TOWN OF STRATHAM

INCORPORATED 1716

10 BUNKER HILL AVENUE • STRATHAM, NH 03885

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR 603-772-4741
SELECTMEN'S OFFICE/ADMINISTRATION/ASSESSING 603-772-7391
CODE ENFORCEMENT/BUILDING INSPECTION/PLANNING 603-772-7391
FAX (ALL OFFICES) 603-775-0517

November 30, 2017

John W. Corrigan
Safe Routes to School Coordinator
NHDOT Bureau of Planning and Community Assistance
7 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03302-0483

RE: Town of Stratham Safe Routes to School Proposals

Dear Mr. Corrigan

On behalf of the Town of Stratham, I am submitting the three enclosed applications for Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Funding. These include an application for an SRTS Start-Up Grant in the amount of $9,995, and an SRTS Travel Planning Grant in the amount of $29, 989.

Stratham's Safe Routes to School Initiative enjoys the full support of the Stratham Selectmen and the principals of Stratham Memorial School (SMS), serving grades K-5, and the Cooperative Middle School (CMS). Stratham's SRTS Committee formed this fall out of the town's Pedestrian/Cyclist Advisory Committee (PCAC), includes representatives from Planning Department, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Recreation Commission, Public Works Department, Police Department, Stratham Memorial School, and the Cooperative Middle School. The committee also includes a range of other community members, including representatives from the PTO and other interested parents. The Rockingham Planning Commission has also worked with us in development of the Committee, and will play a lead role in the development of the SRTS Travel Plan.

Our intention with the travel planning grant is to contract with the Rockingham Planning Commission to develop the core SRTS Travel Plan for SMS and CMS. We have also proposed $10,000 to contract with an engineering consultant to provide conceptual designs and first order cost estimates for priority infrastructure project identified through the planning process.

Stratham has two staff members that are currently certified in NHDOT's Local Public Agency (LPA) grant management process: Town Planner Tavis Austin and Public Works Director Colin Laverty.

If I can provide further information on Stratham's developing SRTS efforts please contact me at 603-772-7391 or pdeschaine@strathamnh.gov

Sincerely,

Paul Deschaine
Town Administrator

CC: Bruno Federico, Chair, Stratham Board of Selectmen
Bettina Kersten, Chair, Stratham SRTS Committee
Tim Roache, Executive Director, RPC

ROCKINGHAM
PLANNING
COMMISSION

156 Water Street, Exeter, NH 03833
Tel. 603-778-0885 ◆ Fax: 603-778-9183
email@rpc-nh.org ◆ www.rpc-nh.org

December 1, 2017

John Corrigan
Safe Routes to School Program Coordinator
NH Department of Transportation
7 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03302

RE: Town of Stratham Safe Routes to School Proposals

Dear Mr. Corrigan:

On behalf of the Rockingham Planning Commission, I am forwarding three applications from the Town of Stratham for funding support to establish a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program for Stratham Memorial School (SMS) and the Cooperative Middle School (CMS).

Our agency, fulfilling its role in the Safe Routes to School proposal review process defined by the NHDOT, has solicited project proposals, provided technical assistance to applicants as requested, and has screened and evaluated the three applications received.

The three proposals include an SRTS Start-Up Grant application, an SRTS Travel Plan Grant application, and a third application for SRTS Supplemental Non-Infrastructure Funding. The scope of work for the Start-Up Grant proposal features a solid mix of strategies across the 5Es including partnering with the Bike/Walk Alliance of New Hampshire (BWANH) on in-class bicycle safety education, community wide outreach on safe sharing of the road, expanded participation in Bike and Walk to School Days, establishment of one or more walking school buses, incentive programs and purchase of portable crosswalk centerline "yield to pedestrians" signs. The Travel Plan scope provides for contracting with RPC to develop the bulk of a SRTS Travel Plan for SMS and CMS, and contracting with an engineering firm to develop conceptual designs and first order cost estimates for a small number of possible infrastructure projects to be identified through the planning process. Lastly, the Supplemental Non-Infrastructure scope includes an expanded on-bike safety skills program, a volunteer crossing guard program, expanded school zone speed enforcement, and evaluation of the effectiveness of these initiatives.

The Rockingham Planning Commission wishes to express its strong support for these applications. We encourage NHDOT and the Statewide SRTS Advisory Committee to fund these fully.

Sincerely,

Tim Roache
Executive Director

CC: Leo Gagnon & Lucy Cushman, RPC Commissioners, Town of Stratham
Paul Deschaine, Town Administrator, Town of Stratham

Date received by NHDOT:

NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

Application Form for SRTS Startup Funding

Send completed applications to the Regional Planning Commission for your region. (See http://www.nharpc.org/ for information on the RPCs or contact the SRTS coordinator.)

Provide a copy to:
John W. Corrigan
Safe Routes to School Coordinator
Bureau of Planning and Community Assistance
N.H. Department of Transportation
7 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03302-0483
jcorrigan@dot.state.nh.us

Applicant: Name of municipality, school district, and/or service provider. Include mailing and physical address, telephone number and e-mail address:

Town of Stratham
10 Bunker Hill Avenue
Stratham, NH 03885
603-772-7391 x147
taustin@strathamnh.gov

Name, title, mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address of contact person:

Tavis Austin, Town Planner
Town of Stratham
10 Bunker Hill Avenue
Stratham, NH 03885

603-772-7391 x147
taustin@strathamnh.gov

List by name, physical and mailing address, telephone number and e-mail address each of the schools affected by this application:

Stratham Memorial School
39 Gifford Farm Road
Stratham, NH 03885
Phone: (603) 772-5413
tfosher@sau16.org

Cooperative Middle School
100 Academic Way
Stratham, NH 03885
Phone: (603) 775-8703
pwons@sau16.org

Identify by name, title, and mailing address the individuals authorized to sign a binding agreement on behalf of the school, municipality, and/or other service provider.

Paul Deschaine, Town Administrator
Town of Stratham
10 Bunker Hill Avenue
Stratham, NH 03885

603-772-7391 x181
pdeschaine@strathamnh.gov

Sponsoring Regional Planning Commission (RPCs will attach comments and recommendations. Please confirm that a copy of the application has been submitted to the RPC.)

Rockingham Planning Commission

a) Include a budget of anticipated costs associated with starting an SRTS program.

Evaluation	**$ 1,600**
Education	**$ 3,700**
Encouragement	**$ 3,015**
Enforcement	**$ 1,680**
Total	**$ 9,995**

Attach an itemized description of each budget line.

Attached budget assumes eligibility for up to $5,000 in Safe Routes to School Start Up Grant funding per school x two schools. These include Stratham Memorial School (K-5) and the Cooperative Middle School (6-8). Both schools are located in Stratham.

b) List the members of the community SRTS Task Force (insert additional lines if needed):

Paul Deschaine	Town Administrator, Stratham
Tavis Austin	Town Planner, Town of Stratham
Jameson Paine	Planning Board, PCAC, Parent
Colin Laverty	Public Works Director, Town of Stratham
Seth Hickey	Parks & Recreation Director, Town of Stratham, PCAC
John Scippa	Chief, Stratham Police Department
Amanda Bibeau	Community Outreach Officer, Stratham Police Department
Tom Fosher	Principal, Stratham Memorial School (SMS)
Elisabeth Lacasse	School Nurse SMS, SRTS Subcommittee
Tiffany Locke	PE Teacher SMS, SRTS Subcommittee
Pamela Hollasch	PCAC, parent
Jennifer Antonakakis	SMS parent, PCAC
Stephanie Bergeron	SMS parent
Bettina Kersten	PCAC, parent
Sue Garneau	CMS teacher, CMS Subcommittee
Stephanie Frigon	CMS Experiential Education Director, CMS Subcommittee
Melissa Gahr	PCAC, parent
Lindsay Pope	CMS teacher
John Potter	CMS teacher
Beth Dion	CMS parent
Hayley Hitchmoth	SMS parent
Andrea Benson	SMS PTO president, PCAC, parent

The Stratham SRTS Task Force was developed out of the town's Pedestrian and Cyclist Advisory Committee (PCAC). The PCAC was established by the Town in 2017 with a goal of improving safety for people walking and bicycling as well as connecting existing trails and public lands in Stratham.

c) Describe the objective of the initial planning efforts.

The proposed start-up phase of the Stratham's Safe Routes to School initiative will focus on data gathering; the development of a Safe Routes to School Travel Plan for Stratham Memorial School and the Cooperative Middle School; and piloting several school-based initiatives to encourage students to walk or bicycle to school and ensure that they can do so safely. These elements are described more extensively under the Evaluation, Education, Encouragement and Enforcement sections below.

d) Describe the evaluation, education, encouragement and enforcement components of the initial effort.

<u>Evaluation</u>

The Town of Stratham is submitting three grant applications simultaneously to further the development of its Safe Routes to School initiative: 1) this SRTS Start-Up Grant application; 2) a Travel Planning Grant application for Stratham Memorial School and the Cooperative Middle School;

and 3) a Supplementary Non-Infrastructure Grant to support development of a crossing guard program, supplemental enforcement measures, and bicycle and pedestrian programming as part of the Cooperative Middle School's Earth Day events.

Some Evaluation activities that will be central to the development of Stratham's SRTS program are addressed in the Travel Planning Grant scope rather than this Start-Up Grant. These include mapping, traffic counts, a parent forum and walking audits of the two school zones (SMS and CMS). However, basic evaluation activities proposed as part of the Start-Up Grant scope include:

Proposed Grant Activities

1) *Distribution of Parent Survey – The SRTS Task Force will work with the principals of Stratham Memorial School and the Cooperative Middle School to conduct an initial Parent Survey using the National Center for Safe Routes to School's online form in March or April 2018. This survey will provide baseline data on parent attitudes toward walking and biking. The Cooperative Middle School serves six communities (Stratham, Exeter, Newfields, Brentwood, Kensington, East Kingston), but only Stratham and Exeter are within walking or bicycling distance. Consequently we anticipate the CMS parent surveys will target Stratham and Exeter parents. This Start-Up Grant includes funding for staff time to distribute the survey. Analysis and materials are included in the accompanying Travel Plan Grant budget. We anticipate that Parent Surveys will be repeated every other year.*

2) *In-Class Tally – The SRTS Task Force will work with the staff at the two schools to conduct the standard SRTS In-Class Tally during May 2018 once warmer weather has returned. Going forward we anticipate that In-Class Tallies will be a twice a year program feature (spring and fall).*

3) *Project Administration – Staff time budget is included for Stratham Town Planner Tavis Austin to manage the grant. Mr. Austin is certified in NHDOT's Local Public Agency (LPA) grant management process.*

In preparation for developing this grant application the SRTS Task Force has developed a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) assessment. The assessment addresses the school zones, school policies and programs at SMS and CMS; surrounding development patterns, road and path networks; and opportunities and challenges for the town to address in shaping its SRTS program. A summary of the assessment is included here as Attachment A.

Education

The Stratham Parks & Recreation Department in summer 2017 piloted a community bicycle rodeo/bicycle safety skills course. The Parks and Recreation Department also partners with the nonprofit group Seacoast VeloKids on bicycle safety skills classes and the annual Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day at Stratham Hill Park. While some of these events highlight mountain bicycling, the safety skills involved, such as balance, gearing, power starts, emergency steering and emergency stopping, translate to bicycling on the road for school commuting. The Cooperative Middle School (CMS) also offers bicycling as an option in their Alternative Physical Education program.

Through the development of the Travel Plan, the SRTS Task Force will research effective approaches used elsewhere in the state and country to inform students and parents about the benefits of walking and bicycling; and also raise awareness throughout the community of the need to safely share the road with pedestrians and bicycle riders.

Proposed Grant Activities:

1) *In-Class Bike/Ped Safety Instruction - Coordinate in-class presentations by Bike/Walk Alliance of New Hampshire targeting 4th and 5th graders during Spring 2018 and/or Fall 2018.*

2) *School Zone Safety Pop-Up Demonstrations – Implement one or more temporary "pop-up" school zone safety demonstration projects to raise public awareness of how low-cost pavement marking changes can improve safety in the school zone. Demonstrations use temporary pavement marking tape and cones/pylons. Similar pop-up demonstrations have been used successfully in Portsmouth, Exeter, Keene, Concord and other communities.*

3) *Develop Community Outreach Campaign. Use social media, town and school websites, PTO networks and other outlets for an outreach campaign to raise awareness of the town's SRTS program and encourage safe sharing of the road by drivers. Develop outreach materials (such as flyers, posters, graphics for social media) to advertise events, provide general information, and support collaboration with and advocacy by the cycling and walking population in town.*

Encouragement

Both Stratham Memorial School and the Cooperative Middle School conduct annual Bike to School Day events in May. The SMS event is school-wide and typically engages 50%-60% of students. Stratham Police Officers are stationed before and after school at designated crossings points to help students cross NH Route 33 and Route 108. The CMS event is structured as a large group ride organized by a highly engaged teacher. Because the group traverses a busy state highway (NH Route 27), the Police Department provides assistance at one crossing point. SMS is holding a school wide annual Wellness Walk in May and proposes to start incorporating the International Walk to School Day in October 2018.

The SRTS Task Force is familiarizing itself with a range of encouragement initiatives that have been used in Portsmouth, Hampton, Nashua and other school districts around New Hampshire to build student interest and participation in walking and bicycling. The SRTS Task Force is exploring the use of "walking school buses" involving parents in escorting students, incentive programs, and special events. A prioritized list of such activities will be developed for the Travel Plan. As a starting point, we anticipate building on Bike to School Day activities in May 2018 and initiating a local Walk to School event in October 2018. Funding is included in this proposal for printing promotional materials for the May 2018 event, and for incentive prizes for participation.

Specific Grant Activities:

1) *Expand participation by both Stratham Memorial School and the Cooperative Middle School in National Bike to School Day activities in May 2018*

2) *Stratham Memorial School participation in International Walk to School Day in October 2018*

3) *Engage parents in establishing one or more walking school bus groups. One of these will meet in Stratham Hill Park and walk approximately one mile on trails through the park to reach Stratham Memorial School. Through the Travel Planning process, the Task Force intends to identify other neighborhoods where walking school bus groups could work, depending on student concentrations and parent interest.*

4) *Establish an incentive challenge program for students, including safety giveaway items, and one or more donated larger prizes as well as smaller prizes for walking or biking a certain number of miles or trips. Safety and incentive items proposed include, though may not be*

limited to, some combination of safety lights, message stickers, pedometers, water bottles and cages, bike locks, reflective strips, or other items that have been found effective as incentives by other New Hampshire SRTS programs.

5) *Purchase a pool of helmets, safety lights and safety vests that police can distribute to students observed riding without a helmet, or walking or riding at night without lights. First priority will be students and parents participating in pilot Walking School Bus groups, and other students already walking or riding to school.*

Enforcement

Currently the Stratham Police Department stations a School Resource Officer at SMS during pick-up and drop-off times. Additional data are desired on traffic volume and traffic speed on several streets surrounding the school zone, and will be collected as part of the development of the Travel Plan. Based on results from the speed studies additional speed enforcement in the school zone may be appropriate. The SRTS Task Force and Stratham Police Department are researching the effectiveness of incentive programs where police officers hand out prizes to youth observed following traffic laws on their bicycles as they ride to school. Safety items such as helmets or bicycle lights may also be provided to youth observed riding without a helmet or without adequate lighting during shoulder hours.

Specific Grant Activities

1) *Purchase up to six flexible base "Yield to Pedestrians" portable signs to be installed on crosswalks on school grounds and/or other crosswalks in the school zone.*

Important Information: Filing and Formatting Requirements

Please note: The N.H. Department of Transportation treats SRTS applications as public documents. If you believe that part of the application is exempt from the state Right-to-Know law, identify the section and explain why the information should be confidential under RSA 91-A:5.

Please follow the application format exactly, and answer questions in order. For budget information, list only the total amounts requested in the spaces provided. Provide additional information in the attached detailed budget. The information will be entered into a spreadsheet and later used in preparing local agreements. Please do not submit letters of support with an application for startup funding.

Applicants are encouraged to submit an electronic file as well as a hard copy of the application. Applications will be for distributed to members of the Statewide Advisory Committee (SAC) as an e-mail attachment in either a MS Word or PDF format. For this reason, please submit the paper copy on standard 8 ½" by 11" sheets without any type of binding.

NHDOT and the SAC reserve the authority to reject any applications that do not meet the formatting requirements.

ATTACHMENT A
SWOT Analysis - Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats

Stratham Safe Routes to School Committee Meeting
November 6, 2017

Baseline Information for SRTS Program Development

1. **What infrastructure, policies and programs do SMS, CMS, and the Town of Stratham currently have in place (or are planning) that support safe walking or biking to school as well as other healthy physical activity?**

   - Bike to School Day events (CMS & SMS) (40% of SMS student body);
   - Stratham Hill Park (SHP) bike trail connection to school;
   - Bike rodeo program (4 Wednesdays in August);
   - Bike unit as part of CMS Alternative PE;
   - Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day (Seacoast Velo Kids partnership w/Stratham Parks & Rec);
   - Organizing network – Good partnerships in town between PTO, SMS administration, Stratham PD, Parks & Rec Department;
   - Recent safety improvements on Gifford Farm and Lovell Roads (crosswalks, flashing beacons); and
   - SMS plans to add Walk to School Day in October next year.

2. **What concerns do you have about kids walking or biking to school? If your concerns relate to safety improvement on roadways or intersections please be as specific as possible about the location.**

   - Route 108 and Route 33 act as barriers for kids to the north and west of those highways to be able to walk or bike to SMS;
   - Traffic volume, speed and narrowness on Gifford Farm and Lovell Roads to access SMS;
   - Walking and bicycling to CMS is specifically prohibited;
   - No sidewalks at CMS;
   - Narrowness of Guinea Road and bridge over NH101 limit bike/ped access, or sidewalk potential from the south, to CMS;
   - 35 mph speed limit on Lovell Road;
   - Number of state highways (NH108, NH33, NH27);
   - Increasing percentage of parents driving kids to school rather than bus or walking/biking;
   - No direct communication with drivers on safety;
   - Lack of sidewalks on Gifford Farm and Lovell;
   - Lack of width on other local roads beyond Gifford Farm and Lovell;
   - Narrow bottleneck bridge on Willowbrook Avenue, high speed traffic and no shoulder ;
   - Confusing intersection on Lovell/ Gifford Fam Rd. leads Pedestrian onto the dangerous side of road;
   - Seasonality of trails (not plowed in the winter); and
   - Limited snow removal capacity if sidewalks were built.

3. **Keeping in mind the 5Es of the SRTS program (Engineering, Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, Evaluation), what can Stratham do as a community to encourage kids to walk or bicycle to school and ensure that they can do so safely?**

   - Use trails at Stratham Hill Park for access (Encouragement);
   - Parent chaperoned walking groups meet at Stratham Hill Park and walk to SMS – organizing parents to do this can start immediately. Any trail potential near CMS? (Encouragement);

- New development going in on Lovell and Stratham Heights Roads – more families in proximity to school, potentially helping justify safety improvements;
- Additional anti-idling signage at schools – single signs there now, but now largely ignored (Education);
- Evaluate low-cost visual cues as low hanging fruit (Engineering);
- Stripe 10' lanes on Gifford Farm, double yellow center line, would allow for 2'-4' shoulders. Test striping on base coat of asphalt – 2-4 years. Incorporate final striping with top coat following test. (Engineering);
- Agree on terms "sidewalk", "side path", "bike path", "bike route", etc. ;
- Work on communications plan to build public support (Education);
- Continue bike safety skills outreach through Stratham PD and Parks & Rec (Education)
- Crossing guard program (Enforcement);
- Temporary pop-up demonstration projects to test crosswalk/traffic-calming modifications. (Engineering);
- Walking group through Stratham Hill Park could even run in winter with snow-shoes (Encouragement);
- Develop a trail from the Long Hill trail on Barker's Farm conservation land directly to SMS property to offer an alternative route to Gifford Farm Road;
- Add "End School Zone" signage to Gifford Farm Road, Lovell Road and Guinea Road;
- Add cross walks on strategic important places to guide pedestrian and walkers safely across road (Willowbrook Avenue, Lovell Road, Gifford Farm, Guinea Road, Winnicut Road, High Street; and
- Assign town neighborhoods on masterplan (CMS, SMS, Great Bay) and develop standards for traffic calming and connectivity.

4. What challenges will need to be addressed to implement these ideas?

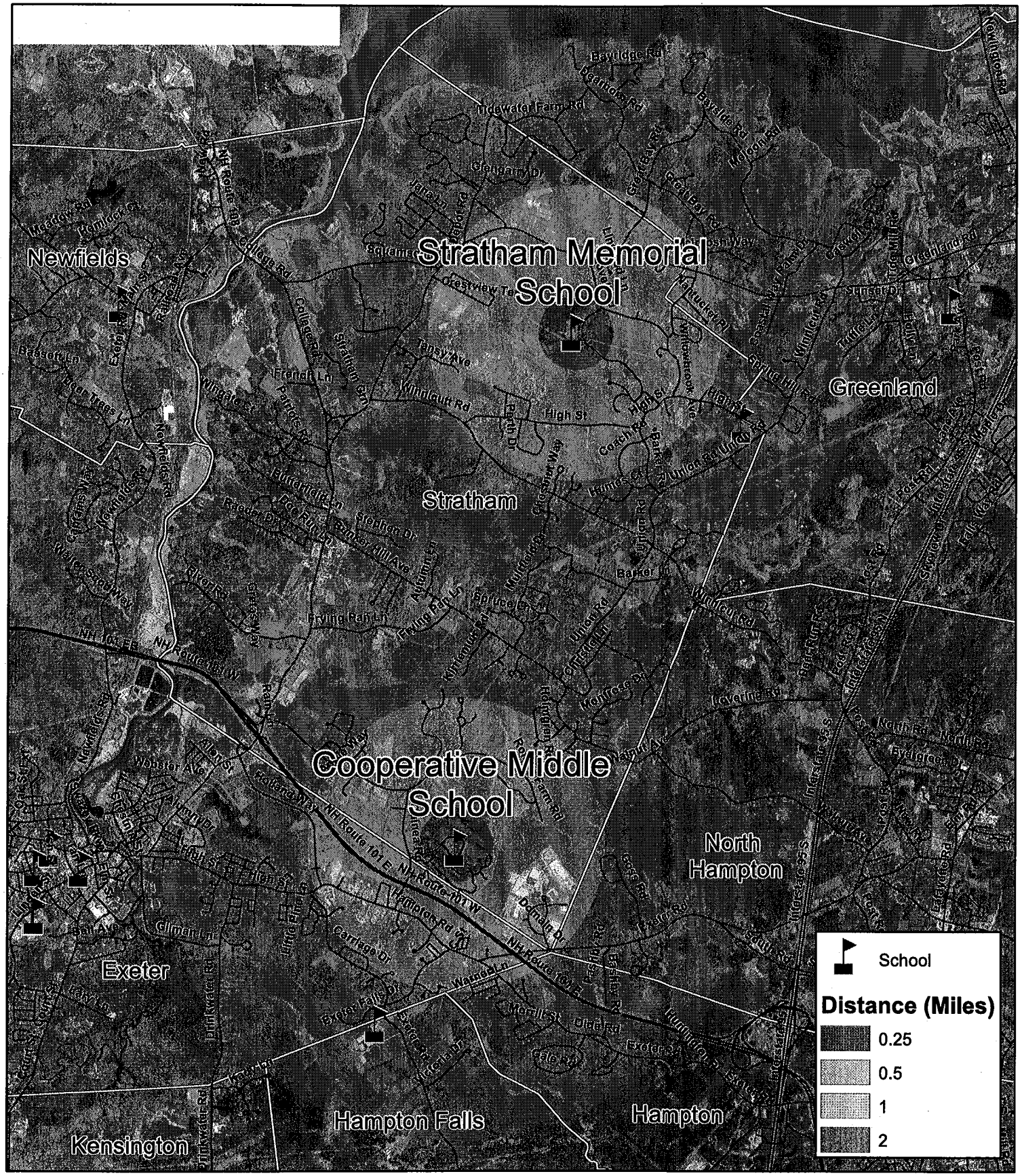
- Lack of local resources for construction and maintenance;
- Subdivision regulations don't account for sidewalks;
- Cul de sacs are the typical development pattern – not good for connectivity;
- NIMBYism regarding trails;
- New development = more traffic; and
- Lack of clarity of terms --- > sidewalk, path, lanes, bike route, etc.

Stratham Safe Routes to School Initiative
SRTS Start-Up Grant Budget

Component	Staff Hours	Staff Time Cost to Grant	Printing/ Materials	Other	Grant Request	Notes
Evaluation Component						
1. Administration	24	$ 1,200	$ -	$ -	$ 1,200	Project management and evaluation
2. Parent Survey	4	$ 200	$ -	$ -	$ 200	Covers distribution of survey. Analysis and materials included in Travel Planning Grant budgets
3. In-Class Tally	4	$ 200	$ -	$ -	$ 200	Prep time, tally class results
Other evaluation activities in accompanying travel planning Grant applications						
Evaluation Subtotal	**32**	**$ 1,600**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 1,600**	
Education Component						
1. Coordinate BWANH bike safety presentations for 4th and 5th grades	2	$ 100	$ -	$ -	$ 100	BWANH visit for 4th & 5th grades - staff time to coordinate
2. School zone safety treatments pop-up demonstration materials	16	$ 800	$ -	$ 700	$ 1,500	Staff time to coordinate. Materials and supplies for demonstrations such as temporary pavement marking tape, cones/pylons, temporary paint, signage, etc.
3. Share the Road Outreach Campaign and Materials	30	$ 1,500	$ 500	$ 100	$ 2,100	Design and staffing time. Materials development potentially including program brochure, posters, design, social media promotion
Education Subtotal	**48**	**$ 2,400**	**$ 500**	**$ 800**	**$ 3,700**	
Encouragement Component						
1. Bike/Walk to School Day May 2018	10	$ 475	$ 200	$ 150	$ 825	Promo flyers, incentives, food for events
2. International Walk to School Day Event Oct 2018	10	$ 500	$ 200	$ 150	$ 850	Promo flyer, incentives, food for events
3. Walking School Bus program support	0	$ -	$ -	$ 300	$ 300	Information for parents, safety supplies leaders/organizers such as vests, jackets or lights
4. Incentive and safety giveaway items	0	$ -	$ -	$ 800	$ 800	Incentives such as message stickers, pedometers, water bottles/cages, safety lights, reflective strips for backpacks, bike locks, leg bands, partial funding for major prize such as a bicycle if another sponsor will share cost.
1. Bike helmet pool	0	$ -	$ -	$ 240	$ 240	Helmets, lights or other safety accessories for safety outreach program
Encouragement Subtotal	**20**	**$ 975**	**$ 400**	**$ 1,400**	**$ 3,015**	
Enforcement Component						
2. Flexible base "yield to peds" mid-crosswalk signs (mobile)	0	$ -	$ -	$ 1,680	$ 1,680	Flexible base "yield to peds" mid-crosswalk signs
Enforcement Subtotal	**20**	**$ 975**	**$ 400**	**$ 3,320**	**$ 1,680**	
Grand Total	**119**	**$ 5,950**	**$ 1,300**	**$ 5,520**	**$ 9,995**	

Safe Routes to School
Stratham

ROCKINGHAM PLANNING COMMISSION



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Date received at NHDOT:

NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

Application Form for SRTS Reimbursement Funding

TRAVEL PLAN FUNDING

Send completed applications to the Regional Planning Commission for your region. (See http://www.nharpc.org/ for information on the RPCs or contact the SRTS coordinator.)

Provide a copy to:
John W. Corrigan
Safe Routes to School Coordinator
Bureau of Planning and Community Assistance
N.H. Department of Transportation
7 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03302-0483

Applicant: Name of municipality, school district, and/or service provider. Include mailing and physical address, telephone number and e-mail address:

Town of Stratham
10 Bunker Hill Avenue
Stratham, NH 03885
603-772-7391 x147
taustin@strathamnh.gov

Name, title, mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address of contact person:

Tavis Austin, Town Planner
Town of Stratham
10 Bunker Hill Avenue
Stratham, NH 03885

603-772-7391 x147
taustin@strathamnh.gov

List by name, physical and mailing address, telephone number and e-mail address each of the schools affected by this application:

Stratham Memorial School
39 Gifford Farm Road
Stratham, NH 03885
Phone: (603) 772-5413
tfosher@sau16.org

Cooperative Middle School
100 Academic Way
Stratham, NH 03885
Phone: (603) 775-8703
pwons@sau16.org

Identify by name, title, and mailing address the individuals authorized to sign a binding agreement on behalf of the school, municipality, and/or other service provider.

Paul Deschaine, Town Administrator
Town of Stratham
10 Bunker Hill Avenue
Stratham, NH 03885

603-772-7391 x181
pdeschaines@strathamnh.gov

The Town of Stratham has two staff members certified in NHDOT's Local Public Agency (LPA) grant management procedures. These include Town Planner Tavis Austin and Public Works Director Colin Laverty.

Sponsoring Regional Planning Commission (RPCs will attach comments and recommendations. Please confirm that a copy of the application has been submitted to the RPC.)

Rockingham Planning Commission

a) Provide a budget summary estimating the costs associate with developing a travel plan (up to $15,000 per school).

Evaluation	**$**	**29,989**
Education	$	0 (See companion SRTS Start-Up Grant proposal)
Encouragement	$	0 (See companion SRTS Start-Up Grant proposal)
Enforcement	$	0 (See companion SRTS Start-Up Grant proposal)
Total non-infrastructure	**$**	**29,989**

Attach, immediately following this page, an itemized description of each budget item.

Please see attached budget table and justification. Assumes funding eligibility at two (2) schools x $15,000 per school = $30,000

b) List the members of the community SRTS Committee (insert extra spaces if needed):

Name	Affiliation
Paul Deschaine	Town Administrator, Stratham
Tavis Austin	Town Planner, Town of Stratham
Jameson Paine	Planning Board, PCAC, Parent
Colin Laverty	Public Works Director, Town of Stratham
Seth Hickey	Parks & Recreation Director, Town of Stratham, PCAC
John Scippa	Chief, Stratham Police Department
Amanda Bibeau	Community Outreach Officer, Stratham Police Department
Tom Fosher	Principal, Stratham Memorial School (SMS)
Elisabeth Lacasse	School Nurse SMS, SRTS Subcommittee
Tiffany Locke	PE Teacher SMS, SRTS Subcommittee
Pamela Hollasch	PCAC. parent
Jennifer Antonakakis	SMS parent, PCAC
Stephanie Bergeron	SMS parent
Bettina Kersten	PCAC, parent
Sue Garneau	CMS teacher, CMS Subcommittee
Stephanie Frigon	CMS Experiential Education Director, CMS Subcommittee
Lindsay Pope	CMS
Melissa Gahr	PCAC, parent
John Potter	CMS teacher
Beth Dion	CMS parent
Hayley Hitchmoth	SMS parent
Andrea Benson	SMS PTO president, PCAC, parent

c) Describe plans for evaluation, including 1) mapping showing schools and residential neighborhoods within two miles of each school; 2) how any plans for school travel will be integrated with community master plans addressing bicycling and walking; 3) use of in-class and parental survey forms.

The Town of Stratham is submitting three grant applications simultaneously to further the development of its Safe Routes to School initiative: 1) a SRTS Start-Up Grant application; 2) this Travel Planning Grant application for Stratham Memorial School (SMS) and the Cooperative Middle School (CMS); and 3) a Supplementary Non-Infrastructure Grant to support development of a crossing guard program, supplemental enforcement measures, expanded bicycle safety instruction, and bicycle and pedestrian programming as part of the Cooperative Middle School's Earth Day events.

Stratham proposes to work with the Rockingham Planning Commission to complete the main body of the SRTS Travel Plan for the two schools. The Town and the schools also propose to contract with a consulting engineer to develop conceptual designs and first order cost estimates for priority infrastructure projects in the school zones.

Recognizing the turnaround time for evaluation of grant proposals, the Town proposes to initiate a qualifications based consultant selection (QBS) process earlier than grant funds could be available, should they be approved. The Town would develop and publish a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for

conceptual engineering services, and potentially conduct initial interviews prior to a notice to proceed. We recognize that these expenses would not be recoverable under the grant, but this accelerated schedule would increase the chance that a design consultant could be on board to participate in a parent forum prior to the end of the school year in June 2018.

The Stratham SRTS Committee has already undertaken a preliminary Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis regarding the town and school district efforts to encourage walking and bicycling. Findings from the SWOT analysis are included in Attachment A.

Proposed Evaluation Activities for which the Town seeks grant support in this Travel Planning Grant are described in detail below.

1. Comprehensive Travel Plan Maps. These will include:

    - Base Map - school zone base map identifying student residences within ¼-mile, ½-mile, one-mile and two-mile radii of the two schools;
    - Student Locations - locations of current students, to support identification of groups and/or neighborhoods of elementary and middle school children that might likely bike or walk to school together;
    - Pedestrian and Bicycle Facility Inventory - location and condition of existing sidewalks, crossings, signage, and critical intersections in the school zone, with an emphasis on those connecting to residential areas with high student populations;
    - Traffic Data - traffic and speed count data for key routes in the school zone;
    - Preferred Routes - preferred bicycle and walking routes for each neighborhood based on student population; and
    - Potential location and description of potential infrastructure improvements (sidewalks, striping, signage, signalization, etc.).

    The Committee will also assess traffic circulation on the school grounds for potential safety improvements and assess need to improve condition at bus stops (see recommendations in Part e).

2. Integration of SRTS Travel Plan goals with other local planning processes and policies –

    Stratham's development standards do not currently require sidewalks in new residential subdivisions due to the relatively low density of residential development and historically limited resources of the Department of Public Works to maintain sidewalks. However, Stratham's Master Plan calls for development of such standards for new development adjacent to Stratham Memorial School and the Cooperative Middle School.

    Stratham's proposed SRTS programming and Travel Plan will be integrated with the following municipal planning efforts and services:

    - Community Facilities and Transportation Chapters of the Town Master Plan
    - Zoning Code and Site Plan Review Regulations
    - Recommendations for the Capital Improvements Plan.

    The goals of these integration activities are to: 1) institutionalize SRTS programming into the long term management of municipal facilities; 2) gain financial support for short and long term infrastructure improvements for bicycle and pedestrian routes; and 3) promote the health benefits and teach safe practices relating to biking and walking.

3. Use of In-Class and Parent Surveys – Implementing the Parent Survey and In-Class Tallies is identified in the scope of work for the SRTS Start-Up grant that Stratham is submitting in tandem with this application. We anticipate fielding the Parent Survey in March or April 2018 and the In-Class Tally in May 2018. These will provide baseline data on current levels of walking and bicycling,

parent concerns, and feedback on initiatives that would increase parent and student interest in walking and bicycling. The parent survey will be conducted on a biennial basis going forward to allow tracking of changes in parent attitudes.

Hold Parent Awareness and Input Workshop. A workshop for parents to raise awareness of the SRTS initiative, and gather additional input on priorities for program development, will be held once the initial parent survey results have been analyzed and can be presented. The parent workshop would likely be scheduled in late April or early May 2018, in advance of Bike to School Day.

4. Develop SRTS Travel Plan for Stratham Memorial School and the Cooperative Middle School. The Committee will develop a Safe Routes to School Travel Plan based on analysis of survey data, other public input, traffic data, and site assessment of Stratham Memorial School and the Cooperative Middle School. The Travel Plan will include the following elements:

   - Develop priority ranking of preferred bicycle and walking routes from adjacent neighborhoods based on student population.
   - Collect additional traffic data collection including volume and speed counts in school zone.
   - Identify priorities for the Town and Schools in implementing their SRTS program in the next several years.
   - Identify a framework of actions and strategies to continue implementation of the 5 E's.
   - Identify infrastructure projects for which Town will likely pursue Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) or other funding.
   - Develop conceptual designs and first order cost estimates for top priority infrastructure improvements.
   - Recommend supplemental sources of funding to implement projects and other tasks the Travel Plan.

   As noted above, Stratham proposes to engage both the Rockingham Planning Commission and an outside engineering consulting firm to develop the Travel Plan.

d) Describe how the plan will address education, encouragement and enforcement activities.

Education

- General instruction on pedestrian safety and bus stop safety.
- Expand bicycle and pedestrian safety education in schools, likely making use of the Bike/Walk Alliance of New Hampshire's outreach program based on League of American Bicyclists (LAB) curriculum, as well as current work with Stratham Police Department, the Stratham Parks & Recreation Department and Seacoast VeloKids.
- Community-wide outreach focused on safe sharing of the road.
- Continue and expand annual bicycle rodeos.

Encouragement

- Raise awareness of health benefits and pedestrian/bicycle safety issues for officials, parents, teachers and school age children.
- Building on annual Bike to School Day activities at Stratham Memorial School and the Cooperative Middle School, and initiate Walk to School Day events in the fall.
- Plan for development of ongoing parent-accompanied "walking school bus" and "rolling bike train" groups to support safe walking/biking on a regular basis outside of special school events.

Enforcement

- Implement regular bike safety education in school for both students and teachers.
- Implement a helmet distribution program (engage participation of the Police Departments).
- Recommend improvements for Police roadway speed monitoring during school AM and PM travel hours.
- Improve speed signage within the school safety zone, and increase speed monitoring efforts.

- Implement a volunteer crossing guard program with training for volunteers provided by Stratham Police Department.

e) Briefly summarize community priorities for possible infrastructure projects.

The Stratham Safe Routes to School Committee has not yet done a thorough analysis of potential infrastructure improvements in the two school zones. Preliminary concepts that came out of the November 2017 SWOT are shown below. We anticipate that this list will be expanded and refined with parental input gathered through the standard SRTS Parent Surveys, and the proposed SRTS Parent Forum.

- Implement walking trail improvements through Stratham Hill Park to connect Crestview Terrace neighborhood and possibly Tansy Avenue neighborhood.
- Add shoulder width and restripe narrower lanes on Gifford Farm Road and Lovell Rd.
- Reduce speed limit on Lovell Road and parts of High Street (assign cross walk)
- Improve school zone signage and pedestrian safety on school grounds
- Pedestrian or multi-use side path along Academic Way
- Find solution for bottleneck bridge on Willowbrook Avenue, add pedestrian/ bike path to bridge.

Important Information: Filing and Formatting Requirements

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Please follow the application format exactly, and answer questions in order. For budget information, list only the total amounts requested in the spaces provided. You may provide additional information in the attached detailed budget. The information will be entered into a spreadsheet and later used in preparing local agreements. (Do not submit letters of support with the application.)

Applicants are encouraged to submit an electronic file as well as a hard copy of the application. Applications will be photocopied for distribution to members of the Statewide Advisory Committee (SAC). For this reason, please submit the application on standard 8 ½" by 11" sheets without any type of binding.

If you are submitting any map or document that includes color or is printed on paper that does not measure 8½" by 11", you must provide 12 copies to the NHDOT.

NHDOT and the SAC reserve the authority to reject any applications that do not meet the formatting requirements.

APPENDIX A
SWOT Analysis - Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats

Stratham Safe Routes to School Committee Meeting
November 6, 2017

Baseline Information for SRTS Program Development

1. **What infrastructure, policies and programs do SMS, CMS, and the Town of Stratham currently have in place (or are planning) that support safe walking or biking to school as well as other healthy physical activity?**

   - Bike to School Day events (CMS & SMS) (30%-50% of SMS student body);
   - Stratham Hill Park (SHP) bike trail connection to school;
   - Bike rodeo program (4 Wednesdays in August);
   - Bike unit as part of CMS Alternative PE;
   - Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day (Seacoast Velo Kids partnership w/Stratham Parks & Rec);
   - Organizing network – Good partnerships in town between PTO, SMS administration, Stratham PD, Parks & Rec Department;
   - Recent safety improvements on Gifford Farm and Lovell Roads (crosswalks, flashing beacons); and
   - SMS plans to add Walk to School Day in October next year.

2. **What concerns do you have about kids walking or biking to school? If your concerns relate to safety improvement on roadways or intersections please be as specific as possible about the location.**

   - Route 108 and Route 33 act as barriers for kids to the north and west of those highways to be able to walk or bike to SMS;
   - Traffic volume, speed and narrowness on Gifford Farm and Lovell Roads to access SMS;
   - Walking and bicycling to CMS is specifically prohibited;
   - No sidewalks at CMS;
   - Narrowness of Guinea Road and bridge over NH101 limit bike/ped access, or sidewalk potential from the south, to CMS;
   - 35 mph speed limit on Lovell Road;
   - Number of state highways (NH108, NH33, NH27);
   - Increasing percentage of parents driving kids to school rather than bus or walking/biking;
   - No direct communication with drivers on safety;
   - Lack of sidewalks on Gifford Farm and Lovell;
   - Lack of width on other local roads beyond Gifford Farm and Lovell;
   - Narrow bottleneck bridge on Willowbrook Avenue, high speed traffic and no shoulder ;
   - Confusing intersection on Lovell/ Gifford Fam Rd. leads Pedestrian onto the dangerous side of road;
   - Seasonality of trails (not plowed in the winter); and
   - Limited snow removal capacity if sidewalks were built.

3. **Keeping in mind the 5Es of the SRTS program (Engineering, Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, Evaluation), what can Stratham do as a community to encourage kids to walk or bicycle to school and ensure that they can do so safely?**

   - Use trails at Stratham Hill Park for access (Encouragement);
   - Parent chaperoned walking groups meet at Stratham Hill Park and walk to SMS – organizing parents to do this can start immediately. Any trail potential near CMS? (Encouragement);

- New development going in on Lovell and Stratham Heights Roads – more families in proximity to school, potentially helping justify safety improvements;
- Additional anti-idling signage at schools – single signs there now, but now largely ignored (Education);
- Evaluate low-cost visual cues as low hanging fruit (Engineering);
- Stripe 10' lanes on Gifford Farm, double yellow center line, would allow for 2'-4' shoulders. Test striping on base coat of asphalt – 2-4 years. Incorporate final striping with top coat following test. (Engineering);
- Agree on terms "sidewalk", "side path", "bike path", "bike route", etc. ;
- Work on communications plan to build public support (Education);
- Continue bike safety skills outreach through Stratham PD and Parks & Rec (Education)
- Crossing guard program (Enforcement);
- Temporary pop-up demonstration projects to test crosswalk/traffic-calming modifications. (Engineering);
- Walking group through Stratham Hill Park could even run in winter with snow-shoes (Encouragement);
- Develop a trail from the Long Hill trail on Barker's Farm conservation land directly to SMS property to offer an alternative route to Gifford Farm Road;
- Add "End School Zone" signage to Gifford Farm Road, Lovell Road and Guinea Road;
- Add cross walks on strategic important places to guide pedestrian and walkers safely across road (Willowbrook Avenue, Lovell Road, Gifford Farm, Guinea Road, Winnicut Road, High Street; and
- Assign town neighborhoods on masterplan (CMS, SMS, Great Bay) and develop standards for traffic calming and connectivity.

4. What challenges will need to be addressed to implement these ideas?

- Lack of local resources for construction and maintenance;
- Subdivision regulations don't account for sidewalks;
- Cul de sacs are the typical development pattern – not good for connectivity;
- NIMBYism regarding trails;
- New development = more traffic; and
- Lack of clarity of terms --- > sidewalk, path, lanes, bike route, etc.

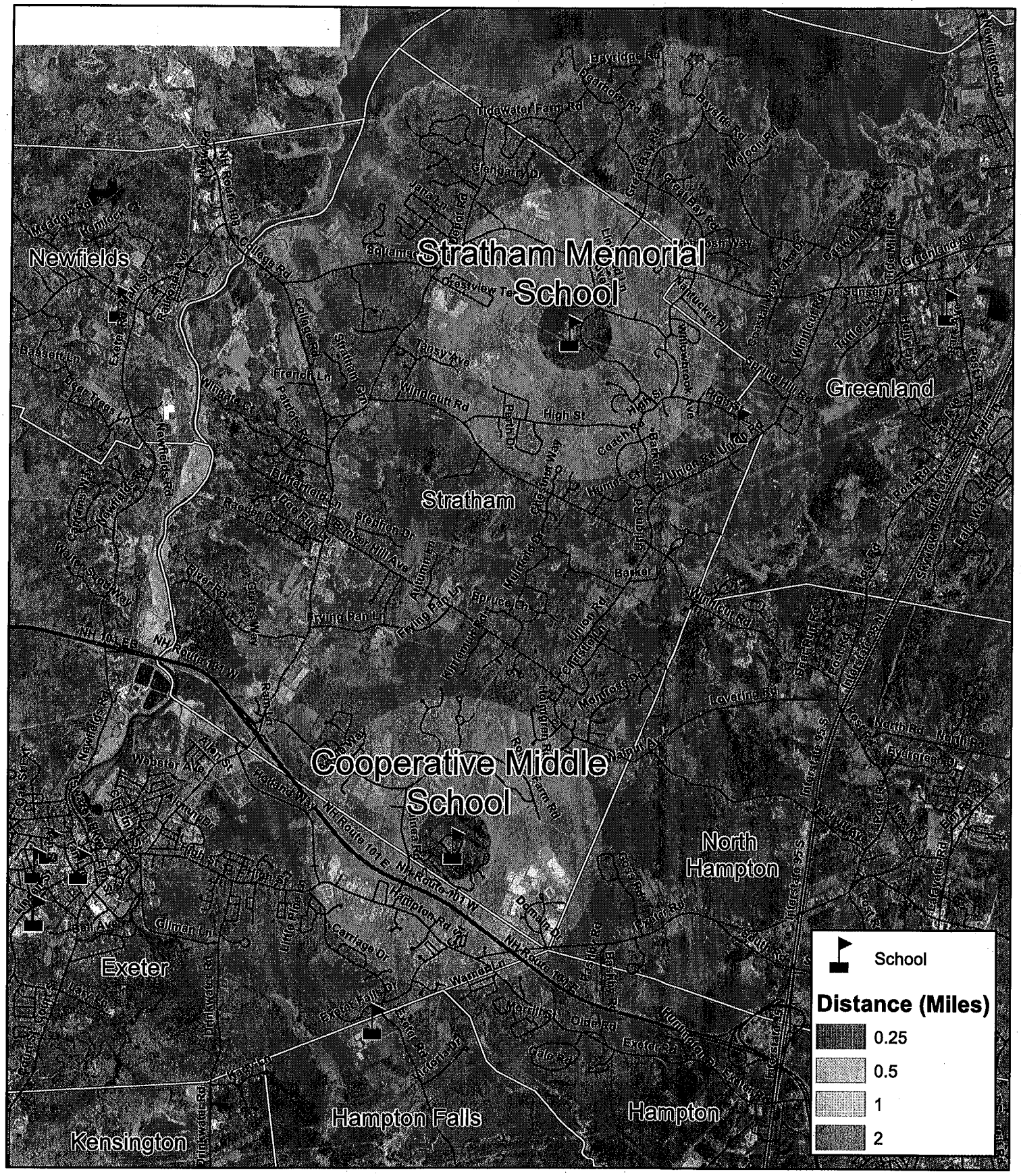
Stratham Safe Routes to School Initiative

Stratham Memorial School and Cooperative Middle School SRTS Travel Planning Grant Budget

Component	Staff Hours	Staff Time Cost to Grant	Printing/ Materials	Other	Grant Request	Notes
Evaluation Component						
1. Administration	40	$ 2,000	$ -	$ -	$ 2,000	Town project management and administrative time including but not limited to contractor oversight, reporting, meeting participation, evaluation, etc.
2. Parent Survey, Student/Parent Mapping Exercise, In-Class Surveys		$ -	$ 250	$ -	$ 250	Printing such as paper survey and map copies, take-home cards, etc.
3. Parent Awareness/Input Forum, Walking Audits		$ -	$ 100	$ 50	$ 150	Printing and food
4. School-zone traffic speed/volume counts		$ -	$ -	$ 1,200	$ 1,200	Traffic counts for up to 6 locations
5. Primary SRTS Travel Plan Contract with RPC		$ -	$ 200	$ 16,189	$ 16,389	Proposed contract with RPC. Printing for final Travel Plan
6. Conceptual Design Consulting Assistance - Firm TBD through qualifications based consulting process		$ -	$ -	$ 10,000	$ 10,000	Conceptual design for high priority safety improvements, and other potential infrastructure projects
Evaluation Subtotal	**40**	**$ 2,000**	**$ 550**	**$ 27,439**	**$ 29,989**	
Education Component						
1. *Please see companion Start-Up Grant application*	0	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	
Education Subtotal	**0**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	*Education activities proposed for funding under Start-Up grant*
Encouragement Component						
1. *Please see companion Start-Up Grant application*	0	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	
Encouragement Subtotal	**0**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	*Education activities proposed for funding under Start-Up grant*
Enforcement Component						
1. *Please see companion Start-Up Grant application*	0	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	
Enforcement Subtotal	**0**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	*Education activities proposed for funding under Start-Up grant*
Grand Total	**40**	**$ 2,000**	**$ 550**	**$ 27,439**	**$ 29,989**	

Safe Routes to School
Stratham

ROCKINGHAM PLANNING COMMISSION



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Date received by NHDOT:

NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

Application Form for SRTS Non-Infrastructure Funding

Send completed applications to the Regional Planning Commission for your region. (See http://www.nharpc.org/ for information on the RPCs or contact the SRTS coordinator.)

Provide a copy to:
John W. Corrigan
Safe Routes to School Coordinator
Bureau of Planning and Community Assistance
N.H. Department of Transportation
7 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03302-0483
jcorrigan@dot.state.nh.us

Applicant: Name of municipality and/or school district. Include mailing and physical address, telephone number and e-mail address:

Town of Stratham
10 Bunker Hill Avenue
Stratham, NH 03885
603-772-7391 x147
pdeschaine@strathamnh.gov

Name, title, mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address of contact person:

Tavis Austin, Town Planner
Town of Stratham
10 Bunker Hill Avenue
Stratham, NH 03885

603-772-7391 x147
taustin@strathamnh.gov

List by name, physical and mailing address, telephone number and e-mail address, each of the schools affected by this application:

Stratham Memorial School
39 Gifford Farm Road
Stratham, NH 03885
Phone: (603) 772-5413
tfosher@sau16.org

Cooperative Middle School
100 Academic Way
Stratham, NH 03885
Phone: (603) 775-8703
pwons@sau16.org

Identify by name, title, and mailing address the individuals authorized to sign a binding agreement on behalf of the school or municipality.

Paul Deschaine, Town Administrator
Town of Stratham
10 Bunker Hill Avenue
Stratham, NH 03885

603-772-7391 x181
pdeschaine@strathamnh.gov

Sponsoring Regional Planning Commission (RPCs will attach comments and recommendations. Please confirm that a copy of the application has been submitted to the RPC.)

Rockingham Planning Commission

a) Include a budget of anticipated costs associated with your SRTS program.

Evaluation	**$ 2,200**
Education	**$ 3,000**
Encouragement	**$ 0**
Enforcement	**$ 4,800**
Total	**$10,000**

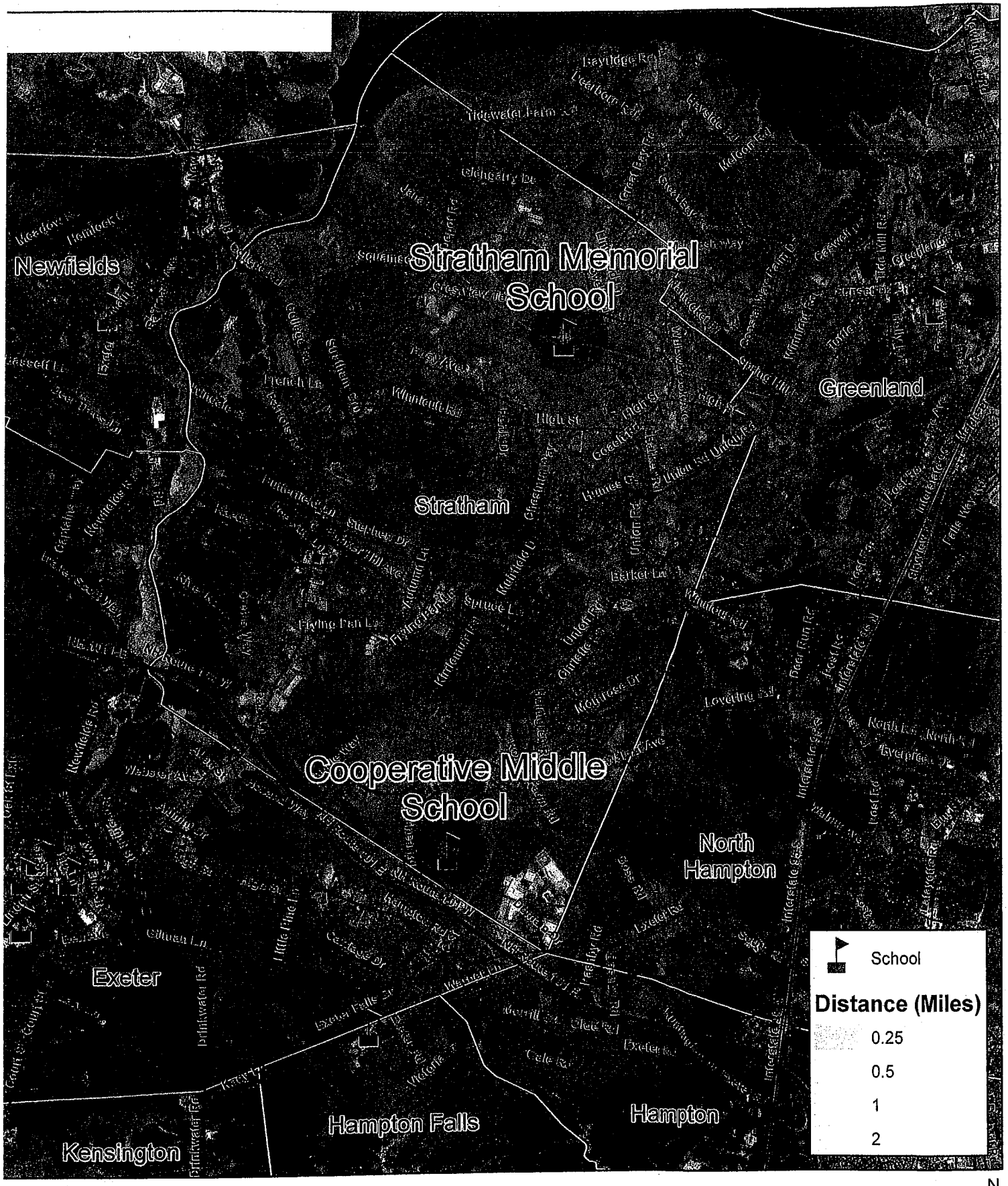
Attach, immediately following this page, an itemized description of each budget item.

Stratham Safe Routes to School Initiative
Supplemental Non-Infrastructure Grant Proposal Budget

Component	Staff Hours	Staff Time Cost to Grant	Printing/ Materials	Other	Grant Request	Notes
Evaluation Component						
1. Administration	24	$ 1,200	$ -	$ -	$ 1,200	Project management and evaluation
2. Analysis of Education & Speed Enforcement Results	8	$ 400	$ -	$ 600	$ 1,000	Track conversion bike rodeo participation to commute behavior change. Track change in school zone traffic speed with follow-up speed counts in fall.
Evaluation Subtotal	**32**	**$ 1,600**	**$ -**	**$ 600**	**$ 2,200**	
Education Component						
1. Bike Safety Skills Rodeos Spring/Summer 2018	40	$ 2,000	$ 200	$ -	$ 2,200	Parks & Rec and Stratham PD staff time to coordinate, promote and run a series of on-bike safety skills courses during spring and summer 2018. Printing for promotional and takeaway materials.
Education Subtotal	**40**	**$ 2,000**	**$ 200**	**$ -**	**$ 2,200**	
Encouragement Component						
	0	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	Multiple Encouragement activities are proposed for funding in the accompanying SRTS Start-Up Grant.
Encouragement Subtotal	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	
Enforcement Component						
1. Volunteer Crossing Guard Program	58	$ 2,900	$ 100	$ 600	$ 3,600	Parent and community volunteer crossing guards will be trained in program established by Primex. Assumes two hours per week of paid staff time from Stratham PD. Purchase Hi-Viz jackets or vests for volunteers
2. Supplemental Speed Enforcement in School Zones	40	$ 2,000			$ 2,000	Supplemental speed enforcement in and adjacent to SMS school zone, along Gifford Farm Road, Lovell Road, and other residential roads. Concentrated in April, May and September
Enforcement Subtotal	**98**	**$ 4,900**	**$ 4,998**	**$ 600**	**$ 5,600**	
Grand Total	**170**	**$ 8,500**	**$ 5,198**	**$ 1,200**	**$ 10,000**	

Safe Routes to School
Stratham

ROCKINGHAM PLANNING COMMISSION



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b) List the members of the community SRTS Task Force (insert additional lines if needed):

Name	Affiliation
Paul Deschaine	Town Administrator, Stratham
Tavis Austin	Town Planner, Town of Stratham
Jameson Paine	Planning Board, PCAC, Parent
Colin Laverty	Public Works Director, Town of Stratham
Seth Hickey	Parks & Recreation Director, Town of Stratham, PCAC
John Scippa	Chief, Stratham Police Department
Amanda Bibeau	Community Outreach Officer, Stratham Police Department
Tom Fosher	Principal, Stratham Memorial School (SMS)
Elisabeth Lacasse	School Nurse SMS, SRTS Subcommittee
Tiffany Locke	PE Teacher SMS, SRTS Subcommittee
Pamela Hollasch	PCAC, parent
Jennifer Antonakakis	SMS parent, PCAC
Stephanie Bergeron	SMS parent
Bettina Kersten	PCAC Co-Chair, parent
Sue Garneau	CMS teacher, CMS Subcommittee
Stephanie Frigon	CMS Experiential Education Director, CMS Subcommittee
Melissa Gahr	PCAC Co-Chair, parent
Lindsay Pope	CMS teacher
John Potter	CMS teacher
Beth Dion	CMS parent
Hayley Hitchmoth	SMS parent
Andrea Benson	SMS PTO president, PCAC, parent

c) Describe the overall objective of the non-infrastructure project.

The objective of this non-infrastructure grant is to fund supplemental Safe Routes to School activities beyond the scope of the Start-Up grant being submitted concurrently. These include development and administration of a crossing guard program by the Stratham Police Department, supplemental enforcement measures, supplemental on-bike safety skills instruction for K-8 age kids, and bicycle and pedestrian programming as part of the Cooperative Middle School's Earth Day events.

d) Describe the evaluation, education, encouragement and enforcement components of the project.

Evaluation - *Proposed Grant Activities*

1) *Project Administration – Staff time budget is included for Stratham Town Planner Tavis Austin to manage the grant. Mr. Austin is certified in NHDOT's Local Public Agency (LPA) grant management process.*

2) *Evaluation of Outreach and Speed Enforcement - Baseline data on traffic volume and speed will be collected as part of the development of the Travel Plan in May-June 2018. Follow-up speed counts to be conducted in Fall 2018 are proposed as part of this grant scope.*

Education - *Proposed Grant Activities*

The Stratham Parks & Recreation Department in summer 2017 piloted a community bicycle rodeo/bicycle safety skills course. The town proposed to expand that program to include at least four such programs during spring and summer 2018, and to include additional participation from Stratham Police Department.

1) *On-Bike Safety Skills Instruction - Support additional town bicycle safety programming for Spring and Summer 2018, including controlled environment skill building through bicycle rodeo skill stations and potentially on-road riding for older students. We anticipate that one of these events will be held as part of the Cooperative Middle School's Earth Day celebration in April 2018.*

Encouragement - *Proposed Grant Activities*

No additional Encouragement activities are proposed in this scope of work. Multiple Encouragement activities are proposed for funding in the accompanying SRTS Start-Up Grant.

Enforcement - *Proposed Grant Activities*

Currently the Stratham Police Department stations a School Resource Officer at Stratham Memorial School during pick-up and drop-off times. Additional data are desired on traffic volume and traffic speed on several streets surrounding the school zone. Baseline data will be collected as part of the development of the Travel Plan in May-June 2018. Follow-up speed counts to be conducted in Fall 2018 are proposed under the evaluation section of this grant. The SWOT analysis undertaken with the SRTS Committee identified specific concern with traffic speed on Gifford Farm Road and Lovell Road in the SMS school zone, as well as on Guinea Road in the CMS school zone.

1) *Volunteer Crossing Guard Program – The SRTS Committee has identified the potential for a parent and community volunteer-based crossing guard program for the SMS school zone. Volunteer training is provided under a program sponsored by Primex. Funding is requested here for staff time on the part of Stratham Police Department to provide supplemental training and coordinate the program. Funds are also proposed to high visibility jackets and/or vests for volunteers to wear while acting as crossing guards.*

2) *Supplemental School Zone Speed Enforcement - Supplemental speed enforcement is proposed in and adjacent to the school zone for Stratham Memorial School. This is anticipated to include Gifford Farm Road, Lovell Road, Willowbrook Avenue, portions of High Street/NH27 and other residential roads adjacent to the school. Enforcement is anticipated to be focused with the return of warm weather in April and May, and during the Fall back to school period in late August and September, though additional patrols may be added at other times.*

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APPENDIX A
SWOT Analysis - Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats

Stratham Safe Routes to School Committee Meeting
November 6, 2017

Baseline Information for SRTS Program Development

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   - Bike unit as part of CMS Alternative PE;
   - Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day (Seacoast Velo Kids partnership w/Stratham Parks & Rec);
   - Organizing network – Good partnerships in town between PTO, SMS administration, Stratham PD, Parks & Rec Department;
   - Recent safety improvements on Gifford Farm and Lovell Roads (crosswalks, flashing beacons); and
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2. **What concerns do you have about kids walking or biking to school? If your concerns relate to safety improvement on roadways or intersections please be as specific as possible about the location.**

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   - No sidewalks at CMS;
   - Narrowness of Guinea Road and bridge over NH101 limit bike/ped access, or sidewalk potential from the south, to CMS;
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   - Number of state highways (NH108, NH33, NH27);
   - Increasing percentage of parents driving kids to school rather than bus or walking/biking;
   - No direct communication with drivers on safety;
   - Lack of sidewalks on Gifford Farm and Lovell;
   - Lack of width on other local roads beyond Gifford Farm and Lovell;
   - Narrow bottleneck bridge on Willowbrook Avenue, high speed traffic and no shoulder ;
   - Confusing intersection on Lovell/ Gifford Fam Rd. leads Pedestrian onto the dangerous side of road;
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- Subdivision regulations don't account for sidewalks;
- Cul de sacs are the typical development pattern – not good for connectivity;
- NIMBYism regarding trails;
- New development = more traffic; and
- Lack of clarity of terms --- > sidewalk, path, lanes, bike route, etc.

Stratham Memorial School PTO

November 27, 2017

Board of Selectmen
Town of Stratham
10 Bunker Hill Ave.
Stratham, NH 03885

Dear Chairman,

It has come to our attention that you are applying for two Safe Routes to School grants which will fund efforts to improve safe walking and biking at Stratham Memorial School (SMS). Thank you; we welcome this commitment to the future and to our children.

The Stratham Memorial School PTO is organized to support and enrich the education of SMS students and to foster communication between the school, parents and teachers to enhance educational opportunities. We believe these improvements will add to the health and well-being of our community. We support and commend this effort by the Town of Stratham.

Sincerely,

Andrea Benson
SMS PTO President

Michele Reeve
SMS PTO Treasurer

Stratham Memorial School PTO is a non-profit, 501 (c) (3) organization. No goods or services were provided in exchange for this donation. The value of the donation is determined by the donor and has not been confirmed by the SMS PTO.

39 Gifford Farm Road, Stratham, NH 03885

STRATHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

John V. Scippa – Chief of Police

76 Portsmouth Avenue, Stratham, NH 03885
(603) 778-9691 – FAX (603) 778-6183

November 16, 2017

RE: Safe Routes to School Grant Application

To Whom this May Concern:

Please accept this letter of support from the Stratham Police Department regarding the upcoming grant application as drafted by the SRTS task force and the Stratham Pedestrian and Advocacy committee.

Our current infrastructure and culture warrants exploration of various methods of school transportation such as biking and walking, however there are many concerns regarding the feasibility and safety of such methods. We welcome any financial or logistic assistance from the state as we seek to create a more healthy and sustainable community for our students, faculty, and residents.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

John Scippa
Chief of Police
Stratham Police Department

Stratham Memorial School PTO

November 27, 2017

Board of Selectmen
Town of Stratham
10 Bunker Hill Ave.
Stratham, NH 03885

Dear Chairman,

It has come to our attention that you are applying for two Safe Routes to School grants which will fund efforts to improve safe walking and biking at the Cooperative Middle School (CMS). Thank you; we welcome this commitment to the future and to our children.

The Cooperative Middle School PTO is organized to support the CMS mission of providing a challenging, safe and healthy learning environment designed to meet the social, emotional and intellectual needs of all students. We believe these improvements will add to the health and well-being of our community. We support and commend this effort by the Town of Stratham.

Sincerely,

Kim Houghtaling

Kim Houghtaling
CMS PTO Co-President

Renee Stead

Renee Stead
CMS PTO Co-President

Stratham Memorial School PTO is a non-profit, 501 (c) (3) organization. No goods or services were provided in exchange for this donation. The value of the donation is determined by the donor and has not been confirmed by the SMS PTO.

39 Gifford Farm Road, Stratham, NH 03885