edgewood Lane/Edgewood Extension/Clark Street Area and along Pine Woods Lane to walk to the school, the library, two playgrounds and the youth baseball campus, this walkway will connect to the existing walkway along Route 195 in Mansfield Center which fronts several businesses, homes, a general store, the Mansfield Center Post Office, and several apartments. The walkway along Route 195 is located on both sides of the street from Bassetts Bridge Road to Warrenville Road/Route 89; crosswalks are striped at key intersections along the route.

Upon project completion, one will be able to walk safely all the way from Bassetts Bridge Road to the Southeast School, a distance of approximately 1.1 miles. This project has been on the Town's walkway priority list since the Mansfield Center Walkway was constructed in 2003 (DOT Enhancement Project #77-189). The walkway will also provide a pedestrian connection to the trail that currently terminates at Mansfield Hollow State Park, located just to the north of the ballfields.

5. **Project Description** - Provide a detailed description of the proposed improvements.

- Provide project location plan.
  A Project Location Map is attached as Exhibit 5A.

- Provide conceptual plan of project. Recommended conceptual plan size limit is 11" x 17"; however, if detailed conceptual plans are available, 24" x 36" plans can be submitted.
  A Preliminary Concept Plan is attached as Exhibit 5B.

A five (5) foot wide, bituminous walkway will be constructed along the east side of Route 89 from its intersection with Route 195 to the Southeast Elementary School property (total distance ±3,300 feet). The preliminary engineering assessment noted the following features that will be incorporated into the design:

1. **Fill along the wetlands between Rt 195 and the first curve on Rt 89. This will also require that a 36" culvert be extended. The roadside swale approaching the first curve will also need to be relocated to allow for the pathway.**

2. **A mature Arborvitae hedge and an old rubble wall (not in pristine shape) just to the north of Clark Street will have to be relocated.**

3. **A similar hedge just south of Pinewoods Lane will have to be replanted to make room for the walkway.**

4. **A brick landscaping wall along a residential driveway just north of Pinewoods Lane will have to be altered to make room for the walkway.**

5. **The existing retaining wall just south of the school property will have to be rebuilt or at least extended to provide room at the level of the roadway for the new walkway.**

6. **Pedestrian crosswalks will be striped at the entrances to Clark Street/Centre Street and Pinewoods Lane which are on the proposed walkway routing.**

7. **A local wetlands permit will be required for work within 150 feet of wetlands**

8. **A DOT encroachment permit will be required for work within the State's Route 89 right-of-way.**

9. **Because the beginning of this walkway is within the Town's Mansfield Center Historic District, a review by the Historic District Commission will be required. (A similar review was required for the Mansfield Center Walkway along Route 195.)**

6. **Project Constructability/Potential Impacts -** Describe if project will involve impacts to any of the following: wetlands, utilities, retaining walls, storm water drainage, bridges, culverts, historical properties and parks, traffic signals or railroad crossings.
   - ***Wetlands.*** **As noted under Project Description, above, there are wetlands along the first section of Route 89 that will require a local permit. The impacts to this area will be minor, and if necessary mitigated to satisfy the Inland Wetlands Agency.**
   - ***Culverts.*** **A DOT culvert on Route 89 near the first curve will have to be extended, and a short section of road's edge swale will have to be moved south and east as well. Neither is expected to be complicated.**
   - ***Fences/Walls.*** **A low-height (less than 2 feet) brick landscaping wall will have to be altered for the walkway to pass over a residential driveway; perimeter fencing along the road will also need to be relocated on the same property. A short section of rubble wall will also have to be moved near one residence.**
   - ***Landscaping.*** **Two mature arborvitae hedges will have to be relocated to provide room for the walkway. The Town has recently done a similar hedge relocation for its Separatist Road bikeway.**
   - ***Retaining Walls.*** **Up to 200 feet of a 6 foot retaining wall will either have to be rebuilt or extended along a residential driveway area that parallels Route 89 just south of the school property.**
   - ***Easements.*** **Up to 9 easements along the proposed walkway frontage may be required to accommodate the facility. As per the SRTS program guidelines, the Town will procure these easements in conformance with the Federal Relocation act. The Town has procured similar easements for many of its bikeway/walkway projects.**
   - ***Historic Properties.*** **Historic District Commission review will be required for the portion of the walkway within the Mansfield Center Historic District.**

7. **Letters of Support** – Identify all partner organizations that will play a role in completing the project by providing letters of support.

   Note: If your project is short listed for funding, a resolution of support will be required. See Appendix D.

   Please see attached letters of support from the following organizations
   - **Town of Mansfield:** Letter of Support from Town Manager Matthew Hart
   - **Mansfield Public Schools:** Letter of Support from Superintendent Fred Baruzzi
   - **Eastern Highlands Health District:** Letter of Support from Director Robert Miller
   - **Connecticut State Police:** Letter of Support from Resident Trooper Sergeant James Kodzis
   - **Mansfield Advocates for Children:** Letter of Support from Sandy Baxter
   - **ACHIEVE:** Letter of Support from Ande Bloom, ACHIEVE Coach
   - **Mount Hope Montessori School:** Letter of Support from Director Kathleen Krider

8. **Preliminary Construction Cost Estimate:**
   It is recommended that project costs range from $150,000 to $500,000.
   Costs estimates may change during design and construction phases of project, and any final costs that actually exceed the estimate will be the responsibility of the municipality.

Contract Items**	$ 412,500
Contingencies (10% of Contract Items)	$ 41,300
Incidentals – State (10% of Contract Items)	$ 41,300
Right-of-Way/Easements	$ By Town
Design	$ By Town
Construction Engineering – Municipality (Inspection) (if applicable)	$ By Town
Total Estimated Construction Cost	$ 495,100

**** The Department's Preliminary Cost Estimate Guidelines and Project Cost Estimating Worksheet is available at following link:**
http://www.ct.gov/dot/cwp/view.asp?A=2303&Q=273364

Connecticut Department of Transportation
Safe Routes to School
Infrastructure Program
FFY 2010-11

Application Certification and Signatures:

Appropriate officials are to certify as to the completeness and accuracy of the application and sign and date the application.

By signing below, I certify that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments thereto, and I certify that the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that a false statement made in the submitted information may be punishable as a criminal offense under § 53a-157b of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Local Agency Official (Public Works, Town Engineer, etc.)

Name: Lon Hultgren Title: Director of Public Works

Phone Number: 860.429.3332 Email: HultgrenLR@mansfieldct.org

Signature: Date: 8/1/11

School Official (Superintendent, Principal, etc.)

Name: Fred A. Baruzzi Title: Superintendent

Phone Number: 860.429.3356 Email: BaruzziFA@mansfieldct.org

Signature: Date: 8/1/11

Local Law Enforcement Agency Approval

It is recommended that the applicant obtain a letter of support from its local law enforcement agency showing support for the project or obtain the official's signature on the application form.

Signature: Date: 8/1/11

Sergeant James Kodzis, Resident Trooper

Connecticut Department of Transportation
Safe Routes to School
Infrastructure Program
FFY 2010-11

Application Submission Checklist

☐ Application form is completed; Questions 1-7 are answered in a concise narrative, no more than 2 pages per section; application signed by applicants.

☐ All appropriate documents are attached:

- ☐ Safe Routes to School Master Plan (required)
- ☐ Mapping and/or photographs
- ☐ Letters of agreements from project partners (school districts, principal, municipalities, etc.)
- ☐ Letters of support (Parent Teacher Association, neighborhood associations, community, etc.)
- ☐ Construction Estimate (Question 8)

☐ Applicant: Submit three (3) copies of applications and attachments to Regional Planning Organization by August 1, 2011. (See Appendix C.)

☐ Regional Planning Organization: Submit application packages to SRTS State Coordinator by August 29, 2011.

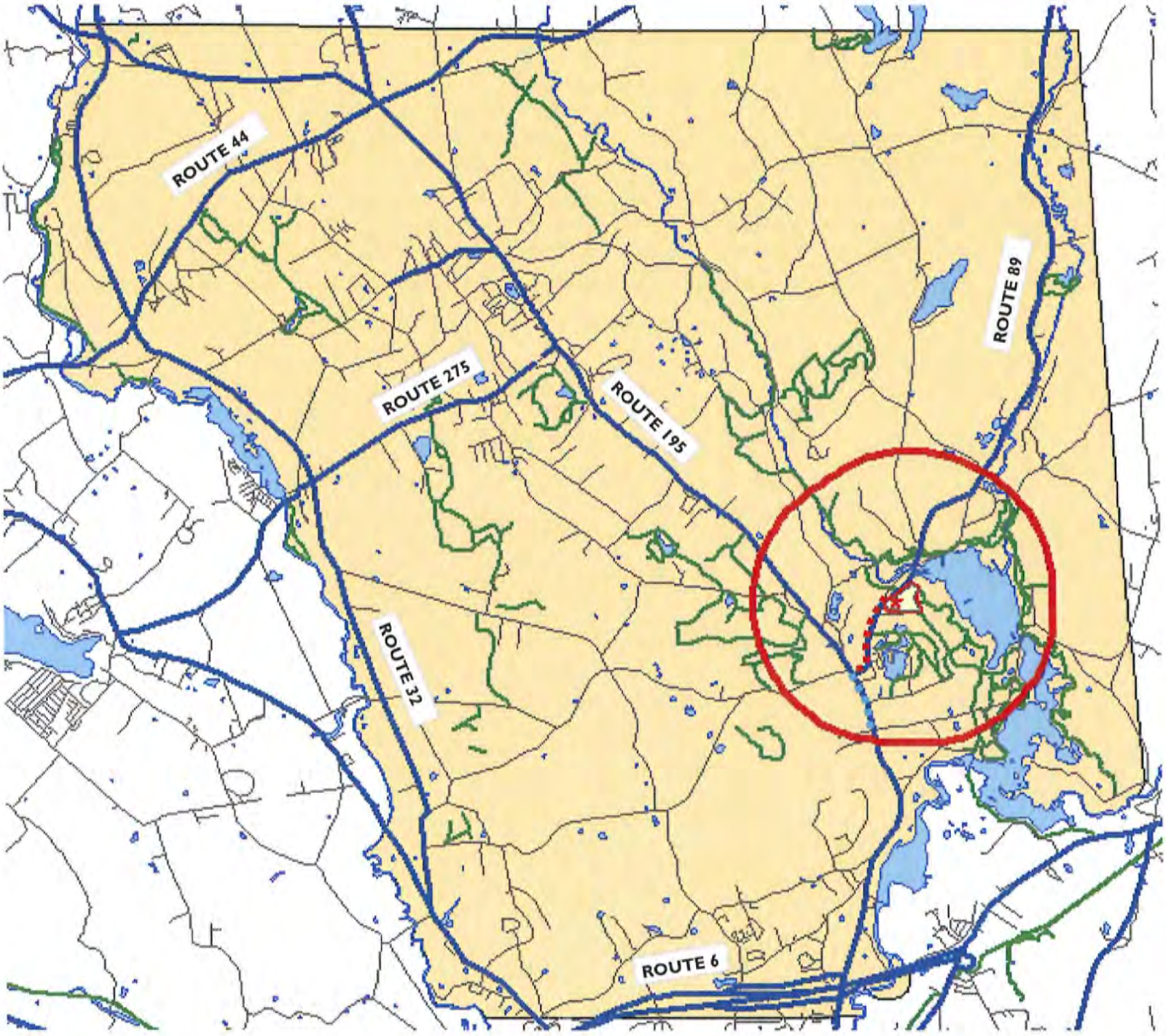
Forward written or emailed inquiries about application or funding awards to:

Sharon Okoye, SRTS State Coordinator
Connecticut Department of Transportation
Bureau of Policy and Planning
Office of Strategic Planning, Room 2136
2800 Berlin Turnpike
Newington, CT 06111
Email: sharon.okoye@ct.gov

Town of Mansfield

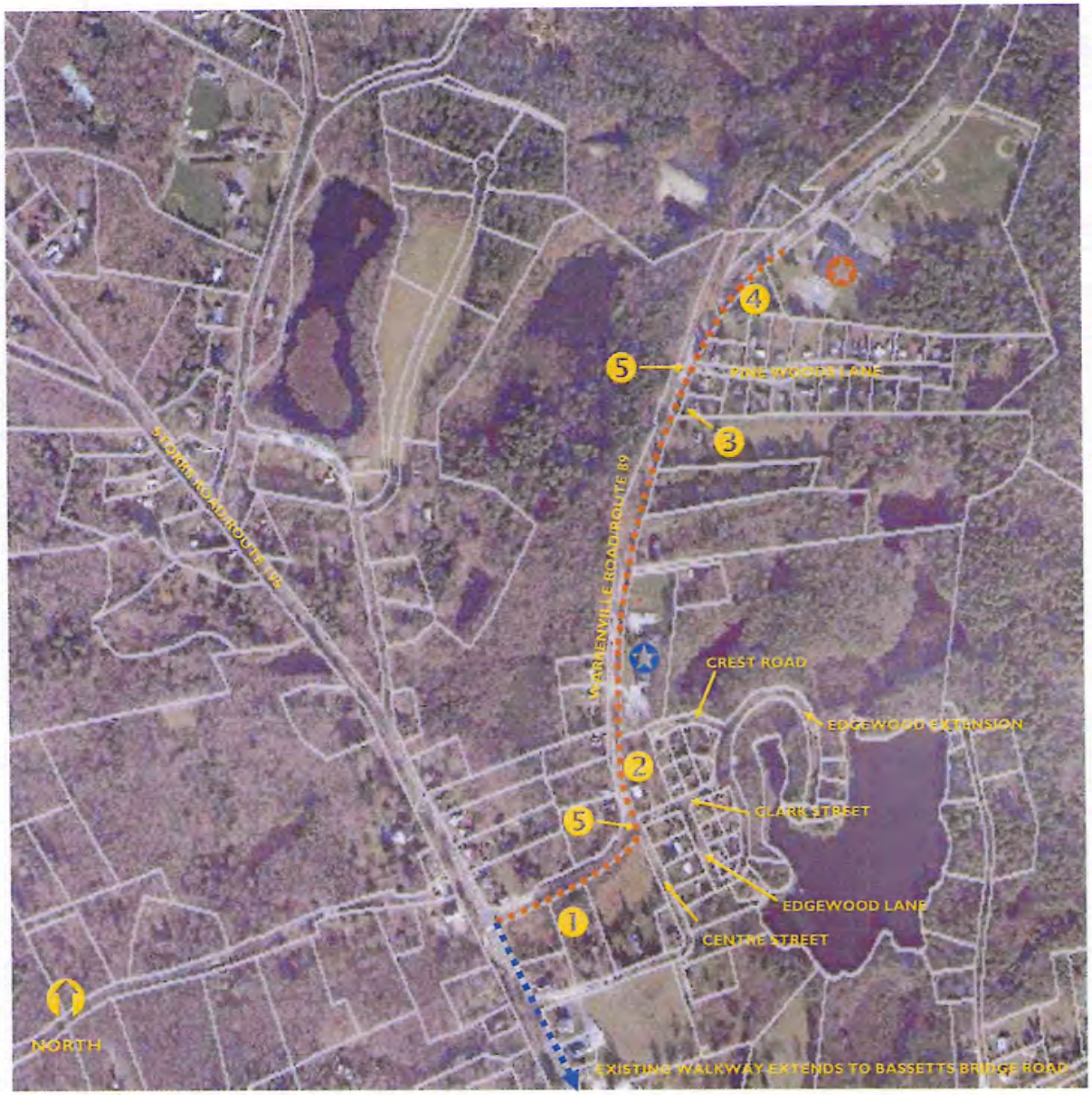
Southeast Elementary School Walkway

Location Map (Exhibit 5A)



Map Legend

- Southeast Elementary School
- One Mile Radius from Southeast Elementary School
- Existing Trail System
- Existing Walkway within 1 mile radius of Southeast School
- Proposed Walkway



Town of Mansfield

Southeast Elementary School Walkway

Preliminary Concept Plan (Exhibit 5B)

Southeast Elementary School

Mansfield Public Library

Property Lines/Existing Right-of-Way boundaries

Proposed Walkway (±3,300 Feet)
A 5-foot wide bituminous walkway will be constructed along the east side of Route 89/Warrenville Road from its intersection with Route 195/Storrs Road to Southeast Elementary School. Where possible, the walkway will be constructed within the existing right-of-way; easements will be obtained when needed.

Existing Walkway (±2,330 Feet)
A 5-foot wide bituminous walkway currently exists along the east side of Route 195/Storrs Road from the southeast corner of Route 195 and Route 89/ Warrenville Road south to Bassetts Bridge Road (see Exhibit 5A • Location Map)

Key Design Features

As identified in Preliminary Engineering Assessment

1. **Route 195/Storrs Road to Centre Street**
Fill along the wetlands between Rt 195 and the first curve on Rt 89. This will also require that a 36" culvert be extended. The roadside swale approaching the first curve will also need to be relocated to allow for the pathway.

2. **34 Warrenville Road (NEC Warrenville Road and Clark Street)**
A mature Arborvitae hedge and an old rubble wall (not in pristine shape) just to the north of Clark Street will have to be relocated.

3. **100 Warrenville Road**
A similar hedge to the one located at 34 Warrenville Road will have to be replanted to make room for the walkway.

4. **118 Warrenville Road**
   - A brick landscaping wall along a residential driveway will have to be altered to make room for the walkway.
   - The existing retaining wall just south of the school property will have to be rebuilt or at least extended to provide room at the level of the roadway for the new walkway.
   - An existing fence will need to be relocated and landscaping re-established.

5. **Crosswalks**
Pedestrian crosswalks will be striped at the entrances to Centre/Clark Street and Pinewoods Lane.

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

Matthew W. Hart, Town Manager

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING
FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD
MANSFIELD, CT 06268-2599
(860) 429-3336
Fax: (860) 429-6863

August 1, 2011

Ms. Norma Fisher-Doiron
Principal
Southeast Elementary School
134 Warrenville Road
Mansfield, Connecticut 06268

Re: Safe Routes to School Application for Southeast Elementary

Dear Norma:

The Town of Mansfield is very excited to be partnering with the Mansfield Board of Education in supporting your application for a Safe Routes to School Infrastructure grant from the Connecticut Department of Transportation. In recognition of the importance of this project, the Town Council voted unanimously on July 25, 2011 to support this grant application.

As you know, the health and safety of our children is one of the town's highest priorities. We have long identified the section of Warrenville Road (Route 89) between Southeast School and Storrs Road (Route 195) as a key project in our sidewalk plan, recognizing the importance of linking the school to Mansfield Center and the Mansfield Public Library.

Additionally, the town is committed to encouraging all of our residents to become more physically active. I hope that the Southeast School Safe Routes to School program at Southeast becomes a model program for not just our other schools, but the greater community as well. The town is fully prepared to partner in all aspects of your Safe Routes to School Master Plan, and I look forward to participating in your first International Walk to School Day on October 5, 2011.

Sincerely,

Matthew W. Hart
Town Manager

CC: Lon Hultgren, Director of Public Works
Linda Painter, Director of Planning and Development

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF MANSFIELD, CONNECTICUT

FREDERICK A. BARUZZI, SUPERINTENDENT

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING
FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD
MANSFIELD, CT 06268
(860) 429-3350
Fax: (860) 429-3379

July 15, 2011

Norma Fisher-Doiron, Principal
Southeast School
134 Warrenville Road
Mansfield, CT 06268

Dear Ms. Fisher-Doiron:

Your efforts to improve the safety of the route to Southeast School through the Connecticut Department of Transportation funding opportunity and the Safe Routes to School model are commendable. This initiative is strongly supported by the Mansfield Board of Education Central Office.

The Board of Education Central Office and the local community are both well aware of the lack of access to Southeast School by children in the surrounding neighborhoods. The funds made available through this Department of Transportation grant to create a sidewalk in front of the school would clearly allow many children and families safe access through active transportation. The benefits of physical activity for children, especially through walking and riding bikes to school are numerous, and the school district has a history of supporting efforts to encourage walking and biking to school as evidenced by recent walk-to-school activities at Goodwin school. Furthermore, the district will support you in the educational component of implementing a Safe Routes to School program at Southeast School so that students and parents understand the various safety issues associated with walking and biking to school.

Sincerely,

Frederick A. Baruzzi,
Superintendent of Schools

Eastern Highlands Health District

4 South Eagleville Road • Mansfield CT 06268 • Tel: (860) 429-3325 • Fax: (860) 429-3321 • Web: www.EHHD.org

July 18, 2011

Norma Fisher-Doiron, Principal
Southeast School
134 Warrenville Road
Mansfield, CT 06268

Dear Ms. Fisher-Doiron:

The Eastern Highlands Health District is pleased to support your school's efforts to address opportunities for active transportation to school through a Safe Routes to School initiative and Master Plan.

As the local public health authority for Mansfield and Southeast School, we value the partnership we have with your staff and families in working towards a healthy community. The incorporation of Safe Routes to School into your neighborhood is a worthy project, as it will increase the options for children to obtain more physical activity each day through walking and biking to and from school. These simple activities are recognized as a solid piece of the healthy community picture; as increases in physical activity help to reduce childhood obesity and diminish the rates of chronic disease over time. Additionally, this Safe Routes to School Master Plan aligns well with the Health District's ACHIEVE Initiative which addresses policies and the environment to make physical activity and healthy eating more accessible in our community.

The Health District is able to provide resources to you as you move forward with your plan including participation on your SRTS team, assisting with data collection (evaluation), and experience with various encouragement and educational components of your plan.

We look forward to supporting your efforts.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Miller, MPH, R.S.
Director of Health

TOWN OF MANSFIELD RESIDENT TROOPER

Resident State Trooper's Office
4 South Eagleville Road
Storrs/Mansfield, CT 06268-2599
(860) 429-6024 Telephone
(860) 429-4090 Facsimile

TO: Norma Fisher-Doiron, Principal
Southeast Elementary School

FROM: Sergeant James Kodzis

DATE: July 12, 2011

RE: Safe Routes to School

The Resident State Trooper's office, which serves the Town of Mansfield, supports the development of a Safe Routes to School Master Plan and can be listed on the proposal and Master Plan as a community partner in this effort.

The Resident State Trooper's office will serve as a resource for the Town and schools in the education and enforcement components of the plan. As availability allows, our office will increase efforts to enhance pedestrian safety by conducting public education initiatives and increased enforcement of traffic laws in and around school zones.

The most recent accident/enforcement data available covers Rt. 89/Warrenville Rd. from 7/1/2010 to 6/30/2011 (attached).

Please let me know if I may be of further assistance.

Row Labels	DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT NO INJURIES	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT WITH INJURIES	TRAFFIC SERVICES	TRAFFIC STOP/MULTI ENFORCEMENT	TRAFFIC STOP	Grand Total
14-100					1		1
14-100A(C)(1)					4		4
14-12					5		5
14-13					1		1
14-147					2		2
14-18					2		2
14-18(C)					1		1
14-215					1		1
14-218A					86		86
14-218ACZ					1		1
14-218aSZ					17		17
14-219					1		1
14-219(B)					3		3
14-219(C)					2		2
14-227A	2						2
14-230					2		2
14-242					1		1
14-251					1		1
14-296aa(b)					3		3
14-298					1		1
14-299					1		1
14-96B					1		1
14-96C					1		1
14-96Y					1		1
14-99G					1		1
(blank)	1	8	2	9		2	22
Grand Total	3	8	2	9	140	2	164

Town of Mansfield July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011

MV Related calls on Rt 89 - Warrenville Rd

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
Mansfield Advocates for Children

Sandra P. Baxter
School Readiness Coordinator

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING
FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILLE RD
MANSFIELD, CT 06268-2599
(860) 429-3338
Fax: (860) 429-7785
Email: BaxterSP@mansfieldct.org

July 21, 2011

Norma Fisher-Doiron, Principal
Southeast School
134 Warrenville Road
Mansfield Center, CT 06250

Dear Ms. Fisher-Doiron,

Mansfield Advocates for Children is pleased to hear of your efforts on behalf of the children and families of Southeast School through the Safe Routes to School Initiative and Master Plan. We write in support of this initiative.

As you know, Mansfield Advocates for Children has identified health and community connectedness as two areas of focus for our collaborative. We believe Safe Routes to School in the Southeast school district will contribute to community life in both of these areas. Through opportunities to walk or bike to school, children will have safe access to increased physical activity. Additionally we see the benefit of families and groups of families being able to walk together to school programs and activities as a way of promoting a greater sense of community connection among your families.

Mansfield Advocates for Children will be happy to assist in any way we can in the implementation of this plan.

Sincerely,

Sandra Baxter

Sandra Baxter, School Readiness Coordinator

Eastern Highlands Health District

4 South Eagleville Road • Mansfield CT 06268 • Tel: (860) 429-3325 • Fax: (860) 429-3321 • Web: www.EHHD.org

EHHD ACHIEVE Initiative

Leadership Team

Ande Bloom, M.S., R.D.
EHHD, Health Education Program Coordinator

Linda Drake, M.S.
UConn, Director of Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program

Linda Farmer, AICP
Tolland, Town Planner

Chris Grulke, R.N.
Tolland BOE, Nurse Supervisor

Kevin Grunwald, MSW
Mansfield, Director of Human Services

Kathleen Krider
Director, Mt. Hope Montessori School

Elizabeth McCosh Lilie
Region 19 BOE Member

Robert Miller, MPH, R.S.
EHHD, Director of Health

Linda Painter
Mansfield, Director of Planning

Wendy Rubin, CPRP
Coventry, Director of Parks and Recreation

Bette Day Stern, M.A., CPRP
Mansfield, Recreation Supervisor

Jaci VanHeest, PhD
UConn, Associate Professor

Mary Withey, MSN, APRN
VNA East, Inc. Coordinator of Community Outreach Services

July 18, 2011

Norma Fisher-Doiron, Principal
Southeast School
134 Warrenville Road
Mansfield, CT 06268

Dear Ms. Fisher-Doiron:

The Eastern Highlands Health District's ACHIEVE Initiative (Action Communities for Health, Innovation, and EnVironmental changE) is a strong supporter of your efforts to broaden opportunities for children to walk and bike to school in Mansfield. While it is not currently feasible for children to safely access Southeast school using active transportation, the Safe Routes to School Master Plan for Southeast school addresses these issues in a comprehensive way.

The Safe Routes to School model aligns well with our ACHIEVE Initiative goals. We are a broad-based community initiative seeking to address policy, systems, and environmental changes that will improve access to opportunities for physical activity as one aspect of building a healthy community. While we have provided assistance in the past to support your development of a SRTS Master Plan, it is important to note that we will maintain this commitment to the school's efforts to address opportunities for active transportation to school.

We look forward to supporting your efforts.

Sincerely,

Ande Bloom

Ande Bloom, M.S., R.D.
ACHIEVE Coach

Mount Hope Montessori School
P. O. Box 267
48 Bassetts Bridge Road
Mansfield Center, CT 06250
(860) 423-1070
www.mthopemontessori.com
e-mail: mthopemontessori@snet.net

July 26th, 2011

Norma Fisher-Doiron
Principle
Southeast Elementary School
Mansfield, Ct 06250

Dear Ms. Fisher-Doiron. I am writing to you in regards to the Safe Routes to School initiative that Southeast is involved in. I want to thank you for your leadership and support of this excellent program and lend you my support.

As the director of your neighboring school, the idea that Southeast Elementary will soon have a walking path that, in effect, links our two schools is very exciting. With the addition of the proposed walkway, families with children in both schools can safely walk from one to the other. And along the way, partake in the greater Mansfield community. The additional benefits, i.e. healthy behaviors introduced to children at a young age, are also an important part of our mission as school leaders and I look forward to this being available to our families. In Montessori education, we see the outside environment as a classroom. Something as simple as a sidewalk can become an opportunity for so much more.

Thank you Norma, please let me know if I can be of any more assistance.

Kathleen Krider

Kathleen Krider, Director
Mt. Hope Montessori School, Inc.
48 Bassetts Bridge Rd
PO Box 267
Mansfield, CT 06250

safe routes

TO SOUTHEAST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN MANSFIELD, CONNECTICUT

A SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL MASTER PLAN

2011

table of contents

introduction	1
southeast school safe routes team	1
school description/current travel characteristics	2
current travel conditions	3
public input process	5
obstacles to active transportation	6
action and evaluation plan	7
plan partners	11

Our Safe Routes Team

With the exception of the Southeast School Principal, all other team members are located at the following address:

4 South Eagleville Road
Mansfield, CT 06268-2599

1. NORMA FISHER-DOIRON, PRINCIPAL SOUTHEAST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
134 Warrenville Road
Mansfield, CT 06250
Telephone: 860.423.0610
Email:
FisherDoironNJ@mansfieldct.org

2. FRED BARUZZI, SUPERINTENDENT MANSFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Telephone: 860.429.3350
Email: BaruzziFA@mansfieldct.org

3 MATTHEW HART, TOWN MANAGER TOWN OF MANSFIELD
Telephone: 860.429.3336
Email: HartMW@mansfieldct.org

4 LON HULTGREN, DIRECTOR MANSFIELD DEPT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Telephone: 860.429.3332
Email: HultgrenLR@mansfieldct.org

5 LINDA M. PAINTER, AICP, DIRECTOR MANSFIELD DEPT OF PLANNING & DEVLOPMENT
Telephone: 860.429.3330
Email: PainterLM@mansfieldct.org

6 KEVIN GRUNWALD, DIRECTOR MANSFIELD DEPT OF HUMAN SERVICES
Telephone: 860.429.3314
Email: GrunwaldK@mansfieldct.org

7 ANDE BLOOM, HEATH EDUCATION COORDINATOR, EASTERN HIGHLANDS HEALTH DISTRICT
Telephone: 860.429.3361
Email: BloomA@mansfieldct.org

8 SERGEANT JAMES KODZIS, RESIDENT TROOPER, CONNECTICUT STATE POLICE
Telephone: 860.429.6024
Email: KodzisJF@mansfieldct.org

9 SANDY BAXTER, SCHOOL READINESS COORDINATOR, MANSFIELD ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN
Telephone: 860.429.3338
Email: BaxterSD@mansfieldct.org

About Mansfield

Mansfield is a rural town in Connecticut's eastern highlands. Home to the main campus of the University of Connecticut, Mansfield's town population as of 2009 was estimated by the American Community Survey as 24,905. While the town has over 39 miles of hiking trails connecting an extensive network of parks and open spaces, sidewalks are rare due to the town's rural character. Most of the local neighborhood roads are narrow with the twists, turns and hills that are characteristic of eastern connecticut. State roads, while wider, are also more conducive to higher speeds, regardless of the posted speed limit. These factors all lead to significant safety concerns for children walking and biking on-street, both recreationally and to destinations such as school.

At the same time, Mansfield is a very progressive community, especially when it comes to the health and development of our children, as demonstrated through the following actions:

- The Town has created the Mansfield Advocates for Children, an advisory committee whose mission is to improve early childhood development.
- In 2003, the Town opened a new community center, which offers a variety of active recreation programs at a discounted rate for residents.
- Mansfield is one of the communities participating in the Community Health Action Response Team, an initiative of the Eastern Highlands Health District (EHHD) as part of the 2009 CDC ACHIEVE grant awarded to EHHD. One aspect of this initiative is focused on policy and environmental changes to increase access to physical activity.

Our Vision for Southeast Safe Routes to School

Southeast Elementary School is one of three elementary schools in the Mansfield Public School District. Located on Warrenville Road (State Route 89) just northeast of Mansfield Center, the school is within walking and biking distance of numerous homes as well as recreational amenities such as Mansfield Hollow State Park, youth ball fields and the Town Library. Unfortunately, due to its location on a state highway, there are no existing off-road walking and bicycling facilities.

In completing this master plan, we hope to:

- Encourage the pursuit of healthy activities such as walking and biking at an early age to improve the chances that such activities will be a life long lifestyle choice.
- Provide students with the option of walking and biking to school, something that is currently discouraged due to the lack of safe off-road facilities leading to our school.
- Reduce speeding and other reckless driving activities near our school by increasing driver awareness of pedestrians and bicyclists, especially children.

About Our Students

Southeast Elementary School is 2 miles from the University of Connecticut. Southeast is a community of diverse racial, ethnic, and economic backgrounds with 14+ spoken languages. It is a PreK-4 public school built in 1955 with a current enrollment of 264 students and 59 staff members, of which 27 are certified teachers and 18 are instructional assistants. Southeast is one of 3 elementary schools in the Mansfield Public Schools District. For school year 2010-11, the student enrollment at Southeast was made up of .03% American Indian, 8% Asian American, 9% Black, 10% Hispanic and 73% Caucasian. Thirty-two percent of the students qualified for free and reduced priced meals. The student population is comprised of students with primarily three Non-English home languages, which were Spanish, Chinese and Arabic.

As seen in the above map, the students enrolled in the Southeast School live within a ±3-4 mile radius of the school. Approximately 30 students live within walking distance (1 mile), and 47 students live within biking distance (between 1 and 2 miles).

Current Travel Modes

Approximately 71% of Southeast students ride the bus to and from school and 29% (average 76/264 students per day) are transported by their parents or family members. Due to the lack of sidewalks, we do not have any students who walk or ride their bikes to and from school. All students have access to the bus ride to and from school.

Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

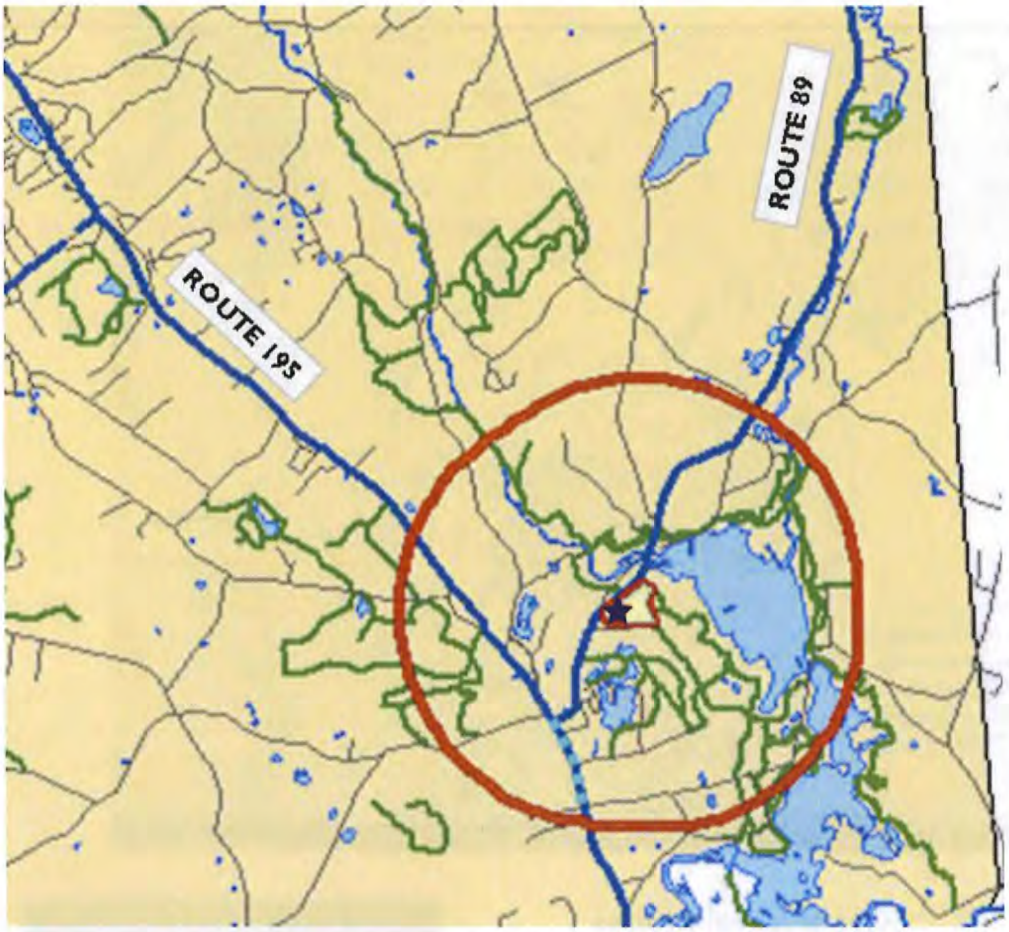
Bus Drop Off and Pick Up. The school's front door and main driveway on the west side of the building are used for all bus drop-off (8:45 am) and pick-up (3:30 pm) activities. Some school staff members are assigned as bus monitors to assist children in entering and exiting the school, as well as making sure they are on the proper bus when they leave for the day.

Parent Drop Off and Pick Up. The parent drop-off/pick-up area is located on the north side of the building by the parking lot. Parents are required to walk into the school with their child and sign their child out at the end of the day. Staff members are assigned to the parent pick-up area to monitor sign-outs and custodians monitor the parking lot (during parent drop-off and pick-up times.

School Travel Policies

Due to the lack of any off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, the speed and volume of traffic on Route 89, and the age of the students attending Southeast School, students are currently discouraged from walking or biking to school. Once a safe pedestrian/bike route is in place, the school will work with the Southeast Parent Teacher Organization to develop policies addressing the following issues for students walking or biking to school:

- Minimum age to walk/bike unaccompanied by an adult
- Minimum age to participate in a park and walk program
- Parental permission
- Weather conditions
- Participation in before and after school activities
- Daylight hours



Map of Existing Walking/Biking Routes and Safety Hazards

Map Legend

- Southeast Elementary School
- One Mile Radius (Walking Distance)
- State Highways
- Hiking Trails
- Existing Sidewalks

View of Route 89 from intersection with Route 195: Note narrow shoulder, location of guide rail and sharp turn with intersecting street

Current Travel Conditions

As shown in the above map, Southeast Elementary School is located on State Route 89 (also known as Warrenville Road). The only existing walkway within a one mile radius of the school is located along State Route 195 (also known as Storrs Road). Both of these roads carry relatively high volumes of traffic as compared with Mansfield's local roads. Additionally, while Route 89 is posted with a 30 mph speed limit in the vicinity of the school, most vehicles travel at significantly higher speeds.

From July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011, the Connecticut State Police recorded the following violations on Route 89:

- Driving Under the Influence: 3
- Traffic Accident-No Injuries: 8
- Traffic Accident-With Injuries: 9
- Traffic Stops: 140
- Traffic Stop/Multi-Enforcement: 2

While Mansfield has an extensive off-road hiking trail network, there are very few sidewalks or designated bike lanes in town. Most sidewalks are located near the University of Connecticut, which is two miles away from Southeast Elementary School. With regard to the immediate area around Southeast Elementary, there are no sidewalks or bike lanes located along Route 89 in Mansfield, and walking on-street is hazardous given the traffic volumes, twisting road, vehicle speed, and lack of a shoulder in most areas. For example, in the area between Southeast School and Route 195/Storrs Road (where there is an existing sidewalk), there is a sharp turn, narrow shoulders, no striped cross-walks at the two street intersections, and landscaping/hedges/guardrails abutting the pavement edge that make walking in the grass along the road edge difficult.

Typical Shoulder Conditions along Route 89

Interest in Walking and Biking to School

While it is currently not safe for Southeast students to walk or bike to school, that doesn't mean kids and their parents aren't interested. A parent survey conducted in May 2011 demonstrated the following support for the Safe Routes to School Program at Southeast Elementary School:

- 15.5% of respondents indicated that their child had asked permission to walk or bike to school
- 20% of respondents indicated their interest in the program by providing contact information
- 94% of respondents acknowledged walking to school as either a healthy or very healthy activity

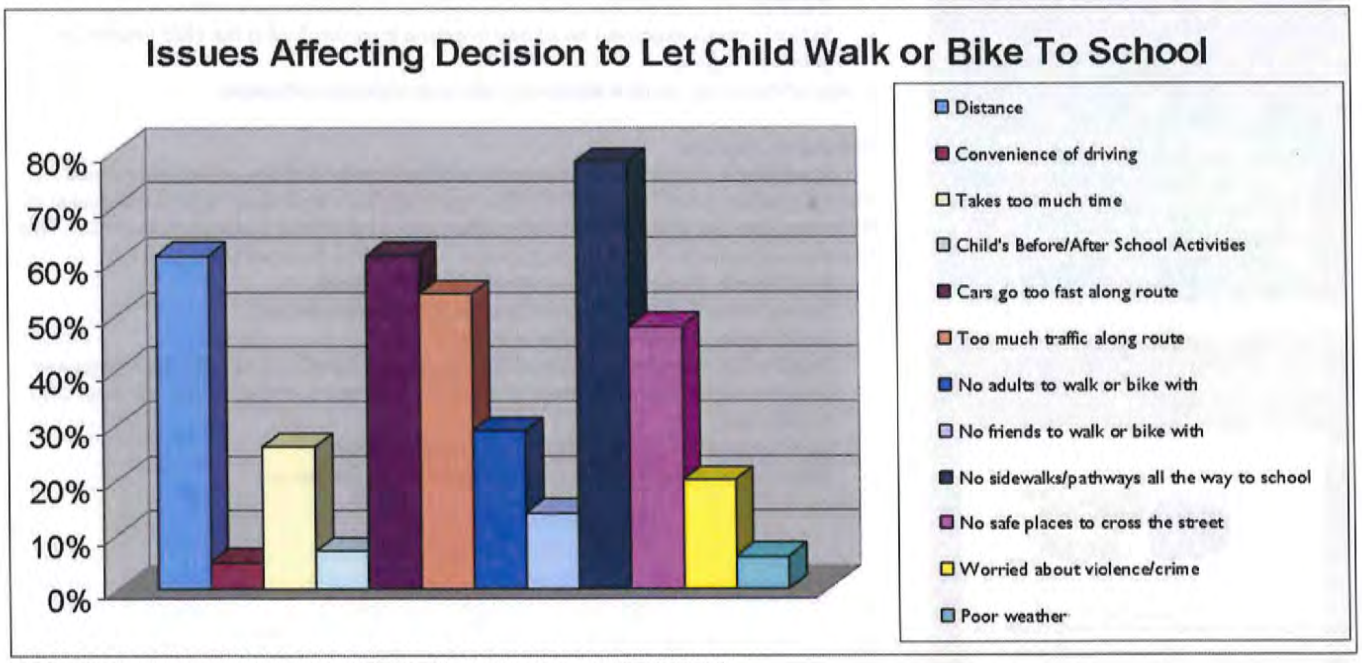
On-Site Conditions

As noted previously, the school currently separates the bus and parent pick-up and drop-off areas. Students arriving or leaving by bus can access the bus from the sidewalk located in front of the school's main entrance and do not have to cross in front of any vehicles. The sidewalk does not extend to Route 89 currently, as there are few if any pedestrians entering from Route 89 due to the lack of off-road pedestrian or bike facilities.

Due to the large number of students being transported by their parents, many parents are forced to park in the ball field parking lot north of the school property and walk their children to the entrance on the north side of the building. While students are crossing driving aisles in the parking lot, they are always accompanied by an adult.

Parent Concerns

As demonstrated through the parent survey done in May 2011, the lack of a safe, off-road pedestrian/bike facility along Route 89 is one of the primary reasons listed by parents as to why their children don't walk to school. Other key factors are speed, traffic volumes and the distance they live from the school. The chart below breaks down all of the factors that impact a parent's decision on whether to let their child walk to Southeast School.



SOUTHEAST ELEMENTARY PARENT SURVEY, MAY 2011 (104 RESPONDENTS)

Parent Comments

The following comments were received from Southeast parents surveyed in May 2011

We would love to have our child walk to school-there is a great need for a sidewalk from 195 to Southeast

I feel very strongly that kids at a certain age absolutely should have the opportunity to safely get themselves to school, it fosters a strong sense of independence and self-reliance in them and of course there are also health benefits

I would fully support walking if we had sidewalks.

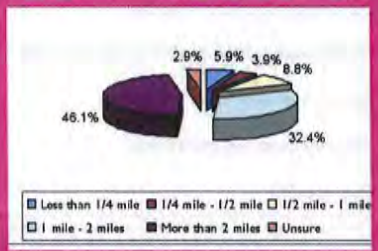
I'm very happy this issue is finally raised. When we moved from Manhattan to Storrs my first frustration was the lack of sidewalks to push a stroller and to walk safely just for fun. I'm glad you're finally taking care of that problem

Would be great to be able to walk to school or bike along 89 without being afraid to be hit by car

We go to the library from school rather frequently and it would be fun if we could walk there

I used to walk to school and wish my kids could be the same. It is healthy and great for the environment. The only reason they do not walk is the lack of safe sidewalks.

Distance from Southeast



The Public Input Process

In developing this master plan, the Southeast School SRTS team sought input from key stakeholders, the parent community at Southeast School and the community at large. As described below, there is tremendous community support for basic infrastructure such as sidewalks and bikeways in key areas of town, including the area around Southeast Elementary School.

Public Meetings

Mansfield Advocates for Children. The Mansfield Advocates for Children (MAC) is a group of citizen volunteers who care deeply about the healthy growth and development of young children in Mansfield. Appointed by the Town Council, this organization is charged with maintaining high quality early care and education for young children. Over the course of each year, the MAC holds community conversations to provide residents with a chance to provide input on the MAC plan for child development, which focuses on ensuring that all Mansfield children are healthy, successful learners connected to the community. At two of these community conversations in the past few years, the community has expressed the need for safer access for pedestrians and bicyclists to community facilities such as schools, parks, and the library.

Southeast Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization. On May 2, 2011, a member of the Eastern Highlands Health District ACHIEVE leadership team made a presentation on the Safe Routes to School Program to the Southeast Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization, including a question and answer session to determine whether there was interest in participating in the Safe Routes to Schools Program. Based on the interest and feedback received at this meeting, a parent survey was distributed to find out if there was parental support for walking and biking to school.

Parent Survey

Based on the support expressed by the Southeast School PTO, all parents of Southeast School students were invited to participate in a survey in May 2011. Of the 264 students enrolled at Southeast School, we received responses from 104 parents, representing 156 students (59% of total enrollment). The survey responses clearly indicated the following:

- 18.6% of respondents live within walking distance of the school (1 mile); 32.4% live within biking distance (between 1 and 2 miles) and 46% live greater than 2 miles away.
- Key issues affecting the decision to let a child walk or bike to school revolve around accessibility and safety concerns (see chart under Assessment of Current Travel Conditions for more details).
- The majority of parents feel that under current conditions walking or biking to school is either unsafe or very unsafe (78.9%), yet they also believe that it is healthy or very healthy (94.2%).
- 20% of parents expressed an interest in getting more involved in the SRTS initiative at Southeast School.

A copy of the survey results is attached to this master plan for reference.

Stakeholder Meetings

In addition to the community outreach activities described above, several formal and informal meetings were held with the following stakeholders leading up to the development of this master plan. All of these stakeholders either joined the official Southeast School SRTS Team or appointed someone from their organization as a result of these early meetings.

- Fred Baruzzi, Superintendent of Mansfield Public Schools
- Norma Doiron-Fisher, Principal of Southeast Elementary School
- Lon Hultgren, Mansfield Director of Public Works
- Greg Padick, Mansfield Director of Planning (Greg retired in June 2011; his replacement, Linda Painter, has taken his place on the SRTS team and is now serving as the local SRTS coordinator)
- Kevin Grunwald, Mansfield Director of Human Services
- Robert Miller, Director of the Eastern Highlands Health District

Obstacles to Active Transportation

As previously discussed under Current Conditions, there are several obstacles to active transportation for the students of Southeast Elementary School:

Distance between home and school. As shown in the map on page 2, the students of Southeast School are drawn from an enrollment area with a radius of 3-4 miles from the school itself, a common occurrence in a rural town. As a result, even if the town had a fully connected network of sidewalks/ bikeways, it would be difficult for many of the students to commute to school given the distance, especially since they are under the age of 10.

Lack of off-road walkways and bikeways. For those students that live within walking and biking distance of school, active transportation is still not a viable option due to the lack of off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, including cross walks. The narrow, turning, hilly nature of many of our local streets combined with high traffic volume and speed of the state roads that many students must take to school currently make walking and biking a hazardous proposal.

Traffic Volume and Speed. The location of Southeast School on a state highway makes the impact of traffic volumes and speed even more pronounced. As a key route connecting Routes 44 and 195, vehicles routinely exceed the posted speed limit of 30 mph. (See traffic violation data under existing conditions for more details on traffic violations).

School Policies. Currently the school discourages walking and biking to school due to the lack of a safe route. The school is fully prepared to adopt specific policies in support of walking and biking once a safe route has been established.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are based on the identified obstacles to active transportation

1. Establish a safe off-road path leading to the school and provide appropriate connection to the path on the school property
Initial focus should be to connect the school to the existing sidewalk on Route 195

2. Develop a multi-pronged education campaign directed at parents, students and drivers
Focus on improving student bicycle and pedestrian safety skills as well as driver awareness of pedestrians and bicyclists town-wide.

3. Educate students and parents on the benefits of active transportation
Teach the health, environmental and transportation benefits of walking and biking as an alternative to driving

4. Encourage students to engage in active transportation by making it fun
Host events such as walk to school day and bike rodeos to encourage broader participation; create incentive programs for students

5. Increase enforcement
Remind drivers of the importance of obeying traffic laws through increased traffic enforcement and use of passive devices such as speed trailers

Foundation for Success

Last fall, 47 Southeast students participated in the after school running club. Other students participated in a recess Mileage Club.

Action and Evaluation Plan

The following plan identifies a variety of strategies in accordance with the Safe Routes to Schools Program "5 E's":

- *Engineering.* Identifying operational and physical improvements to the infrastructure surrounding schools that reduce speeds and potential conflicts with motor vehicle traffic, and establish safer and fully accessible crosswalks, walkways, trails and bikeways
- *Education.* Teaching children about the broad range of transportation choices, instructing them in important lifelong bicycling and walking safety skills, and launching driver safety campaigns in the vicinity of schools
- *Encouragement.* Using events and activities to promote walking and bicycling
- *Enforcement.* Partnering with local law enforcement to ensure traffic laws are obeyed in the vicinity of schools (this includes enforcement of speeds, yielding to pedestrians in cross walks, and proper walking and bicycling behaviors), and initiating community enforcement such as crossing guard programs
- *Evaluation.* Monitoring and documenting outcomes and trends through the collection of data, including the collection of data before and after the intervention(s)

The plan has been organized by type of strategy (engineering, education, encouragement and enforcement). For each recommended action strategy, we have identified:

- Detailed description of the recommended action
- Lead organization/s responsible for completing the action
- Partner organizations needed to assistance in completing the action
- Implementation Timeframe
- Cost
- Evaluation Strategies: including the change targeted by the proposed action as well, how we will measure change to monitor our success, and when the monitoring will take place.

engineering strategies

operational and physical improvements to the infrastructure surrounding schools that reduce speeds and potential conflicts with motor vehicle traffic, and establish safer and fully accessible crosswalks, walkways, trails and bikeways

new off-road walkway

Construct new walkway on east side of Warrenville Road/Route 89 to connect the Southeast Elementary School property to the existing walkway on the east side of Storrs Road

Lead: Town of Mansfield/Department of Public Works

Partners: Connecticut Department of Transportation, Mansfield Public Schools, Southeast School

Implementation Timeframe
Short-Term

Estimated Cost
$500,000

Evaluating Success
Changes targeted through this project:
- Increase in linear feet of connected off-road walkways
- Increase in number of students walking

Performance will be measured by:
- Total linear feet of walkway constructed as measured at project completion
- Increase in number of students walking or biking as measured through the annual student travel method survey

on-site pedestrian connections

Improve the pedestrian connections on Southeast School property, including the addition of a dedicated pedestrian path along the south side of the southernmost driveway that connects to the new Route 89 walkway, and striping/signage across the northern parking lot to connect to the adjacent ball fields.

Lead: Mansfield Public Schools/Southeast School

Partners: Mansfield Department of Public Works

Implementation Timeframe
Short-Term

Estimated Cost
To Be Determined

Evaluating Success
Changes targeted through this project:
- Improved pedestrian facilities on school property

Performance will be measured by:
- Increase in linear feet of school paths constructed as measured at project completion
- Increase in linear feet of striping painted as measured at project completion

education strategies

teaching children about the broad range of transportation choices, instructing them in important lifelong bicycling and walking safety skills, and launching driver safety campaigns in the vicinity of schools

promote pedestrian awareness and safety

Develop promotional campaign to raise driver awareness of pedestrian and bicycle safety throughout the town, including safe routes to schools initiatives. Include school sponsored events such as poster competitions, etc. to include in promotional campaign

Lead: Town of Mansfield and Mansfield Public Schools

Partners: Resident Troopers

Implementation Timeframe

Short-Term

Estimated Cost

Minimal/Production Costs

Evaluating Success

Changes targeted through this project:

- Reduction in pedestrian/bike/vehicular conflicts
- Increased student awareness of safe pedestrian/bicycle behavior
- Increased driver and pedestrian awareness

Performance will be measured annually through:

- Accident data
- Number of students participating in school events
- Number of promotional materials distributed

teach safety skills

Teach pedestrian, bicycle and personal safety skills to students and parents through distribution of educational materials and workshops

Lead: Southeast School

Partners: Resident Troopers, Eastern Highlands Health District, Mansfield Public Schools

Implementation Timeframe

Short-Term/On-Going

Estimated Cost

Cost of copying flyers/surveys

Evaluating Success

Changes targeted through this project:

- Increased parent and student awareness of pedestrian, bicycling and personal safety skills

Performance will be measured annually through:

- Number of educational materials distributed
- Quiz of safe behaviors.

teach benefits of walking and biking

Teach the health, environmental and transportation benefits of walking and biking

Lead: Southeast School and Eastern Highlands Health District

Partners: ACHIEVE/CHART, Department of Planning and Development, Department of Public Works

Implementation Timeframe

Short-Term/On-Going

Estimated Cost

Cost of copying flyers/surveys

Evaluating Success

Changes targeted through this project:

- Increased parent and student awareness of the many benefits of active transportation
- Increase in student participation in active transportation events such as walk to school day or a bicycle rodeo

Performance will be measured annually through:

- Number of educational materials distributed
- Quiz of healthy behaviors and associated benefits
- Number of children participating in bike rodeo or similar event

encouragement strategies

Using events and activities to promote walking and bicycling

international walk to school day

Host International Walk to School Day event that celebrates and promotes the benefits of walking to school. Participants should include school/ district leadership, teachers, parents, students and town officials. Use ball fields and Southeast School Property until walkway is completed.

Lead: Southeast School

Partners: Mansfield Public Schools, Town Council, Resident Troopers, Eastern Highlands Health District

Implementation Timeframe

Annually (Inaugural Event: October 5, 2011)

Estimated Cost

Minimal

Evaluating Success

Changes targeted through this project:

- Increase in event participation
- Increase in number of students walking (after walkway constructed)

Performance will be measured annually through:

- Number of students participating in events
- Number of students walking to school

develop park and walk program

Identify sites along Storrs Road/Route 195 that can be used as a park-and-walk lot for students that do not live within easy walking distance of the school. Use Walking Wednesdays as a model to implement the park-and-walk program

Lead: Town of Mansfield (site identification), Southeast School (Park-and-walk program)

Partners: PTO, Mansfield Advocates for Children, School Bus Company

Implementation Timeframe

After Route 89/Warrenville Road walkway completed

Estimated Cost

TBD

Evaluating Success

Changes targeted through this project:

- Increased number of students walking to school
- Increase in number of students that live further than one half mile walking to school

Performance will be measured annually through:

- Student travel method survey
- Number of students participating in park-and-walk events

develop walking rewards program

Incentivize walking to school through creation of a reward and recognition program based on number of times students walk to school in a specified time period

Lead: Southeast School

Partners: PTO, Mansfield Advocates for Children, Eastern Highlands Health District

Implementation Timeframe

After Route 89/Warrenville Road walkway completed

Estimated Cost

Minimal

Evaluating Success

Changes targeted through this project:

- Increase in number of students walking to school

Performance will be measured annually through:

- Number of students participating in rewards program

enforcement strategies

Partnering with local law enforcement to ensure traffic laws are obeyed in the vicinity of schools (this includes enforcement of speeds, yielding to pedestrians in cross walks, and proper walking and bicycling behaviors), and initiating community enforcement such as crossing guard programs

use speed trailer to focus driver attention

Use speed trailer in vicinity of Southeast School on regular basis during school year to remind drivers to slow down

Lead: Department of Public Works

Partners: Resident Troopers

Implementation Timeframe

Short Term/On-Going

Estimated Cost

Minimal

Evaluating Success

Changes targeted through this project:

- Reduction in vehicle speed near school during school hours

Performance will be measured annually through:

- Number of times speed trailer used on Route 89 during the school year
- Number of traffic violations issued

increase enforcement of speed limits and cross walks

Increase resident trooper efforts to enforce posted speed limits and cross walks on Routes 89 and 195, particularly during travel times. Increased enforcement efforts will be coordinated with use of speed trailer

Lead: Resident Troopers

Partners: Mansfield Department of Public Works

Implementation Timeframe

Short Term/On-Going

Estimated Cost

TBD

Evaluating Success

Changes targeted through this project:

- Reduction in vehicle speed near school during school hours

Performance will be measured annually through:

- Number of traffic violations issued

implement pace car program

Implement a 'Pace Car' program for residents in the Southeast School neighborhood to create a grass-routes approach to speed enforcement in the school zone

Lead: PTO and Mansfield Advocates for Children

Partners: Eastern Highlands Health District

Implementation Timeframe

Short Term/On-Going

Estimated Cost

Minimal

Evaluating Success

Changes targeted through this project:

- Reduction in vehicle speed near school during school hours

Performance will be measured annually through:

- Number of cars/ volunteers participating
- Number of violations issued

partners

SOUTHEAST SCHOOL SRTS PROGRAM

Our Partners

We know that it will take a collaborative effort to make achieve the goals identified in this plan. The following organizations have pledged their support for this initiative:

- **Town of Mansfield**
  Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor
  860.429.3370
  PatersonE@mansfieldct.org

  Matthew Hart, Town Manager
  860.429.3336
  matthew.hart@mansfieldct.org
- **Mansfield Public Schools/Board of Education**
  Fred Baruzzi, Superintendent
  860.429.429.3379
  BaruzziFA@mansfieldct.org
- **Southeast Elementary School**
  Norma Doiron-Fisher, Principal
  860.423.0610
  FisherDoironNJ@mansfieldct.org
- **Connecticut State Police-Mansfield Resident Trooper**
  Sergeant James F. Kodzis
  Telephone: 860.429.6024
  Email: KodzisJF@mansfieldct.org
- **Eastern Highlands Health District**
  Robert Miller, Director
  860.429.3377
  MillerRL@mansfieldct.org
- **Mansfield Advocates for Children**
  Sandy Baxter, School Readiness Coordinator
  860.429.3338
  BaxterSD@mansfieldct.org
- **Southeast Elementary School PTO**
  Jessica Higham, Vice President
  860.786.7392
  jjohigham@gmail.com

SRTS Southeast Parent Survey

SurveyMonkey

1. Do you live in Mansfield?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	99.1%	107
No	0.9%	1
answered question		108
skipped question		0

2. Do you have a child attending Southeast School in Mansfield this school year?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	96.3%	104
No	3.7%	4
answered question		108
skipped question		0

3. How many children do you have in Mansfield schools grades K through 8

	Response Percent	Response Count
1	45.2%	42
2	**46.2%**	**43**
3	6.5%	6
4	1.1%	1
5	0.0%	0
6 or more	1.1%	1
	answered question	**93**
	skipped question	**15**

4. How far do you live from Southeast school?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Less than ¼ mile	5.9%	6
¼ mile up to ½ mile	3.9%	4
½ mile up to 1 mile	8.8%	9
1 mile up to 2 miles	32.4%	33
More than 2 miles	**46.1%**	**47**
Don't know	2.9%	3
	answered question	**102**
	skipped question	**6**

5. Base your answers to the questions below on your oldest child at Southeast school. On most days, how does your child get TO & FROM school?

	Walk	Bike	School Bus	Family vehicle (only with your family)	Carpool (with other families)	Other (specify):	Response Count
To School	0.0% (0)	1.0% (1)	**63.5% (66)**	34.6% (36)	1.0% (1)	0.0% (0)	104
From School	0.0% (0)	1.0% (1)	**63.7% (65)**	34.3% (35)	1.0% (1)	0.0% (0)	102
					answered question		**104**
					skipped question		**4**

6. Base your answers to the questions below on your oldest child at Southeast school.

	Yes	No	Response Count
On most days, does your child go directly home from school?	**93.3% (97)**	6.7% (7)	104
Has your child asked your permission to walk or bike to/from school in the past year?	15.5% (16)	**84.5% (87)**	103
Is your child on a bus route?	**94.2% (97)**	5.8% (6)	103
		answered question	**104**
		skipped question	**4**

7. On the days your child(ren) do not walk or bike to and/or from school, which of the following issues affect that decision? (Select all that apply)

	Response Percent	Response Count
Distance	61.0%	61
Convenience of driving	5.0%	5
Takes too much time	26.0%	26
Child's before/after school activities	7.0%	7
Cars go too fast along route	61.0%	61
Too much traffic along route	54.0%	54
No adults to walk or bike with	29.0%	29
No friends to walk or bike with	14.0%	14
No sidewalks/pathways all the way to school	**78.0%**	**78**
No safe places to cross the street	48.0%	48
Worried about violence/crime	20.0%	20
Poor weather	6.0%	6
My child already walks or bikes to/from school	0.0%	0
	Other (please specify)	10
	answered question	**100**
	skipped question	**8**

8. At what grade would you allow your child(ren) to walk or bike to/from school?

	Response Count
	94
answered question	**94**
skipped question	**14**

9. Please provide us with your feelings about the following items with respect to your child (ren) walking to/from school (please do so even if your child does not usually walk to school). A.

	Very Safe	Safe	Neutral	Unsafe	Very Unsafe	Response Count
How safe is walking to school?	1.9% (2)	10.6% (11)	8.7% (9)	**40.4% (42)**	38.5% (40)	104
					answered question	**104**
					skipped question	**4**

10. B.

	Very healthy	Healthy	Neutral	Unhealthy	Very unhealthy	Response Count
How healthy is walking to school?	**72.1% (75)**	22.1% (23)	3.8% (4)	0.0% (0)	1.9% (2)	104
					answered question	**104**
					skipped question	**4**

11. C.

	Very fun	Fun	Neutral	Dull	Very dull	Response Count
How fun is walking to school?	29.1% (30)	**35.0% (36)**	33.0% (34)	1.9% (2)	1.0% (1)	103
					answered question	**103**
					skipped question	**5**

12. Do you have comments to share? Leave them in the space below, email them to blooma@ehhd.org, or provide your contact information below so we can be in touch with you.

	Response Count
	39
answered question	**39**
skipped question	**69**

13. If you would like to learn more about the emerging Safe Routes to School program at Southeast School or would like to become involved, please provide us with your contact information.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Name:		**100.0%**	**21**
Email Address:		95.2%	20
Phone Number:		61.9%	13
		answered question	**21**
		skipped question	**87**

14. Please contact me regarding the following: (click all that apply)

	Response Percent	Response Count
I have questions or comments to share	53.8%	7
I want to be on the coalition	38.5%	5
I want to participate in focus groups	**61.5%**	**8**
	answered question	**13**
	skipped question	**95**

At what grade would you allow your child(ren) to walk or bike to/from school?

	Response Count
	94
answered question	94
skipped question	14

Page 2, Q6. At what grade would you allow your child(ren) to walk or bike to/from school?		
1	6	May 19, 2011 3:56 PM
2	3	May 19, 2011 3:54 PM
3	4	May 19, 2011 3:53 PM
4	unlikely	May 19, 2011 3:52 PM
5	6	May 19, 2011 3:51 PM
6	5	May 19, 2011 3:51 PM
7	unlikely	May 19, 2011 3:49 PM
8	unlikely	May 19, 2011 3:47 PM
9	unlikely	May 19, 2011 3:46 PM
10	4	May 19, 2011 3:46 PM
11	7	May 19, 2011 3:45 PM
12	3 with a group	May 19, 2011 3:44 PM
13	unlikely	May 19, 2011 3:43 PM
14	7	May 19, 2011 3:43 PM
15	unlikely	May 19, 2011 3:41 PM
16	5	May 19, 2011 3:41 PM
17	8	May 19, 2011 3:40 PM
18	unlikely	May 19, 2011 3:39 PM
19	6	May 19, 2011 3:38 PM
20	unlikely	May 19, 2011 3:37 PM
21	unlikely	May 19, 2011 3:35 PM
22	5	May 19, 2011 3:34 PM
23	unlikely	May 19, 2011 3:33 PM
24	unlikely	May 19, 2011 3:32 PM
25	unlikely	May 19, 2011 3:31 PM
26	unlikely	May 19, 2011 3:31 PM
27	7	May 19, 2011 3:30 PM
28	unlikely	May 19, 2011 3:29 PM
29	7th	May 19, 2011 3:28 PM

Page 2, Q6. At what grade would you allow your child(ren) to walk or bike to/from school?		
30	unlikely	May 19, 2011 3:24 PM
31	unlikely due to distance from school and unsafe conditions	May 19, 2011 3:22 PM
32	unlikely	May 19, 2011 3:20 PM
33	unlikely	May 19, 2011 3:18 PM
34	2	May 19, 2011 3:17 PM
35	unlikely	May 19, 2011 3:16 PM
36	7	May 19, 2011 3:15 PM
37	6	May 19, 2011 3:14 PM
38	3 if there were sidewalks	May 19, 2011 3:13 PM
39	8	May 19, 2011 3:12 PM
40	unlikely without a parent	May 19, 2011 2:23 PM
41	8	May 19, 2011 2:22 PM
42	unlikely	May 19, 2011 2:21 PM
43	1	May 19, 2011 2:20 PM
44	unlikely	May 19, 2011 2:18 PM
45	unlikely	May 19, 2011 2:17 PM
46	unlikely	May 19, 2011 2:16 PM
47	unlikely	May 19, 2011 2:13 PM
48	3	May 19, 2011 2:12 PM
49	3	May 19, 2011 2:10 PM
50	6	May 19, 2011 2:09 PM
51	unlikely	May 19, 2011 2:09 PM
52	unlikely	May 19, 2011 2:07 PM
53	6	May 19, 2011 2:02 PM
54	unlikely	May 19, 2011 2:01 PM
55	unlikely due to traffic speeds	May 19, 2011 12:51 PM
56	unlikely	May 19, 2011 12:50 PM
57	4	May 19, 2011 12:49 PM
58	unlikely	May 19, 2011 12:48 PM

Page 2, Q6. At what grade would you allow your child(ren) to walk or bike to/from school?		
59	7/8	May 19, 2011 12:47 PM
60	unlikely	May 19, 2011 12:45 PM
61	7	May 19, 2011 12:44 PM
62	4	May 19, 2011 12:43 PM
63	4	May 19, 2011 12:41 PM
64	6	May 19, 2011 12:41 PM
65	unlikely because it is not safe on 89	May 19, 2011 12:40 PM
66	6/7	May 19, 2011 12:37 PM
67	7	May 19, 2011 12:36 PM
68	unlikely	May 19, 2011 12:35 PM
69	none - distance is too great for elementary school; for middle school - maybe 7th grade	May 15, 2011 7:27 AM
70	middle school age	May 13, 2011 10:44 AM
71	7th or 8th grade	May 13, 2011 7:58 AM
72	6th grade	May 12, 2011 5:05 AM
73	never by themselves	May 11, 2011 6:35 PM
74	4	May 11, 2011 12:52 PM
75	7th	May 10, 2011 7:18 PM
76	when he was capabale (I would accompany)	May 10, 2011 5:10 PM
77	4	May 10, 2011 5:01 PM
78	I would allow my kids to bike to Mansfield MIddle School because they would not be on Rout 195 or Rout 89.	May 10, 2011 1:52 PM
79	6	May 10, 2011 1:17 PM
80	4	May 10, 2011 12:56 PM
81	6	May 10, 2011 12:49 PM
82	Grade 6	May 10, 2011 11:41 AM
83	4	May 10, 2011 11:23 AM
84	none	May 10, 2011 11:16 AM
85	6th	May 10, 2011 11:15 AM
86	middle school	May 10, 2011 11:01 AM

Page 2, Q6. At what grade would you allow your child(ren) to walk or bike to/from school?		
87	k-with me	May 10, 2011 10:46 AM
88	I would need to see the route, sidewalks, safety measures before I could accurately answer this question.	May 10, 2011 10:39 AM
89	7th	May 10, 2011 10:32 AM
90	if there were sidewalks, 7th or 8th grade	May 10, 2011 10:15 AM
91	4	May 10, 2011 9:47 AM
92	11	May 10, 2011 5:04 AM
93	Fourth	May 10, 2011 4:57 AM
94	high school because we are quiet far	May 10, 2011 4:42 AM

Do you have comments to share? Leave them in the space below, email them to blooma@ehhd.org, or provide your contact information below so we can be in touch with you.

	Response Count
	39
answered question	**39**
skipped question	**69**

Page 3, Q1. Do you have comments to share? Leave them in the space below, email them to blooma@ehhd.org, or provide your contact information below so we can be in touch with you.		
1	Would love to have our child walk/bike to school there is a great need for a sidewalk from 195 to Southeast	May 19, 2011 3:55 PM
2	The location of SE school and the total lack of sidewalks in mansfield makes this totally &completely unsafe; could never allow it	May 19, 2011 3:54 PM
3	There is really no way for my kids to walk to school and be safe there is no sidewalk for them to walk on on the main road	May 19, 2011 3:52 PM
4	We live too far away from schools and here there are no sidewalks. it is very unsafe to walk anywhere :(	May 19, 2011 3:50 PM
5	Rte 89 is not ideal for elementary students to walk or bike on especially crossing the bridge	May 19, 2011 3:49 PM
6	We would love to walk our kids to school, but the roads around here are very narrow and dangerous. The bus takes quite a while from our house for our 1st grader (1 hour) so we only ask her to ride it in the morning	May 19, 2011 3:48 PM
7	I would fully support walking to school if there were sidewalks	May 19, 2011 3:46 PM
8	Although it is a short distance, I would be late for work if we walked	May 19, 2011 3:44 PM
9	more fun biking all of the questions in # 6 relate to walking	May 19, 2011 3:39 PM
10	We stopped our child from taking the school bus to school a)it was late on most days; b)the driver looked sleepy in the morning; c)most of the drivers look very young/not matured enough to drive school children.	May 19, 2011 3:38 PM
11	Safe routes is a great idea but not feasible for us since we have to use a good portion of 195 to get to SE school	May 19, 2011 3:34 PM
12	In this day and age it is not safe for kids to walk alone or even with friends. creating a walk-way does not itself create safety. 195 is a highly traveled road with no cross walks and very little sidewalks. the number of people traveling the road is a safety concern.	May 19, 2011 3:25 PM
13	It isn't necessarily how safe itwould be, while I don't trust the drivers along the road, if there were an accident I would be concerned about response time	May 19, 2011 3:15 PM
14	Because of rte 195 it is too dangerous to consider walking or biking ot school @ elementary age	May 19, 2011 3:14 PM
15	I would love to bike or walk to school with Jackie if the pathways/sidewalk existed	May 19, 2011 3:01 PM
16	We live in Storrs & southeast and the middle school are both too far to walk. E.O. Smith is close enough though	May 19, 2011 2:18 PM
17	Safety is dependant on neighborhood, distance, etc. I would be in favor of my older child walking/biking if we were closer and there were paths, etc	May 19, 2011 2:16 PM

Page 3, Q1. Do you have comments to share? Leave them in the space below, email them to blooma@ehhd.org, or provide your contact information below so we can be in touch with you.		
18	My husband and I grew up walking to school, but it was not in a rural environment. We grew up in cities. we think walking to school is possible but will need to be a compromise of driving the kids to a drop off and having them walk from a central point with friends. we live too far away	May 19, 2011 2:15 PM
19	I would feel comfortable with children walking to school with crossing guards and/or adults scattered along route.	May 19, 2011 2:12 PM
20	I feel very strongly that kids at a certain age absolutely should have the opportunity to safely get themselves to school, it fosters a strong sense of independence and self-reliance in them and of course there are also health benefits for everyone	May 19, 2011 2:11 PM
21	I think to make parents more comfortable about safety that there should be crossing guards near school	May 19, 2011 2:02 PM
22	walking to school with friends is better than alone. main parental concerns are safety from cars, trucks and human predators	May 19, 2011 12:49 PM
23	walking to school would be great but the town of mansfield is not set up for it. the district is too large and spread out with few sidewalks	May 19, 2011 12:46 PM
24	mansfield police doesn't even enforce speed limits in school zones & most everyone ignores them	May 19, 2011 12:44 PM
25	sidewalks in mansfield would be wonderful, not only from a healthy perspective but would allow all of us our children in particular to enjoy our town to its fullest with smaller risk of traffic injury.	May 19, 2011 12:42 PM
26	We live on warrenville rd (89) I wouldn't even bike/walk on the road.	May 19, 2011 12:40 PM
27	I would walk with my children to school but there are no sidewalks! Bassetts Bridge Rd. has none and neither does Rte 89 :< This effects our routine every day because we have to drive somewhere to walk safely	May 19, 2011 12:38 PM
28	Southeast is located on a state highway without sidewalks. Hard to imagine safe walking/biking without new routes included	May 15, 2011 7:27 AM
29	My child is in PK, but that was not an option	May 10, 2011 5:11 PM
30	I feel that we live too far from South East school and that our child is too young to walk to school.	May 10, 2011 4:09 PM
31	A walkway from the Mansfield Library to Southeast would be nice. We can currently walk from 195 to the Library using Center St/Edgewood Ln to avoid 89 completely.	May 10, 2011 1:21 PM
32	I'm very happy this issue is finally raised. When we moved from Manhattan to Storrs my first frustration was the lack of side walk to push a stroller and to walk safely just for fun. I'm glad you'd finally taking care of that problem.	May 10, 2011 12:52 PM
33	would be great to be able to walk to school or bike along 89 without being afraid to be hit by the car	May 10, 2011 11:02 AM

Page 3, Q1. Do you have comments to share? Leave them in the space below, email them to blooma@ehhd.org, or provide your contact information below so we can be in touch with you.		
34	Would love to see a safe sidewalk/walkway leading to/from Southeast. Would also like to see a heavier police presence during morning/afternoon commute as I regularly see people flying through our school zone with no regard for their speed. I think it would be great to have the option to drop the kids off at a reasonable distance to walk to school in the mornings, if there were a safe way to do so. This would be great for the community.	May 10, 2011 10:41 AM
35	I like the idea of having sidewalks connecting Southeast with the library and Rt. 195 for more than just walking to and from school. They would be helpful for the library book sale, etc.	May 10, 2011 10:17 AM
36	We go to the library from school rather frequently and it would be fun if we could walk there	May 10, 2011 7:38 AM
37	I used to walk to school and wish my kids could be the same. It is healthy and great for the environment. The only reason they do not walk is the lack of safe sidewalks.	May 10, 2011 5:07 AM
38	Mansfield needs more walking routes that are safe, our town has no shoulders on the roads	May 10, 2011 4:58 AM
39	As i said we are a later far but sometimes we bike, to walk it is far. But sometimes we are at southeast and we could go by walk to the library but there is no side walk.And to make it clear to the cars that they are children who bikes here in this rural area and that they have to slow down. Thank you	May 10, 2011 4:46 AM

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

Matthew W. Hart, Town Manager

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING
FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD
MANSFIELD, CT 06268-2599
(860) 429-3336
Fax: (860) 429-6863

August 1, 2011

Ms. Norma Fisher-Doiron
Principal
Southeast Elementary School
134 Warrenville Road
Mansfield, Connecticut 06268

Re: Safe Routes to School Application for Southeast Elementary

Dear Norma:

The Town of Mansfield is very excited to be partnering with the Mansfield Board of Education in supporting your application for a Safe Routes to School Infrastructure grant from the Connecticut Department of Transportation. In recognition of the importance of this project, the Town Council voted unanimously on July 25, 2011 to support this grant application.

As you know, the health and safety of our children is one of the town's highest priorities. We have long identified the section of Warrenville Road (Route 89) between Southeast School and Storrs Road (Route 195) as a key project in our sidewalk plan, recognizing the importance of linking the school to Mansfield Center and the Mansfield Public Library.

Additionally, the town is committed to encouraging all of our residents to become more physically active. I hope that the Southeast School Safe Routes to School program at Southeast becomes a model program for not just our other schools, but the greater community as well. The town is fully prepared to partner in all aspects of your Safe Routes to School Master Plan, and I look forward to participating in your first International Walk to School Day on October 5, 2011.

Sincerely,

Matthew W. Hart
Town Manager

CC: Lon Hultgren, Director of Public Works
Linda Painter, Director of Planning and Development

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF MANSFIELD, CONNECTICUT
FREDERICK A. BARUZZI, SUPERINTENDENT

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING
FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD
MANSFIELD, CT 06268
(860) 429-3350
Fax: (860) 429-3379

July 15, 2011

Norma Fisher-Doiron, Principal
Southeast School
134 Warrenville Road
Mansfield, CT 06268

Dear Ms. Fisher-Doiron:

Your efforts to improve the safety of the route to Southeast School through the Connecticut Department of Transportation funding opportunity and the Safe Routes to School model are commendable. This initiative is strongly supported by the Mansfield Board of Education Central Office.

The Board of Education Central Office and the local community are both well aware of the lack of access to Southeast School by children in the surrounding neighborhoods. The funds made available through this Department of Transportation grant to create a sidewalk in front of the school would clearly allow many children and families safe access through active transportation. The benefits of physical activity for children, especially through walking and riding bikes to school are numerous, and the school district has a history of supporting efforts to encourage walking and biking to school as evidenced by recent walk-to-school activities at Goodwin school. Furthermore, the district will support you in the educational component of implementing a Safe Routes to School program at Southeast School so that students and parents understand the various safety issues associated with walking and biking to school.

Sincerely,

Frederick A. Baruzzi

Frederick A. Baruzzi,
Superintendent of Schools

Eastern Highlands Health District

4 South Eagleville Road • Mansfield CT 06268 • Tel: (860) 429-3325 • Fax: (860) 429-3321 • Web: www.EHHD.org

July 18, 2011

Norma Fisher-Doiron, Principal
Southeast School
134 Warrenville Road
Mansfield, CT 06268

Dear Ms. Fisher-Doiron:

The Eastern Highlands Health District is pleased to support your school's efforts to address opportunities for active transportation to school through a Safe Routes to School initiative and Master Plan.

As the local public health authority for Mansfield and Southeast School, we value the partnership we have with your staff and families in working towards a healthy community. The incorporation of Safe Routes to School into your neighborhood is a worthy project, as it will increase the options for children to obtain more physical activity each day through walking and biking to and from school. These simple activities are recognized as a solid piece of the healthy community picture; as increases in physical activity help to reduce childhood obesity and diminish the rates of chronic disease over time. Additionally, this Safe Routes to School Master Plan aligns well with the Health District's ACHIEVE Initiative which addresses policies and the environment to make physical activity and healthy eating more accessible in our community.

The Health District is able to provide resources to you as you move forward with your plan including participation on your SRTS team, assisting with data collection (evaluation), and experience with various encouragement and educational components of your plan.

We look forward to supporting your efforts.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Miller, MPH, R.S.
Director of Health

TOWN OF MANSFIELD RESIDENT TROOPER

Resident State Trooper's Office
4 South Eagleville Road
Storrs/Mansfield, CT 06268-2599
(860) 429-6024 Telephone
(860) 429-4090 Facsimile

TO: Norma Fisher-Doiron, Principal
Southeast Elementary School

FROM: Sergeant James Kodzis

DATE: July 12, 2011

RE: Safe Routes to School

The Resident State Trooper's office, which serves the Town of Mansfield, supports the development of a Safe Routes to School Master Plan and can be listed on the proposal and Master Plan as a community partner in this effort.

The Resident State Trooper's office will serve as a resource for the Town and schools in the education and enforcement components of the plan. As availability allows, our office will increase efforts to enhance pedestrian safety by conducting public education initiatives and increased enforcement of traffic laws in and around school zones.

The most recent accident/enforcement data available covers Rt. 89/Warrenville Rd. from 7/1/2010 to 6/30/2011 (attached).

Please let me know if I may be of further assistance.

Row Labels	DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT NO INJURIES	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT WITH INJURIES	TRAFFIC SERVICES	TRAFFIC STOP/MULTI ENFORCEMENT	TRAFFIC STOP	Grand Total
14-100					1		1
14-100A(C)(1)					4		4
14-12					5		5
14-13					1		1
14-147					2		2
14-18					2		2
14-18(C)					1		1
14-215					1		1
14-218A					86		86
14-218ACZ					1		1
14-218aSZ					17		17
14-219					1		1
14-219(B)					3		3
14-219(C)					2		2
14-227A	2						2
14-230					2		2
14-242					1		1
14-251					1		1
14-296aa(b)					3		3
14-298					1		1
14-299					1		1
14-96B					1		1
14-96C					1		1
14-96Y					1		1
14-99G					1		1
(blank)	1	8	2	9		2	22
Grand Total	3	8	2	9	140	2	164

Town of Mansfield July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011

MV Related calls on Rt 89 - Warrenville Rd

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
Mansfield Advocates for Children

Sandra P. Baxter
School Readiness Coordinator

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING
FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILLE RD
MANSFIELD, CT 06268-2599
(860) 429-3338
Fax: (860) 429-7785
Email: BaxterSP@mansfieldct.org

July 21, 2011

Norma Fisher-Doiron, Principal
Southeast School
134 Warrenville Road
Mansfield Center, CT 06250

Dear Ms. Fisher-Doiron,

Mansfield Advocates for Children is pleased to hear of your efforts on behalf of the children and families of Southeast School through the Safe Routes to School Initiative and Master Plan. We write in support of this initiative.

As you know, Mansfield Advocates for Children has identified health and community connectedness as two areas of focus for our collaborative. We believe Safe Routes to School in the Southeast school district will contribute to community life in both of these areas. Through opportunities to walk or bike to school, children will have safe access to increased physical activity. Additionally we see the benefit of families and groups of families being able to walk together to school programs and activities as a way of promoting a greater sense of community connection among your families.

Mansfield Advocates for Children will be happy to assist in any way we can in the implementation of this plan.

Sincerely,

Sandra Baxter

Sandra Baxter, School Readiness Coordinator

Eastern Highlands Health District

4 South Eagleville Road • Mansfield CT 06268 • Tel: (860) 429-3325 • Fax: (860) 429-3321 • Web: www.EHHD.org

EHHD ACHIEVE Initiative

Leadership Team

Ande Bloom, M.S., R.D.
EHHD, Health Education Program Coordinator

Linda Drake, M.S.
UConn, Director of Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program

Linda Farmer, AICP
Tolland, Town Planner

Chris Grulke, R.N.
Tolland BOE, Nurse Supervisor

Kevin Grunwald, MSW
Mansfield, Director of Human Services

Kathleen Krider
Director, Mt. Hope Montessori School

Elizabeth McCosh Lilie
Region 19 BOE Member

Robert Miller, MPH, R.S.
EHHD, Director of Health

Linda Painter
Mansfield, Director of Planning

Wendy Rubin, CPRP
Coventry, Director of Parks and Recreation

Bette Day Stern, M.A., CPRP
Mansfield, Recreation Supervisor

Jaci VanHeest, PhD
UConn, Associate Professor

Mary Withey, MSN, APRN
VNA East, Inc. Coordinator of Community Outreach Services

July 18, 2011

Norma Fisher-Doiron, Principal
Southeast School
134 Warrenville Road
Mansfield, CT 06268

Dear Ms. Fisher-Doiron:

The Eastern Highlands Health District's ACHIEVE Initiative (Action Communities for Health, Innovation, and EnVironmental changE) is a strong supporter of your efforts to broaden opportunities for children to walk and bike to school in Mansfield. While it is not currently feasible for children to safely access Southeast school using active transportation, the Safe Routes to School Master Plan for Southeast school addresses these issues in a comprehensive way.

The Safe Routes to School model aligns well with our ACHIEVE Initiative goals. We are a broad-based community initiative seeking to address policy, systems, and environmental changes that will improve access to opportunities for physical activity as one aspect of building a healthy community. While we have provided assistance in the past to support your development of a SRTS Master Plan, it is important to note that we will maintain this commitment to the school's efforts to address opportunities for active transportation to school.

We look forward to supporting your efforts.

Sincerely,

Ande Bloom

Ande Bloom, M.S., R.D.
ACHIEVE Coach

Mount Hope Montessori School
P. O. Box 267
48 Bassetts Bridge Road
Mansfield Center, CT 06250
(860) 423-1070
www.mthopemontessori.com
e-mail: mthopemontessori@snet.net

July 26th, 2011

Norma Fisher-Doiron
Principle
Southeast Elementary School
Mansfield, Ct 06250

Dear Ms. Fisher-Doiron. I am writing to you in regards to the Safe Routes to School initiative that Southeast is involved in. I want to thank you for your leadership and support of this excellent program and lend you my support.

As the director of your neighboring school, the idea that Southeast Elementary will soon have a walking path that, in effect, links our two schools is very exciting. With the addition of the proposed walkway, families with children in both schools can safely walk from one to the other. And along the way, partake in the greater Mansfield community. The additional benefits, i.e. healthy behaviors introduced to children at a young age, are also an important part of our mission as school leaders and I look forward to this being available to our families. In Montessori education, we see the outside environment as a classroom. Something as simple as a sidewalk can become an opportunity for so much more.

Thank you Norma, please let me know if I can be of any more assistance.

Kathleen Krider

Kathleen Krider, Director
Mt. Hope Montessori School, Inc.
48 Bassetts Bridge Rd
PO Box 267
Mansfield, CT 06250