

2024-2025

The San Francisco Safe Routes to School

ANNUAL REPORT

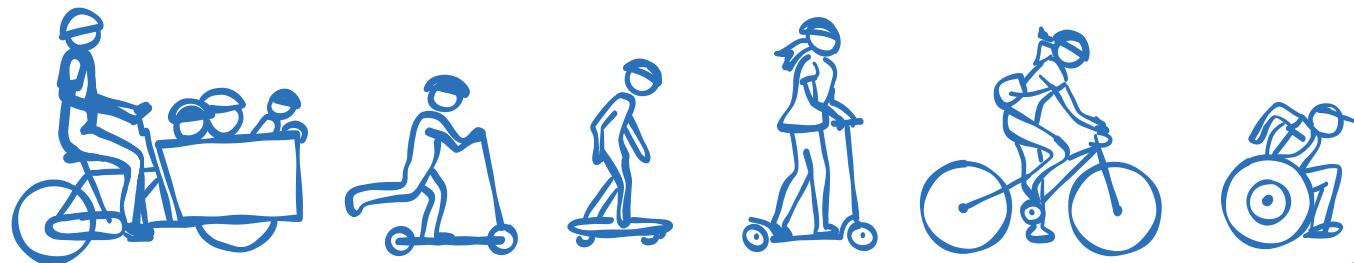




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The Safe Routes to School program is committed to building a more equitable, active, and connected San Francisco—one step, pedal, roll, bus stop, and ride at a time.



Letter of Introduction



Dear San Francisco Safe Routes to School Supporters,

All young people deserve to feel safe as they travel around the City, especially on their commutes to school. The San Francisco Safe Routes to School program is transforming the way young people—and all San Franciscans—move through the City and is inspiring behavioral changes that not only make the school commute safer but promote healthier lifestyles and a more sustainable future.

Against this backdrop, it is my great pleasure to release this year’s Safe Routes to School Annual Report. And I am even more pleased to report some of the incredible strides we have made in school-commute safety over the course of the last year.

This year’s report includes the results of the biennial Travel Tally, which collected data from more than 10,000 students enrolled at 95 schools in the San Francisco Unified School District. The full results follow, but what is really promising is that over 50% of participants walked, biked, took transit, or carpooled—what we call the *Four Fun Ways*—to school. This is the highest we’ve recorded since before the pandemic.

We also have made progress on the two main goals of the Safe Routes to School program: Mode Shift and Safety. In the first, the goal is to reduce single-family vehicle trips to 30% by 2030. In the 2024–2025 school year, single-family vehicle trips fell to 49% from 52% in the previous school year. Transit ridership is increasing. This year saw zero fatalities and school-related traffic collisions showed a 29% reduction since the start of the program!

None of this progress would have been achieved without the hard work of the Safe Routes to School program team, many of whom are featured in this report. I would like to thank the staff, volunteers, and community members who make the Safe Routes to School program possible and help keep our children safe.

Closing,

Julie Kirschbaum
 Director of Transportation
 San Francisco Municipal
 Transportation Agency

I. About This Report

This report showcases the outcomes and impacts of the San Francisco Safe Routes to School (Safe Routes) program during the 2024–2025 school year.

The year was packed with both new and familiar activities, giving the San Francisco community many opportunities to celebrate active and shared transportation modes—walking, biking, taking transit (defined as taking Muni or a Yellow School Bus), and carpooling. This report highlights these events and activities while reflecting on lessons learned to help the program continuously improve.

The biennial Travel Tally, conducted this year, provided valuable insights into how elementary, middle, and high school students traveled to and from school each day. The continued implementation of the evaluation framework and data management system that was introduced last year proved instrumental in tracking performance and measuring impact in real time. Safe Routes also continues to collaborate with a range of San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) and San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) initiatives designed to increase safety around schools.

This report celebrates the dedicated team of individuals who bring Safe Routes to life across San Francisco. It spotlights a few of the many people—from school Champions and district staff to students and community leaders—who make the program successful, equitable, and full of joy. The Safe Routes team looks forward to building on this momentum, improving the program year after year by promoting safety and inclusivity through fun, engaging, and educational events and activities.



The San Francisco Safe Routes to School Program Team

The Safe Routes program is led by SFMTA and has worked closely with SFUSD and local nonprofit organizations since 2019.



Elements of the program are implemented or supported by the following city agencies and contractors:



This year, Safe Routes had **60 CHAMPIONS!**



— Safe Routes Champions —

Champions are parents, caregivers, teachers, and staff who help organize Safe Routes programming at their schools.

Champions work with school leaders to select appropriate activities; help schedule the events; support the students, teachers, staff, and community members in putting on events; lead fun activities; and help hand out participation incentives.

The Safe Routes team provides Champions with everything they need to host successful events, including marketing materials, prizes, incentives to distribute during the event, and event/activity toolkits for certain activities.

Look for this symbol throughout the report to learn about our program Champions!



II. About San Francisco Safe Routes to School



San Francisco Safe Routes to School is a transportation education and encouragement program dedicated to **making active and shared modes of transportation safe, accessible, and enjoyable for all youth, families, and communities across the City.**

The program promotes the Four Fun Ways—walking, biking, taking transit, and carpooling—as alternatives to single-family vehicle use.

Throughout the year, Safe Routes offers a wide range of educational, encouraging, skill-building, and experiential events and activities to teach students and their families how to use active and shared transportation modes. These events and activities support positive behavior change and empower school communities to choose safe and sustainable ways to get to and from school.

Safe Routes is a collaborative, community-driven initiative powered by the valued voices of students, families, and schools. Each program event and activity is designed to address the community's needs, advance equity, and expand access to the Four Fun Ways in neighborhoods that face disproportionate safety risks and financial barriers. By providing meaningful opportunities for students and families to participate in active and shared transportation, the program supports lasting behavior change, healthier lifestyles, and a more sustainable future for San Francisco.

FOUR FUN WAYS

The Sustainable Modes of Transportation

San Francisco Safe Routes to School Promotes:



Biking



Transit



Walking



Carpool

Program Goals: Making Progress

Agency-wide, SFMTA seeks to achieve the following by 2030:

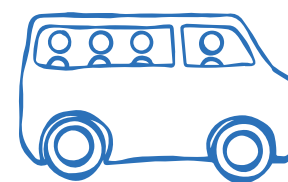
GOAL 1 Mode Shift.

Reduce the number of school trips made in single-family vehicles from **48% in 2018 to 30% in 2030** by promoting active and shared modes of transportation over single-family vehicle trips.

PROGRESS! Single-family vehicle trips were reduced from **52% during the 2022–2023 school year to 49% during the 2024–2025 school year.** After an increase in single car use during the pandemic, this reflects a **return to progress!**

GOAL 2 Safety.

Reduce the number of school-related collisions, injuries, and deaths by **50% from an annual average of 2 severe- and 32 total-injury collisions.**



PROGRESS! This year saw **ZERO fatalities and a 29% reduction in school related traffic collisions** since the program began! During the 2024–2025 school year, there was 1 severe injury, 30 non-severe pedestrian injuries, and 3 non-severe bicycle injuries – an increase in non-severe pedestrian injuries and a decrease in bicycle collisions from the previous school year.

— Frances Elizabeth Barbour —

Frances Elizabeth Barbour, a League Cycling Instructor, has been a dedicated advocate and educator for Safe Routes since the program began. Her national advocacy work—including traveling to Washington, DC, to champion Safe Routes—has helped secure over \$1 billion in federal funding for infrastructure and education initiatives that make walking and biking to school safer for children. Locally, Frances has made a lasting impact by developing and teaching pedestrian and bicycle safety curricula for elementary students, organizing hundreds of bike rodeos, leading family biking workshops, hosting school assemblies, and launching after-school bike clubs. She continues to teach Safe Routes biking classes in San Francisco and collaborates with groups like Bicycle Solutions and the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition to expand safe cycling practices across the City.



"I love the moment when kids realize that, yes, they can do this; and then they surprise themselves. I love helping the students prove to themselves that they can do things they thought were not possible! . . . It's the self-confidence the kids gain that inspires me every time!"

— Frances Elizabeth Barbour
League Cycling Instructor



III. Benefits of the Safe Routes Program

As students and their families use the Four Fun Ways more consistently, communities experience a range of positive impacts.



Teaches Practical Transportation Skills

Teaches students and families essential skills for using active and shared transportation through hands-on learning and real-world experiences.



Improves School Attendance

Provides safe, reliable, and fun ways for students to get to school on time, helping improve attendance and reduce truancy.



Supports Safer Streets

Programs reduce traffic congestion and educate the community while organizing activities that emphasize group travel, making students more visible on the City's busy roads.



Builds Independence and Increases Access

Equips students with skills to travel safely and confidently on their own to schools, programs, and opportunities throughout the City.



Increases Accessibility to Active and Shared Transportation

Enables safe and affordable travel options for all students, especially those in communities with limited transportation access.



Sparks Long-Term Behavior Change

Early exposure to the Four Fun Ways builds habits that often carry into adulthood, empowering students to be lifelong users of active and shared transportation.



Combats Climate Change

Reduces car trips to school, cutting down on greenhouse gas emissions and improving air quality in neighborhoods and around school campuses.



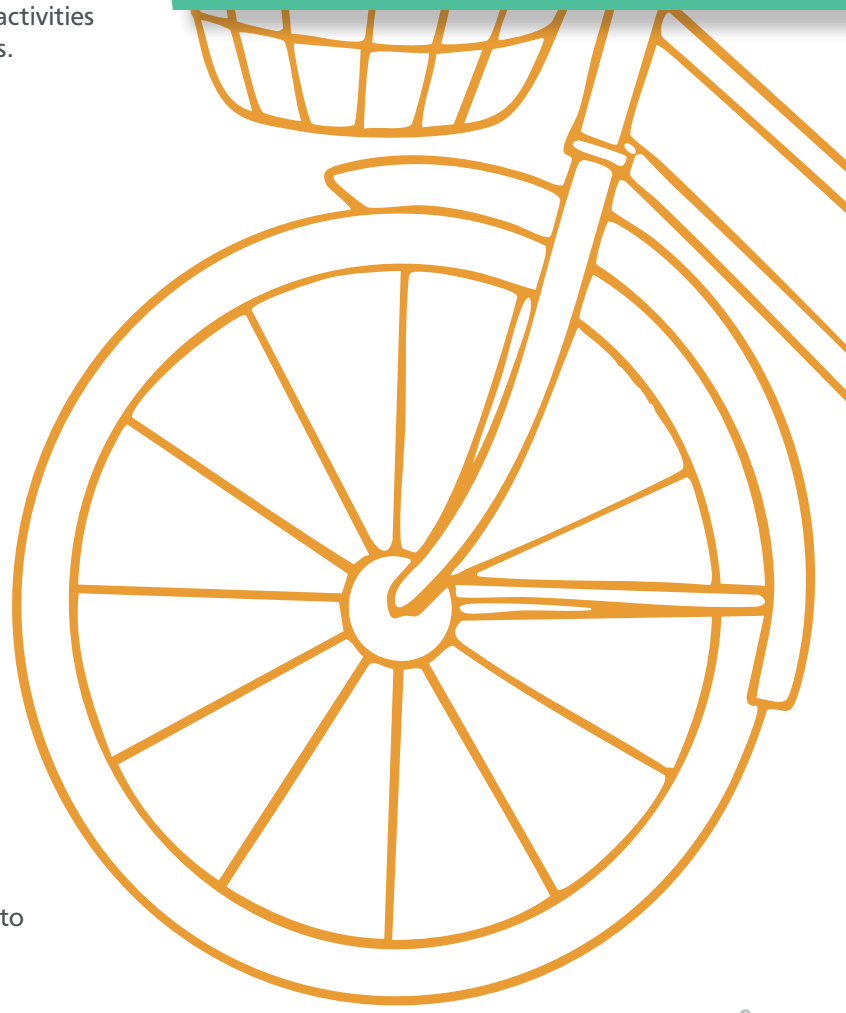
Builds Community

Brings students, families, school staff, and neighbors together through shared experiences that strengthen school and neighborhood connections.



Encourages Healthy Habits

Promotes active transportation, helping students form healthy habits and leading to better overall community health.



IV. Evaluating the Safe Routes to School Program

Evaluation Framework

Ongoing monitoring and evaluation enable Safe Routes to continuously **track outcomes and understand progress toward achieving key program goals.**

The evaluation framework outlines the key stages and processes for measuring behavior change for the following components of the program:

1. **Increasing individuals' awareness and perception of Safe Routes and the Four Fun Ways.**
2. **Increasing access to safe and active transportation modes.**
3. **Helping program participants engage in active use of these modes.**

Addressing these components of behavior change can contribute to establishing lasting change for youth and communities. The evaluation framework also intentionally centers equity and inclusion within the program, signifying an enduring commitment to prioritizing the needs of all students and school communities.



Data and Methodology

Safe Routes collects both quantitative and qualitative data year-round to measure impact and improve the program. Input is gathered from key stakeholders—including school administrators, teachers, staff, parents and caregivers, students, and community members—to ensure that the program is responsive to the needs and experiences of those it serves.

Primary data sources used in this report include:

- **School Administrator, Champion, and Staff Interviews**
- **Walk & Roll and Bike & Roll Champions Surveys**
- **Bike P.E. Student Surveys**
- **Biennial School Travel Tally**
- **Program Team Post-Event Reports**
- **Website and Social Media Analytics**
- **School Collision Data from TransBASE**

While every effort has been made to capture complete and accurate data, there may be gaps in the data from the current school year due to the fact that new systems and processes were introduced and refined throughout the year. Because of this, the figures in this report likely under-represent the true reach and impact of the San Francisco Safe Routes to School program. Regardless, the data provides a valuable baseline for understanding program reach and impact.

“This year Safe Routes helped me organize a monthly Bike Bus for our school community. We also worked together to host a bike fair this spring on the school campus where they brought in instructors and bikes to teach kids how to ride (and some parents too). They are a valuable addition to our school community, and I am grateful for their outreach and resources.”



— Tim Marcus, SFUSD Parent and Bike Bus Organizer



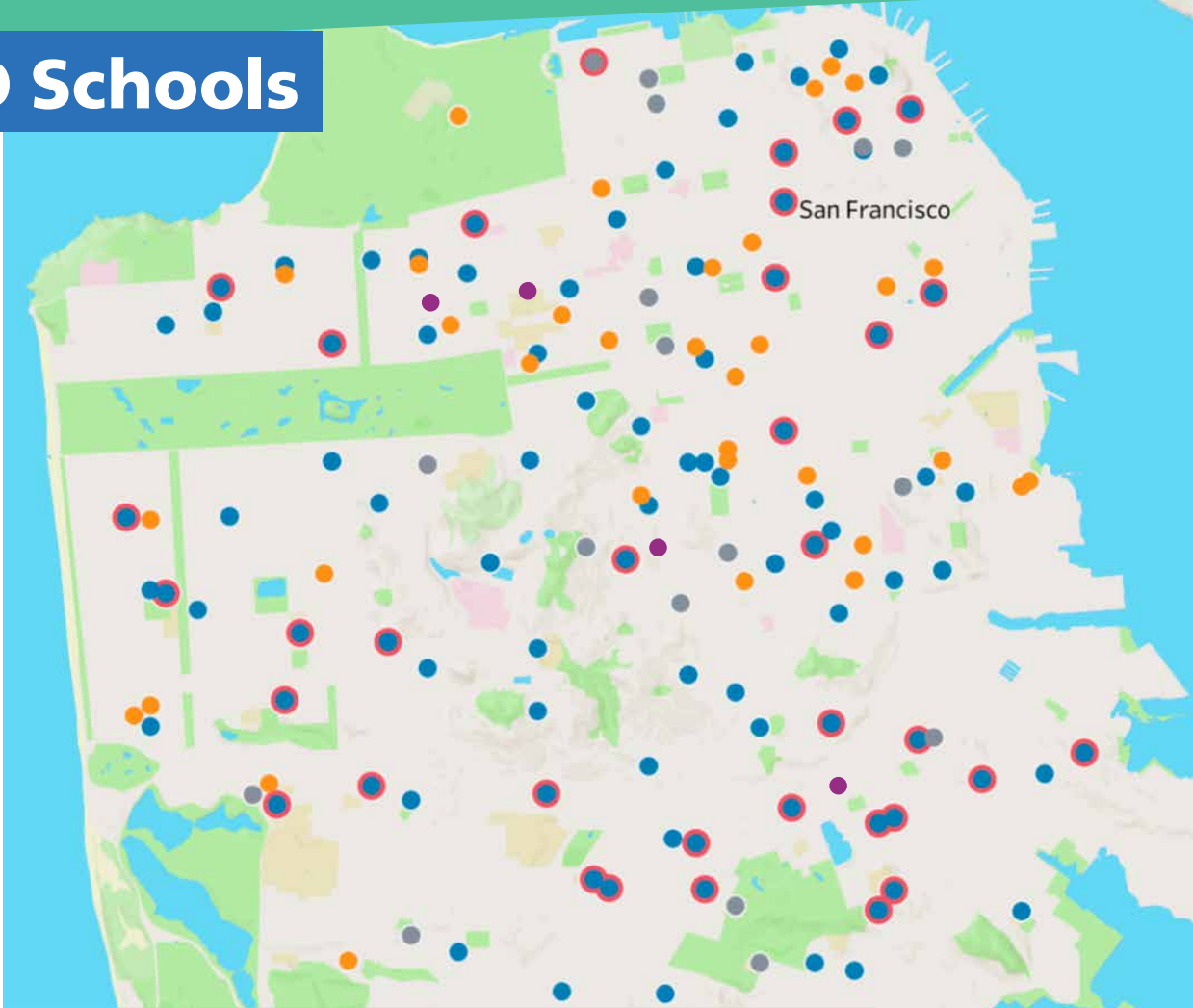
IV. Evaluating the Safe Routes to School Program

Categorizing SFUSD Schools

Ensuring equitable access to safe and active transportation modes is inherent to Safe Routes. In order to increase students' use of active and shared transportation and effectively utilize limited resources, it is necessary to understand barriers that they may be facing to develop targeted engagement efforts. As a result, Safe Routes categorizes SFUSD schools into two groups, Focus Schools and Non-Focus Schools, based on demonstrated needs, traffic collision data, commuting patterns, and student demographics.

Focus School communities face compounding socioeconomic barriers and inequities in transportation safety and access. They are prioritized in program planning and receive dedicated support and attention from a Safe Routes school-engagement lead throughout the school year. Non-Focus Schools generally experience fewer compounding transportation safety and access barriers and report high rates of active and shared transportation modes on their own.

The list of Focus Schools is updated every few years to ensure the program's resources are meeting the current needs of San Francisco students and families. During the 2025–2026 school year, new Focus Schools will be identified and used.



2024-2025 Program Participation Map

- Participating SFUSD Schools
- SFUSD Schools without recorded participation
- Participating Non-SFUSD Schools
- Non-SFUSD Schools without recorded participation
- SFUSD Focus Schools



-- Tim Marcus --

Safe Routes Champion

Tim Marcus was a great asset to the Safe Routes program during the 2024–2025 school year. He took the lead in coordinating a monthly Bike Bus at Francis Scott Key Elementary School where his child attends. Tim put a lot of effort into promoting Bike Buses, making biking to school an exciting before-school activity that students looked forward to. He went the extra mile to accommodate students by planning routes based on where they lived, making it possible for everyone to participate safely and easily. Thanks to his thoughtfulness and enthusiasm, staff noticed that excitement about biking to school grew, and as a result, the number of students who biked to school also increased.



V. Overview of Safe Routes Events and Activities

Ongoing Safe Routes Activities

Each year, Safe Routes hosts a range of events and activities to educate and encourage youth, families, and community members to walk, bike, take transit, and carpool to school.

Three large-scale events and additional ongoing activities help participants understand available active and shared transportation options and provide resources to safely access them. Providing multiple opportunities to engage in the Four Fun Ways throughout the school year helps attendees enhance their skills and build confidence to use new or unfamiliar transportation modes.

Safe Routes Annual Events



Walk & Roll to School Week is an autumn event featuring activities that inspire students and families to walk and roll to school.



Ride Muni to School Week is a winter event featuring interactive activities and competitions that encourage students to take Muni and other transit to school.



Bike & Roll to School Week is a spring event encouraging students to bike and roll to school.

Walking School Buses organize groups of students who meet and walk a designated route to school together with an adult, picking up more students along the way.



Bike P.E. teaches students how to ride a bicycle during a multi-week or one-day P.E. class.

Drop-In Bike-Practice Sessions are interactive, casual activities held at schools and other locations where participants of all ages can learn to ride a bicycle.

Muni Field Trips teach students how to use transit by riding transit during a field trip.

Free Muni for All Youth Outreach spreads the word about the program so youth ages 18 and under know they can ride for free and understand how to ride safely.

Bike Blenders engage students by pedaling on stationary bikes with blenders attached to make healthy fruit smoothies.

Bike Trains organize groups of students who bike/roll a designated route to school together with an adult, picking up more students along the way.

Biking with Children Workshops teach kids and parents tips, tricks, and tools to bike safely and conveniently.

Family Rides help students and their families build comfort and confidence riding bicycles together in a supportive, fun environment.

Family Learn-to-Ride Workshops teach families the fundamentals of biking—how to balance, start, stop, steer, and signal. Information about helmets and other equipment is also provided.

New Safe Routes Activities

The Safe Routes team introduced three new activities, creating opportunities for communities to enhance their knowledge about traveling safely while navigating their environments.

Our Walkable City is an interactive, map-based activity that helps students understand how their city environments shape their perceptions of safety, walkability, and accessibility.

Bike Repair Workshops provide hands-on lessons that teach students bike maintenance skills, including how to fix a flat tire.

Street Safety Strolls bring students together to walk around their campuses and learn about pedestrian-safety infrastructure around their schools.



To reduce barriers to participation, outreach materials are typically available in multiple languages and multilingual team members are often present. This gives everyone the chance to learn about and participate in Safe Routes programming, regardless of the language they speak.

Community Outreach

The Safe Routes program thrives on active and inclusive community engagement. By building strong relationships with students, families, and school communities across the City, the program ensures that everyone stays informed and connected to exciting events and opportunities year-round.

During the 2024–2025 school year, the Safe Routes team engaged with the community through many other channels, beyond the activities described above. The program also utilized in-person activities, fliers, posters, websites, newsletters, and social media to educate the public and promote the program’s offerings.

— By the Numbers —

- 3,107** People Engaged in Outreach Events
- 28** In-Person Community Outreach Events
- 3,507** Unique Website Visitors on SFSafeRoutes.org
- 869** Online Resource Downloads from SFSafeRoutes.org
- 6,941** Social Media Impressions (Facebook, Instagram, X/Twitter)
- 1,280** Newsletter Subscribers
- 6** Non-English Languages used for content translation, including Arabic, Chinese, Filipino, Samoan, Spanish, and Vietnamese

VI. Impact by the Numbers: 2024–2025

Events & Activities

held during the 2024–2025 school year, including events hosted during annual celebrations, activities organized at local schools, and community outreach events.

179 Schools Participated

113+ Events and Celebrations hosted during annual events

55 Walk & Roll to School Week Events with **16** celebrations hosted

6 Ride Muni to School Week celebrations hosted

55 Bike & Roll to School Week Events with **28** celebrations hosted

79 Students showcased their creativity by submitting artwork for competitions during Ride Muni to School Week and Bike & Roll to School Week!

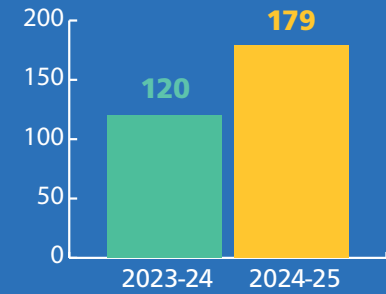
19,220 Total Participants

15,997 Student Participants

3,223 Adult Participants



Number of Participating Schools



60 Safe Routes Champions (community members, parents, caregivers, teachers, and staff who helped organize Safe Routes activities at their schools)



68% of Events Included Translation (included in 128 of 187 events, showing that Safe Routes is achieving the goal of increasing access for all)



5000+ Pieces of Safety Gear Distributed (including helmets, reflective bracelets, safety vests, bike bells, and bike lights)



209 Total Safe Routes Activities

47 Walking School Buses

33 Bike P.E. Classes

887 Students participated in recurring Bike P.E. classes and one-day field trips

~700 more students were taught Bike P.E. independently by school instructors, bringing the total to at least **1,587**

99 Bike Ride and Learn-to-Ride Activities

60 Youth Learn-to-Rides

15 Drop-In Bike-Practice Sessions

5 Biking with Children

2 Workshops

7 Family Rides

10 Family Learn-to-Rides

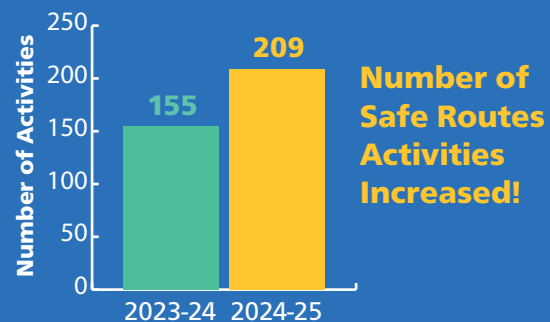
21 Bike Blenders

1 Muni Field Trip

1 Our Walkable City

2 Bike Repair Workshops

5 Street Safety Strolls



Number of Safe Routes Activities Increased!



VII. Program Highlights: Annual Events

The Safe Routes program hosts three Citywide annual events:

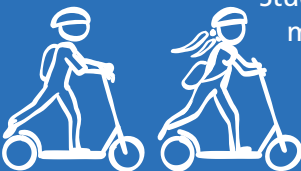
 **Walk & Roll to School Week**

 **Ride Muni to School Week**

 **Bike & Roll to School Week**

These are the biggest events of the year, and they help build momentum and excitement around the Four Fun Ways. Each event provides a great entry point for schools, communities, students, and families across the City to engage and create long-lasting relationships with the Safe Routes program.

During her time in office, former Mayor London Breed joined students, parents, and school staff to kick off Walk & Roll to School Week at Dianne Feinstein Elementary School with a Walking School Bus! Students were very excited to meet her and celebrate the event at their school.



“Mayor London Breed said this event was the highlight of her month.”

– Safe Routes to School Staff at Dianne Feinstein Elementary

Walk & Roll to School Week

Walk & Roll to School Week has been a staple in San Francisco for over 10 years. Kicking off Safe Routes’ annual events in the fall, this internationally celebrated event gives **students an opportunity to learn about and practice safe walking habits and encourages students, families, and the school community to walk and roll to school together.** Walkers and anyone with wheels (including bikes, scooters, skateboards, wheelchairs, roller skates, or strollers) can participate. Because the event happens early in the school year, it is a great opportunity for the Safe Routes team to engage with school administrators, teachers, and community Champions, building relationships and momentum for ongoing engagement throughout the year.

This event was hosted from October 7-11, 2024. Most Walk & Roll to School Week celebrations are led entirely by grassroots community Champions who help organize local events at their respective schools. The Safe Routes team provides everything Champions need to host a successful event.

Walk & Roll to School Week by the Numbers:



55
Schools
Participated



5,389+
Students
Participated

VII. Program Highlights: Annual Events

Ride Muni to School Week

Ride Muni to School Week is a citywide event that promotes Muni as a safe, fun, and accessible way for students to get to school. Throughout the week, students logged their trips, completed daily challenges, and had the chance to win prizes like Muni-themed gift bags, notebooks, pens, and other transit-related items. Students were also invited to showcase their creativity through the Muni-themed art contest.

Ride Muni to School Week took place March 3–7, 2025, replacing what was formerly called “Transit Month.”

Thanks to SFMTA’s Free Muni for All Youth program, all youth ages 18 and under can ride Muni for free, receiving unlimited access to Muni buses and light rail services. Because older students are more likely to take Muni to school, Safe Routes staff focus on encouraging high school student participation.

“Some of the first students to arrive were really excited to participate. They biked and scooted up and grabbed a booklet and filled it out on the spot. They told us that they often take Muni from their homes and then ride their scooters the rest of the way there”


— Safe Routes to School Staff




Ride Muni to School Week by the Numbers:


343 Students participated 

23 Schools participated in the ride contest 

>900 Muni Trips were logged, along with trips logged on yellow school buses, BART, VTA, Golden Gate Transit, Caltrain, San Francisco Bay Ferry, and others 

1,700+ Miles traveled on transit during the week 

294 Individual trips with more than 500 miles logged by Lowell High School – SFUSD school with the most participation 

56 Students participated in the Ride Muni to School Week Art Contest 



VII. Program Highlights: Annual Events

Bike & Roll to School Week

Bike & Roll to School Week is Safe Routes' biggest event of the year. The annual springtime event celebrates fun and healthy ways to commute to school with thousands of students, families, teachers, school staff, and community members.

Anyone with wheels—whether they are on bikes, scooters, skateboards, wheelchairs, roller skates, or strollers—can participate; walkers are welcome, too. The event brings together biking enthusiasts and new riders at their schools and fosters a sense of excitement and community among participants. This event took place May 5-9, 2025.



➤ **Each Bike & Roll to School Week celebration is made possible by volunteer Bike Champions** from the community who are eager to share the joy of healthy and sustainable mobility. Bike Champions register and help organize local events at their respective schools. The Safe Routes team provides everything Champions need, from a robust event toolkit to marketing materials to prizes and incentives that are distributed during the event, to host a successful event.



Bike & Roll to School Week by the Numbers:

- 5,145** Total participants
- 55** Schools hosted events
- 31** Bike & Roll Champions led events
- 87%** of Bike & Roll Champions rated their school's event as successful or very successful
- 23** Students participated in the Bike & Roll to School Week Art Contest

School Spotlight

Students Lead the Way and Plan Their Own Bike & Roll Event
Green Academy at Abraham Lincoln High School

The Green Academy at Abraham Lincoln High School teaches students to discover and implement new solutions to environmental issues. After collaborating with Safe Routes staff on various projects throughout the year, 12th-grade students in the Green Academy took the lead on organizing a Bike & Roll event for Abraham Lincoln High School. The students showed extraordinary initiative and designed promotional materials, managed registration tables, and even identified ways to improve the event for next year. This partnership with Safe Routes exemplifies the power of student leadership in planning events to promote the Four Fun Ways and sets an example for younger students throughout SFUSD to follow in the coming years.



Safe Routes Partnership with Green Academy at Abraham Lincoln High School



Students Learn Bike Maintenance

Green Academy students also participated in a bike maintenance class that the Safe Routes team was piloting. With their new skills, students helped repair the school's bike fleet, which was in desperate need of repair. Thanks to the new maintenance skills, the Bike Club can plan more rides and recruit new student members. This educational activity highlights how flexible and empowering the Safe Routes structure is—not only does it support the Four Fun Ways, but it also provides an opportunity for students to practice leadership skills!



Capstone Project: Promoting Alternative Transportation

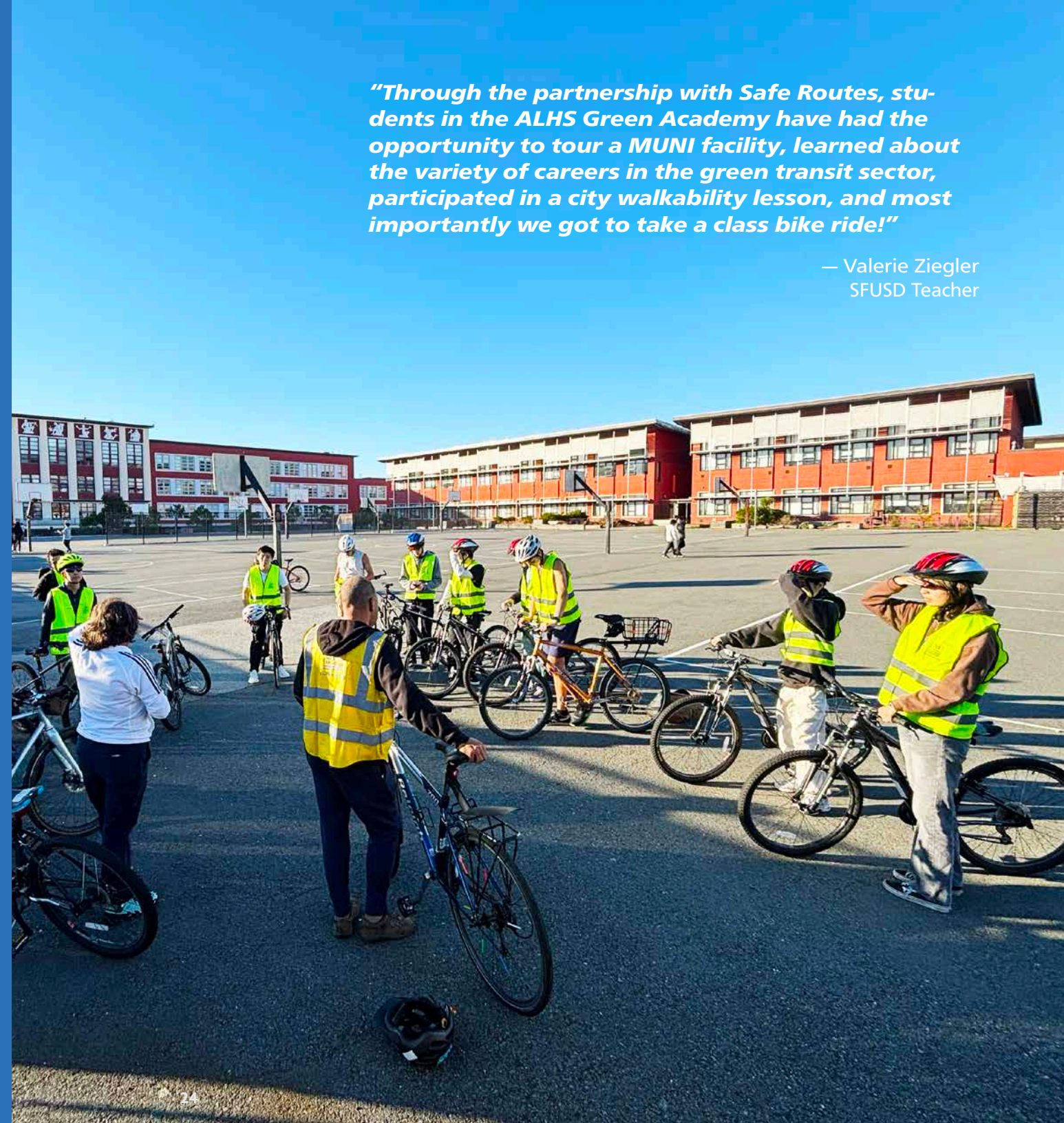
To complete their Green Academy requirements, 12th-grade students must develop a capstone project. Inspired by their bike maintenance class experience and excited to explore sustainable transit options in college, 30 students chose to focus their projects on alternative transportation. The goal of their project was to advocate for and encourage sustainable transportation options for SFUSD high school students. Students conducted research on different activist groups to learn about strategies to enact change, and they conducted a survey to better understand students' barriers to shared and active transportation modes. Based on their findings, they promoted walking, biking, and taking Muni and wrote letters to the mayor and various organizations to advocate for sustainable transportation. Demonstrating their dedication to getting younger students involved, Green Academy students even reached out to the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition team so the incoming class could have the same positive experience that they did.

“Alternative transportation in San Francisco has always been here and offered to the community. Ever since I was in elementary school, I vividly remember the Safe Routes to School banner posted on the school's main entrance, events pushing everyone to walk, bike, or roll to school, and the little reminders to strive for these options rather than using a car. I believe the push for more alternative transportation options undeniably has encouraged and helped me foster a connection between public transportation choices and my community.”

— Kevine L., Rising Senior at Abraham Lincoln High School and Member of the Green Academy

“Through the partnership with Safe Routes, students in the ALHS Green Academy have had the opportunity to tour a MUNI facility, learned about the variety of careers in the green transit sector, participated in a city walkability lesson, and most importantly we got to take a class bike ride!”

— Valerie Ziegler
SFUSD Teacher



Valerie Ziegler
SFUSD Teacher



Valerie Ziegler has been an incredible partner of the Safe Routes program over the past two years. As the founder and coordinator of the Green Academy at Abraham Lincoln High School—a three-year program focused on project-based learning and career exploration in the green economy—Valerie has been instrumental in aligning Safe Routes programming with the Academy's college, career, and environmental goals.

Her collaboration has led to greater high school student engagement in Safe Routes activities, which is especially meaningful given that older students are often underrepresented in these programs. Valerie ensures her students are active participants in their learning, applying knowledge in hands-on ways that prepare them for real-world careers. Thanks to her leadership, students have taken part in walkability lessons, a tour of a Muni facility, and bike rides to learn about green transit careers. Her class was also featured in the Safe Routes to School newsletter for an outstanding capstone project on sustainable transportation.



Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day

Celebrating Equity, History, and Community

This year, Safe Routes staff were thrilled to support Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day. This event brings students, families, educators, and communities together to learn about and honor civil rights, equity, and active transportation. Held each year on November 14, the event celebrates the courage of Ruby Bridges, one of the first Black children to integrate into an all-white elementary school in the South at just six years old. Her bravery became a powerful symbol of the civil rights movement and continues to inspire young people today.

FUN FACT: Students from Martin Elementary School in the City of South San Francisco were the first to recognize November 14 as Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day—turning a local idea into a growing national tradition!

During these celebrations, students walked to school while learning about Ruby’s story and the importance of standing up for justice. The Safe Routes team provided books about Ruby Bridges to participating schools and read to students before they walked to school. Students also received fun prizes from sponsors.

The event fosters meaningful conversations among students, families, and educators about inclusion and racial justice. It reflects schools’ commitment to culturally relevant education and encourages communities to advocate for safer, more inclusive streets. Honoring Ruby Bridges’s bravery helps students understand that showing up matters—and that age is no barrier to making lasting social change.

Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day by the Numbers



151 Students Participated

70 Adults Participated

4 Schools Participated



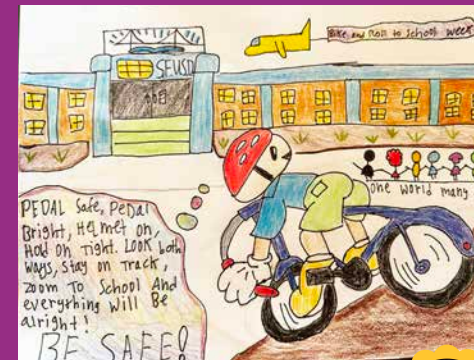
Student Art Contests

During the 2024–2025 school year, Safe Routes held art contests during Ride Muni to School Week and Bike & Roll to School Week to celebrate active and shared transportation modes. SFUSD students were invited to submit original art pieces to showcase what transit, biking, and rolling looks and feels like to them. Winners from elementary, middle, and high schools were awarded fun prizes.

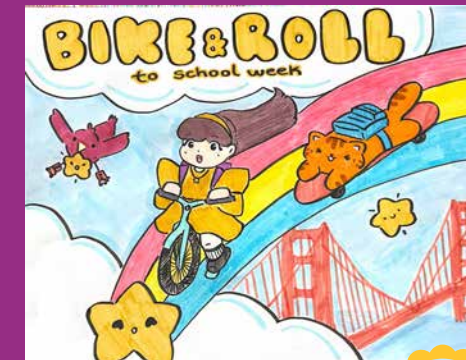
79 Entries submitted by students



Bike & Roll to School Week Art Contest Winners



Abby W.
Francis Scott Key Elem. School



Jillian L.,
Roosevelt Middle School



Sophia L.
Dianne Feinstein Elem. School



Ride Muni to School Week Art Contest Winners



Nani L.
École Notre Dame des Victoires



Leandro T.
A.P. Giannini Middle School



Cesar A.
Access SFUSD



VIII. Program Highlights: Program Activities

Walking School Bus

Walking School Buses are organized groups of children who walk to school together with a supervising adult, making it safer, easier, more accessible, and more fun for students to get to school, powered by themselves. Walking School Buses meet at a designated location, such as a park or playground, and follow a regular route, picking up more children along the way—just as traditional school buses would!

For many students who live close to school but need support to get there safely and reliably, Walking School Buses provide a simple, community-based solution that can help reduce truancy by ensuring students arrive on time. These activities benefit students and the entire community, reducing traffic congestion and air pollution around schools and creating opportunities for families to connect while walking together. They also encourage families to explore local parks and public spaces (i.e., typical starting locations for Walking School Buses), building habits around active transportation that extend beyond the school day.

Many students in San Francisco live within walking distance of school but need support to make walking a reality. Walking School Buses help meet this need!

At some schools, Walking Schools Buses happen as often as every week or every day and are organized and maintained by dedicated school staff or parents. At other schools,

Walking School Buses are special-occasion activities organized by Safe Routes staff with the goal of building local capacity to maintain and increase the frequency of the activities over time.



School Spotlight

10-Year Anniversary of the Jean Parker Elementary Walking School Bus

Ten years ago, the Walking School Bus from Woh Hei Yuen Park to Jean Parker Elementary School was initially launched through culturally responsive outreach in Cantonese. Ten years later, the tradition is still thriving. During the school year, monthly walks continued to take place from October 2024 through May 2025, consistently drawing at least 15 students and five adults.

The program continues to grow, thanks in part to new drop-off options that let students arrive early, giving parents time to get to work and students time to play with friends before school. The success of this particular Walking School Bus would not be possible without Liz Brooks, the school's executive secretary, who has kept this program running while keeping students engaged. After every Walking School Bus, Liz awards a golden sneaker to the grade with the highest level of participation!



Walking School Buses by the Numbers

47 Walking School Buses held during the 2024–2025 school year




VIII. Program Highlights: Program Activities

Bike P.E.


Bike P.E. is a long-standing program (since 2007), run by YBike, that helps kids learn how to ride bikes. The program has expanded into a number of bike initiatives for youth, including working with SFUSD students. In partnership with the SFUSD Physical Education Department and YBike, Bike P.E. is delivered through a multi-week series or one-day intensives as part of regular P.E. classes. This class teaches fundamental biking skills and fosters long-term habits around safety, environmental awareness, and healthy movement. It promotes equity by ensuring all students, regardless of background or bike ownership, have the opportunity to learn.

Many students in San Francisco lack access to a bike, don't know how to ride, and/or live in areas without safe bike infrastructure. Bike P.E. addresses these barriers by creating a supportive, inclusive space where students can learn to ride—sometimes for the very first time. The program empowers students to use bikes for fun, transportation, and connection with their neighborhoods and communities.


Bike P.E. by the Numbers

887  **Students** participated in Bike P.E. classes run by Safe Routes (at least 700 more students were taught independently by instructors taught by Bike P.E., bringing the total to at least 1,587)

~20,000  **Miles** ridden by students during Bike P.E. and neighborhood-ride days

6  **One-Day Bike P.E. Classes** for elementary students during one-time field trips

~30 **Miles** ridden by each middle school and high school students during a Bike P.E. class

27  **Multi-Week Bike P.E.** Classes taught by YBike (4 elementary schools, 17 middle schools, and 6 high schools)



"One student went from beginner to pro! All students made progress in their bike riding."

—Safe Routes to School Staff Member

Scaling Bike P.E. Across the School District

The Safe Routes team continues to collaborate with SFUSD to make their shared goal—bringing basic bike education to every SFUSD student—a reality. To expand the scale of Bike P.E. programming, YBike has been training SFUSD instructors to provide Bike P.E. and supporting the expansion of bicycle fleets at school sites. For example:

4 Schools teach Bike P.E. independently (2 middle schools and 2 high schools).

 The Marina Middle School P.E. department provided **2 bicycling units to every 1 of their ~660 students** during this school year.

10 Additional Schools have the capacity to lead Bike P.E., as they have trained instructors and/or a bike fleet on campus.

2024–2025 marked the second year that MLK Middle School's P.E. teacher, Diana Delfino, offered biking as an elective class. Ms. Delfino provided the course with support from Safe Routes staff, as well as a superstar student, Tony Guan, who was selected as this year's Metropolitan Transportation Commission San Francisco County Bike Champion of the Year! Read more about Tony on page 37!



VIII. Program Highlights: Program Activities

Drop-In Bike-Practice Sessions

Drop-In Bike-Practice Sessions take place at schools and in community spaces to help participants of all ages learn to ride a bike, practice their skills, and navigate safely on City streets. These sessions are important because they provide access to safe spaces to practice riding, which many youth and families may not have due to space constraints within the City. Safe Routes team members organizing the activity often set up an obstacle course so students can learn to weave, stop, and watch for traffic conflicts. Participants work on skills independently and one-on-one with an instructor when necessary. Many locations offer a series of Drop-In Bike-Practice Sessions and provide loaner bikes to increase access for community members.

Drop-In Bike-Practice Sessions by the Numbers — — — — —

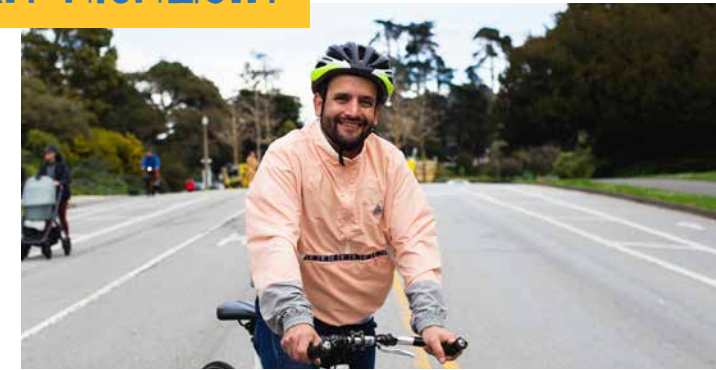
358 Students participated

75 Adults participated

15 Drop-In Bike-Practice Sessions held during the 2024–2025 school year



STAFF HIGHLIGHT



Adrian Cárdenas
School Engagement Lead

Adrian Cárdenas has made a powerful and lasting impact on the Safe Routes program through his commitment to equity, cultural relevance, and fun community engagement. He consistently prioritizes underserved communities, ensuring all activities are accessible, inclusive, and community driven. For example, he ensured that bike-safety education was available in both Chinese and Spanish.

In 2024–2025, Adrian partnered with the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition, YBike, and the Excelsior Bike Club to distribute over 100 adult bikes, expanding transportation access for families. He led monthly walks in neighborhoods like Bayview and the Tenderloin, to create safe and fun spaces for families to walk together. He also created a Walking School Bus connecting Monroe and Cleveland Elementary Schools and strengthened participation from previously hard-to-reach schools. His strong relationships with school staff, principals, and community partners have also led to increased participation from schools that had previously been hard to reach—strengthening the program’s reach and impact Citywide.

School Spotlight



Drop-In Bike Practice at Commodore Sloat Elementary School

Safe Routes hosted a Drop-In Bike-Practice Session at Commodore Sloat Elementary School in March 2025. Growing support from the school principal, PTA members, and the garden coordinator kept Drop-In Bike-Practice Sessions going throughout the year alongside Green Up Clean Up activities. During one ride, students of all skill levels rode around Aptos Park as a group. Thanks to the sessions, staff reported that they saw some new and familiar faces at the Bike & Roll to School Week celebration in May!



Drop-In Bike Practice at Tenderloin Community Elementary School

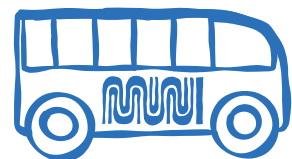
In spring 2025, Safe Routes hosted a Drop-In Bike-Practice Session at Tenderloin Community Elementary School, located in one of San Francisco’s most densely populated, but under-resourced neighborhoods. The activity provided a rare opportunity for 40 students to safely ride their bikes in an open space away from traffic and pedestrians—something not always available in their daily environments. Throughout the three-hour activity, riders of all skill levels practiced weaving, stopping, and other essential safety skills. One particularly determined kindergartener learned to ride a bike for the very first time and left the activity smiling and riding confidently on his own. The activity was so successful that school staff requested another session for the fall, and the Safe Routes team is already gearing up to make it happen.

VIII. Program Highlights: Program Activities

Muni Field Trips

Many students are interested in taking Muni or other forms of transit but lack the skills or confidence to do so on their own. To address this challenge, Safe Routes launched Muni Field Trips last year. These guided trips give students hands-on experience using Muni buses or trains while traveling to a field trip or a nearby park or library. Along the way, students learn safe transit-riding practices, learn how to respond if they feel unsafe, and gain confidence navigating transit through interactive activities like Muni Bingo.

Although schools have used Muni informally for years, this program formalizes the process and weaves transit education into the core of the field trip experience. Students learn about important resources like Free Muni for All Youth and gain valuable travel experience in the process. By equipping students with the tools to ride independently, Muni Field Trips promote long-term transit use and support a broader community shift toward sustainable transportation—reducing traffic, improving air quality, and creating safer streets for all.



MUNI SAFETY TIPS

1. Always be aware of your surroundings; know where you are and what/who is around you.
2. Keep track of your belongings; avoid unnecessary distractions.
3. Ask the Muni operator, police officer, or other adult nearby for help if needed.
4. Keep a whistle or personal safety alarm handy and use it to make a sound if you are in trouble.
5. Please hold on when the bus is in motion; sometimes sudden stops are necessary.
6. Identify the nearest entrance/exit and be prepared to board or get off the bus.

During each Muni Field Trip, students receive bookmarks that outline info about transit and tips for riding Muni safely.



Family Rides

Family Rides help students and their families build comfort and confidence riding bicycles together in a supportive, fun environment. Led by Safe Routes staff, these group rides welcome all ages and biking abilities, offering the safety and encouragement that come with riding in numbers. Along the way, participants learn essential bike-handling skills, practice road safety, and develop teamwork as they navigate both car-free spaces and neighborhood streets. Students gain valuable experience riding in new environments, building confidence they can carry into their daily lives.

These rides promote a healthy, active lifestyle while offering families a chance to bond and explore the City together. Children and parents also become more aware of their surroundings—recognizing City features that can be improved to make streets safer for everyone. By bringing together families from different schools and neighborhoods across San Francisco, Family Rides foster a strong sense of community through shared experiences and the simple joy of biking.

Family Rides by the Numbers

105 Students participated

124 Adults participated

7 Family Rides hosted during the 2024–2025 school year



Firefighter Family Ride

On November 3, 2024, over 100 students and their families joined the San Francisco Fire Department and Safe Routes for an exciting Firefighter Family Ride through the Panhandle and along the winding, car-free JFK Promenade in Golden Gate Park. Two shiny fire engines and an EMT vehicle led the way as families rolled into Golden Gate Park for a fun-filled day! Kids got to spend time in the park, see the trucks up close, enjoy exciting activities, and win awesome prizes.



VIII. Program Highlights: Program Activities

Family Learn-to-Ride

Family Learn-to-Ride workshops invite students and their families to learn the joy of biking together in a safe, supportive environment. Taught by trained instructors, attendees learn the fundamentals of biking, including how to balance, start, stop, steer, and signal. All are welcome at Family Learn-to-Ride Workshops whether you are learning to ride a bike for the first time or you want to build on skills you already have.

Biking with Children Workshops

Biking with Children Workshops educate students and parents about various cycling options, teaching new tips, tricks, and tools to bike safely and conveniently.

The workshops cover various topics, including:

- Building confidence among parents who are excited but might be nervous about riding with their kids.
- Explaining the rules of the road to young riders and their parents or guardians.
- Guidance on planning safe, fun routes for rides with kids.
- Bike-safety tips for parents and kids, no matter their ages.

10 Family Learn-to-Ride workshops and 2 Biking with Children Workshops were hosted during the 2024-2025 school year!



Metropolitan Transportation Commission Names Student San Francisco County's 2025 Bike Champion

Each year, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission names Bike Champions for each of the Bay Area's nine counties—recognizing individuals who inspire others to embrace bicycling. In a historic first, San Francisco County's 2025 Bike Champion is a student: **Tony Guan, an 8th grader at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Academic Middle School.**



Tony's passion for biking goes far beyond the classroom. As a student assistant in Ms. Delfino's bike elective, he teaches 6th graders bike safety and maintenance, maintains the school's bike fleet, and inspires others with his enthusiasm and knowledge. Ms. Delfino shared, "His love and passion for working on and riding bikes exudes from him. He has helped reignite my love for teaching bikes class and has been incredibly helpful in maintaining the bikes our class uses. I have never had a student so passionate and knowledgeable about bikes. Some days I am teaching him and other days he's teaching me."

Tony's leadership demonstrates that there is no age limit to becoming a Bike Champion. When asked what advice he'd give to new riders, Tony shared, "Why not! Once you start biking you will love it. It reduces cars on the road, it's free, and most importantly, it promotes a healthier life. So get on a bike and start riding!" His story shows that Safe Routes isn't just for students—it's powered by them.



VIII. Program Highlights: Program Activities

NEW! Our Walkable City

Our Walkable City is an interactive, map-based activity that helps students understand how their City environments shape their perceptions of safety, walkability, and accessibility. During this activity, students create their own mental maps of their local environments and share them with a partner. Students also participate in a gallery walk, allowing them to look at their classmates' maps and discuss different perceptions of shared spaces, traffic safety, and their surroundings.

NEW! Street Safety Strolls

Street Safety Strolls returned this year with an updated curriculum designed to give students the tools to safely and confidently navigate their daily commutes. This combined classroom and outdoor activity teaches students about important street safety treatments—such as crosswalks, stop signs, traffic signals, and leading pedestrian intervals—and how to use them correctly to get to school safely.

Walking together with peers around campus enables students to gain a deeper understanding of safety infrastructure around their school. In addition to improving safety, the program promotes walking as a healthy transportation mode that reduces pollution and strengthens connections between schools, families, and city planners.



Street Safety Strolls by the Numbers

131 Students Participated
5 Adults Participated

NEW! Bike Repair Workshops

In the 2024–2025 school year, Safe Routes piloted Bike Repair Workshops that taught students and adults essential bike maintenance skills like fixing flat tires, tightening gears, and reattaching loose chains. Led by experienced instructors and volunteers, the workshops gave students and community members practical mechanical experience and boosted their confidence in maintaining their own bikes.

The workshops also filled a critical need in keeping the Safe Routes bike fleet in working order. Many bikes in the fleet are used regularly for Bike P.E. and other programming across the City, and over time, wear and tear can impair their availability. By training students to help with repairs, Bike Repair Workshops enhance their technical education skills. The workshops strengthened community connections, bringing together students, families, local bike shops, and volunteers to support a more resilient and equitable biking culture. Due to their success, Bike Repair Workshops will be expanded to more school sites in the coming year.



YBike also provided bicycle fleet maintenance at 7 different schools for a total of 20 days.

School Spotlight

Lightbulb Icon: Bike Repair at Frank McCoppin Elementary School

In the days leading up to Bike & Roll to School Week, Frank McCoppin Elementary School hosted a hands-on Bike Repair clinic that brought together students, families, volunteers, and staff from local bike shop Scenic Routes for a full day of fixing, cleaning, and learning. Participants worked side by side on everything from tune-ups to flat-tire repair—getting their own bikes ready for Bike to School Day while also restoring donated bikes for families across San Francisco. The activity was filled with laughter, teamwork, and community spirit, showing that it is never too early to learn how to fix a bike.

These types of activities not only build bike maintenance skills but also foster pride, confidence, and shared purpose. As Cate Gregory, an activity implementer with the Safe Routes program shared, "Two young children asked me to inflate their tires for them. I told them I needed helpers and they were eager to volunteer. I showed them what I was doing and had them give hands-on help as much as possible. Both kids walked away with very proud faces at having helped keep their bikes in good shape! It's wonderful to empower youth (especially the littlest ones) with the knowledge and confidence to keep their bikes running smoothly."



IX. How Students Travel to and from School

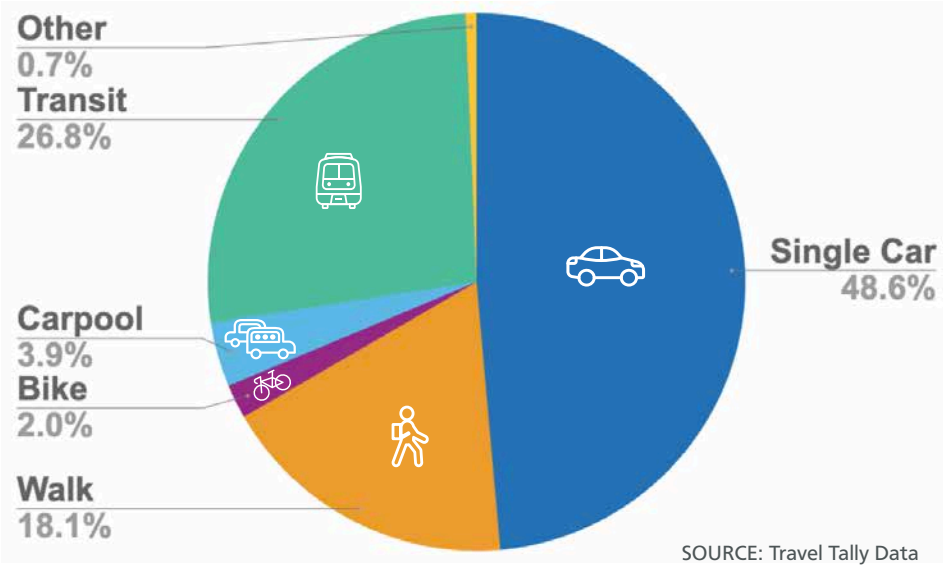
Travel Tally

Every two years, the Safe Routes team conducts a Travel Tally to monitor changes in transportation mode usage to and from school over time. The tally surveys how kindergarten, 5th-, 6th-, and 9th-grade students get to and from school, and the data directly inform Safe Routes programming, school prioritization, program evaluation, and infrastructure projects to enhance safety.

During the 2024–2025 Travel Tally, data were collected from 10,148 students enrolled in 95 SFUSD schools.

~51% of students used one of the Four Fun Ways—walking, biking, taking transit, and carpooling—to commute to and from school.

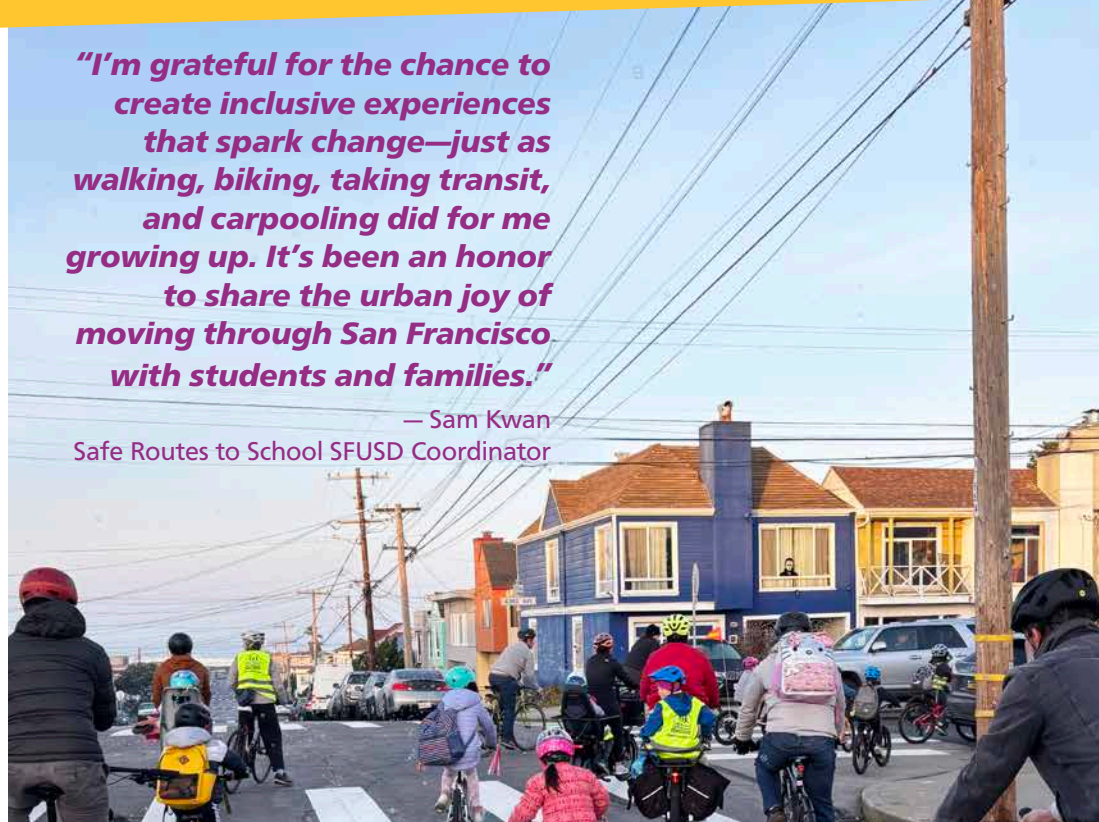
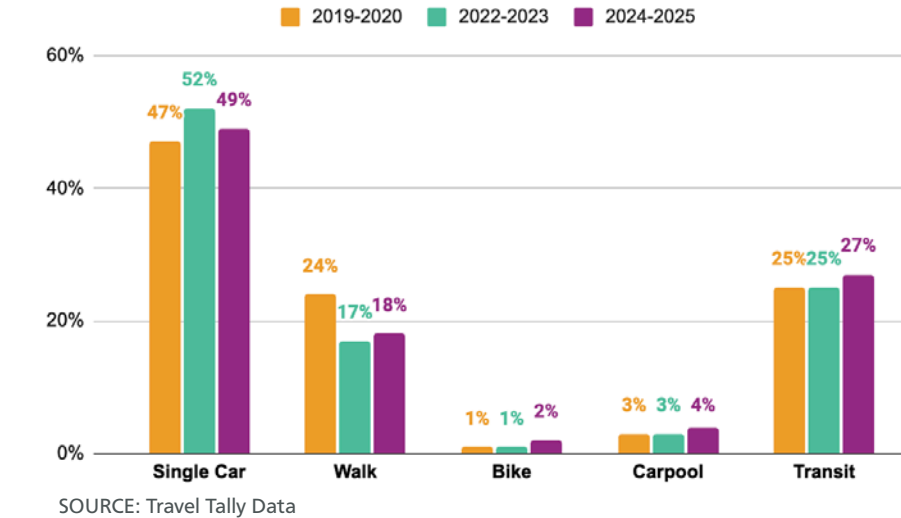
2024–2025 Biennial Travel Tally Findings



Mode Choices

All of the active and shared transportation modes increased during the 2024–2025 Travel Tally! Transportation mode patterns observed a decrease in reported trips made using active and shared transportation modes during the COVID-19 pandemic.

2019–2025 Mode Choices



"I'm grateful for the chance to create inclusive experiences that spark change—just as walking, biking, taking transit, and carpooling did for me growing up. It's been an honor to share the urban joy of moving through San Francisco with students and families."

— Sam Kwan
Safe Routes to School SFUSD Coordinator

Sam Kwan

Safe Routes to School SFUSD Coordinator

For the past five years, Sam Kwan played a pivotal role in advancing Safe Routes to School by strengthening partnerships across SFUSD, SFMTA, and the broader community. Sam helped facilitate effective cross-agency coordination between SFUSD and SFMTA to resolve various site-specific transportation issues. Her leadership consistently elevated family and student transportation needs in policy conversations like the Muni Equity Strategy. Further, she helped increase operational efficiency in coordinating Safe Routes programming across multiple departments.

STAFF HIGHLIGHT



Mode Shifts in 2024-25:



Walking increased. 18% of students walked to school compared to 17% of students in 2022–2023.

Bike use doubled! Bike ridership increased for the first time in five years. 2% of students biked to school compared to 1% of students in 2019–2020 and 2022–2023.

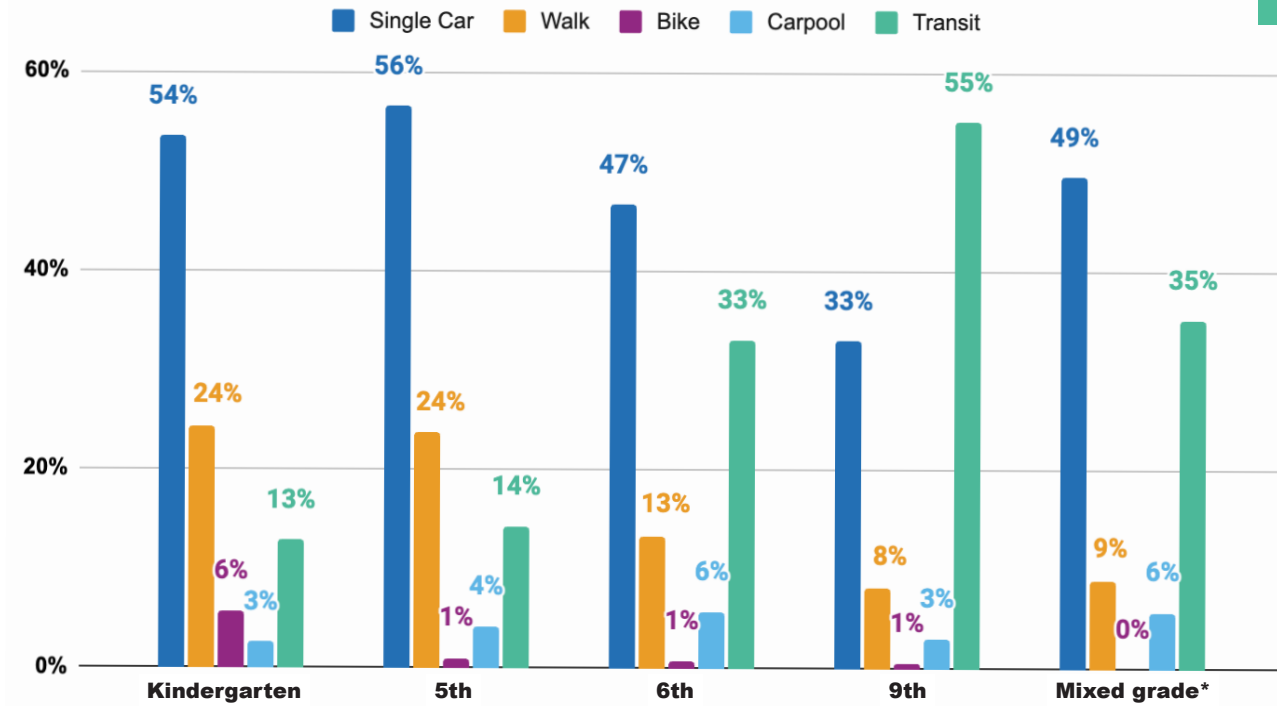
Transit use increased for the first time in five years. It was the most popular transportation mode among the Four Fun Ways. 27% of students took transit to school compared to 25% of students in 2019–2020 and 2022–2023.

Carpooling increased for the first time in five years. 4% of students carpoled to school compared to 3% of students in 2019–2020 and 2022–2023.

Use of the Four Fun Ways returned to pre-COVID levels. The Travel Tally highlighted a rebound toward pre-COVID numbers for walking, and students biked, took transit, and carpoled more than they did pre-COVID.

IX. How Students Travel to and from School

2024-2025 Mode Split by Grade



SOURCE: Travel Tally Data

**"Mixed grade" describes classrooms that bring together students from different grade levels to better support individual learning needs.



Yellow School Bus Ridership

During the 2024–2025 school year, SFUSD provided buses for a limited number of students including those with Individualized Education Plans to and from school. **4,098 students** (8.3%) of all ages used this transportation mode to get to school.

Travel patterns among different grade levels



Single-family car trips were used least by 9th-grade students.



Walking was used most often by elementary and middle school students.



Biking was used most often by elementary school students.



Taking transit increased with age and was used most often by high school students.



Carpooling was used most often by middle school students.



THE FOUR FUN WAYS were used by more than half of middle and high school students.



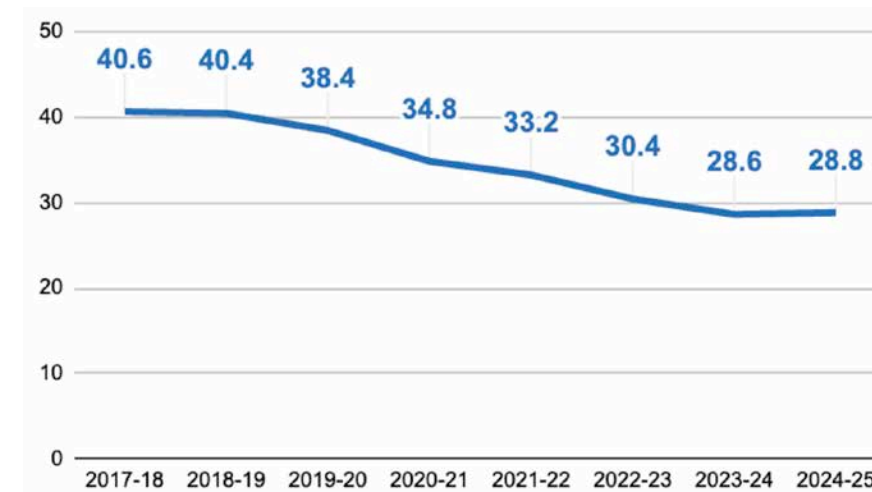
Collision Data

During the 2024-2025 school year, the five-year average of collisions remained just below 29, representing a 29% reduction. There were zero fatalities, one severe injury and 33 additional collisions, which is lower than the initial baseline for all categories.

The Safe Routes team remains committed to educating students and their families on how to navigate San Francisco safely when using active and shared transportation to decrease pedestrian- and bicycle-related collisions. Through annual events, interactive activities, and the introduction of new programming, Safe Routes provides numerous opportunities for students to apply their safety knowledge in real time.

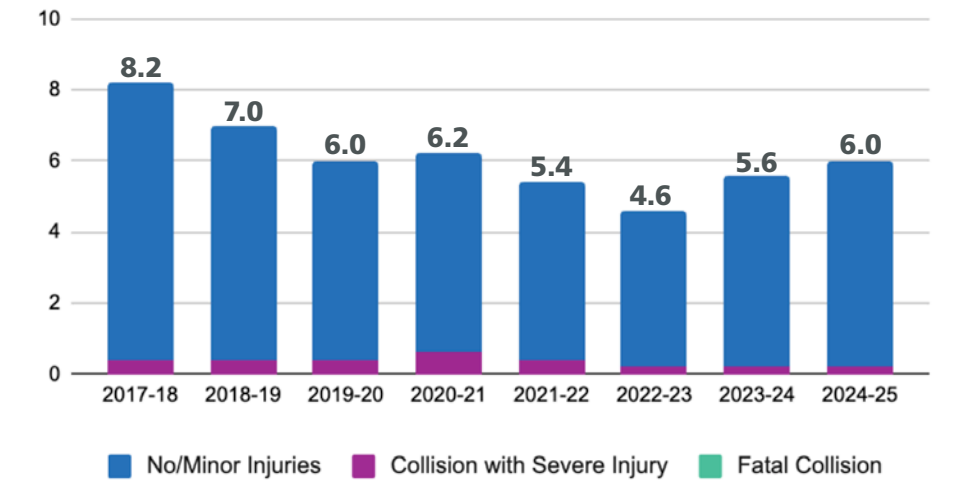
Note: A school-related collision is defined by an occurrence between 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. involving victims ages 5 to 18.

Average Yearly School-Related Collisions



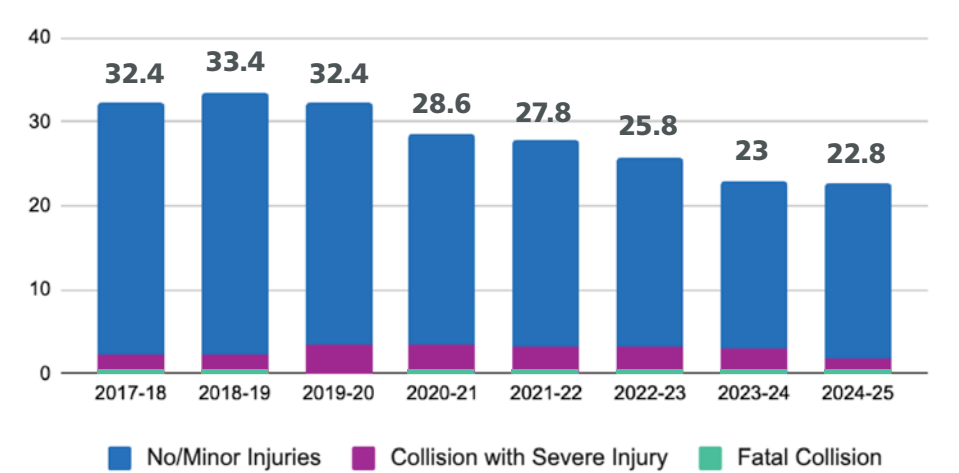
SOURCE: TransBASE - DataSF

Average Yearly School-Related Bicycle Collisions



SOURCE: TransBASE - DataSF

Average Yearly School-Related Pedestrian Collisions



SOURCE: TransBASE - DataSF

X. SFMTA Infrastructure and School Activities Collaboration

The Safe Routes program works closely with other teams within the SFMTA to provide a comprehensive approach to improving transportation options for students and families. Some of these activities are highlighted below, and some of these teams include School Traffic Calming, Transportation Engineering, the Crossing Guard Program, Muni (transit service), Muni Transit Assistance Program (MTAP), and Parking Control.

Supporting Traffic Calming and Safe Streets

The School Walk Audit Program is part of SFMTA's School Traffic Calming Program. Walk Audits are organized group-walking tours that harness the insight of school communities to identify obstacles to safe and comfortable walking within a one- to three-block radius of each school. Up to ten K–12 schools in the City will receive Walk Audits over the next three years. Schools are chosen based on: (1) reported pedestrian-involved injury collisions in the past five years within one-quarter mile of school, (2) school enrollment for all K–12 schools, and (3) disaggregated Department of Public Health data on student residency within a walkable radius of each school.

A Walk Audit team, organized by school and SFMTA staff, is generally comprised of SFMTA staff, school staff, SFUSD staff, Safe Routes to School staff, City officials, advocates, students, and parents. Members of each school's Walk Audit team participate to identify potential traffic-safety improvements. SFMTA staff compile all information and develop a final recommendations report, and SFMTA then works to implement the identified improvements in the following years. Some improvements possible through a walk audit include:

- **Slower traffic:** add speed tables, raised crosswalks
- **Improved visibility:** limit parking near corners, add painted safety zones
- **Upgraded crossings:** repaint crosswalks, adjust signal timing
- **Improved signs:** add or update stop signs and school warning signs
- **Safer turns:** restrict certain vehicle turns
- **Improved pavement markings:** refresh or add road paint

During the 2024–2025 school year, the following schools participated in the School Walk Audit Program:

- Alvarado Elementary
- Argonne Elementary
- Bessie Carmichael K–5 Filipino Education Center
- Cesar Chavez Elementary
- Claire Lilienthal (Madison Campus) Elementary
- Commodore Sloat Elementary
- Dianne Feinstein Elementary
- Dr. Charles Drew Elementary School
- Monroe Elementary
- Redding Elementary



Daylighting: Increasing Safety at Intersections

Daylighting improves safety at intersections by keeping the area next to crosswalks clear of parked-vehicle obstructions, creating a better line of sight between people who are walking, biking, and driving. SFMTA is in the process of daylighting all curbs in San Francisco to comply with the newly passed California Daylighting Law (AB 413).

As of September 2025, almost 2,000 yellow crosswalks near schools had been daylighted with 20-foot red-curb zones, with a goal of reaching 100% by the end of 2026.

Special daylighting events engaged students, parents, school staff, and both public- and private-school administrators to paint curbs around their schools. Between March and August 2025, 60 students and 20 adults helped paint curbs red near school crosswalks to mark daylighted zones.

Installation and Use of Speed Cameras

Over the past year, 33 speed camera locations were installed near schools and along busy streets to encourage safer driving habits. Reducing speed is one of the most effective ways to prevent crashes and lessen the severity of injuries, especially for students walking and biking to school. On August 5, 2025, these cameras began issuing automatic citations to drivers who exceed posted speed limits. Similar programs in other communities have reduced vehicle speeds, decreased collisions, and led to long-term improvements in driver behavior.

By consistently reinforcing speed limits—without relying solely on law enforcement—speed cameras aim to make daily commutes to school using the Four Fun Ways safer for everyone. The ultimate goal is to reduce school-related crashes and injuries, creating calmer, more predictable streets for students and their families.



X. SFMTA Infrastructure and School Activities Collaboration

School Site Engineering

If you have seen a school zone sign or a white curb with a sign for passenger loading only during school days, you have seen the work of the SFMTA's school site engineer. The school site engineer works with public and private schools, neighborhood residents, and SFMTA project teams to support traffic safety within school zones. Each year as school populations fluctuate, there are changes in how many yellow school buses are assigned to each SFUSD school and how many students arrive by walking, bicycle, or personal vehicles. Schools may change location, be closed for renovation, or open new locations. The school site engineer responds to these changes by adding, removing, or updating bus and passenger loading zones and signage to make sure that pick-up and drop-off zones meet the needs of each school and prioritize student safety while also maintaining general traffic flow and balancing neighborhood needs. In addition to proactive measures, the school site engineer responds to dozens of requests from public and private school staff, the SFUSD Transportation Department, 311 reports, the SF Safe Routes to School non-infrastructure program, the SFMTA Crossing Guard program, and SFMTA project teams related to traffic flow issues and street or curb conditions near San Francisco schools.

Responses to these requests can include:

- **Site visits to observe pedestrian, bicyclist, and vehicle flow** through white zones or nearby intersections
- **Relocating passenger and bus loading zones** to promote safer and more efficient flow during pick-up and drop-off periods
- **Adjusting loading zone lengths** to meet schools' changing needs
- **Updating loading zone timing** to match school bell times
- **Directing placement of new or refreshed signs** for school zones, parking restrictions, and traffic rules such as no u-turns
- **Setting reduced speeds in school zones** in accordance with the California Vehicle Code

"I'm proud of the impact we've had empowering families and school staff and helping San Francisco youth move through their neighborhoods with more safety, joy, and confidence. For me this work is more than Safe Routes to School, it's been about transportation justice, access, and connection."

— Adrian Cárdenas
School Engagement Lead



XI. Looking Forward to the 2025–2026 School Year

As this report reflects on a vibrant year of community building, the Safe Routes program is already busy laying the groundwork for even greater impact in the 2025–2026 school year.

Updated Travel Tally data, school collision data, and school demographic data will guide the reassessment and selection of Focus Schools, ensuring resources are directed where they are needed most. Schools identified as Focus Schools will receive dedicated, tailored support from a Safe Routes school-engagement lead throughout the year.

In the coming year, the Safe Routes team aims to strengthen school and community participation in annual events and activities through continued community outreach, Champion focus groups, an expanded social media presence, and innovative activities during annual events. The team will also continue empowering students and school staff to design and lead their own Safe Routes events—fostering ownership, creativity, and long-term engagement.

Demonstrating their dedication to adapting to ever-changing needs, Safe Routes will continue scaling new activities like Our Walkable City, Bike Repair Workshops, and Street Safety Strolls, which have already proven effective in equipping students with real-world skills for safe, confident travel using the Four Fun Ways. Reinforcing these experiences year after year will help communities cultivate lifelong healthy habits and a deeper sense of ownership over their travel choices.

Ultimately, the vision for the year ahead is clear: to create safer streets, healthier students, and stronger connections between neighbors, students, communities, and schools. Let's keep moving forward—together—so every child in San Francisco can travel to and from school safely, confidently, and with joy.

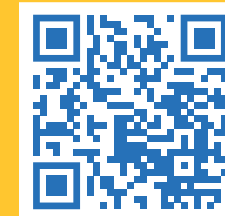


Get Involved

with San Francisco Safe Routes to School!

To learn more about the San Francisco Safe Routes to School program or to get involved, please subscribe to the newsletter to receive regular updates on upcoming events and activities across the City!

To Subscribe:





Funding for the Safe Routes to School Program is provided by:



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