

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S
REPORT TO LEGISLATURE
OF
THE STATE OF HAWAII
REQUIRED UNDER
SECTION 291C-3, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES

**ANNUAL REPORT: "SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL"
FROM ACT 317
SESSION LAWS OF HAWAII 2012**

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DECEMBER 2013

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SECTION 291C-3 HAWAII REVISED STATUTES

Annual report to the Hawaii Legislature on the Safe Routes to School Program

Introduction:

Section 291C-3 Hawaii Revised Statutes requires the Department of Transportation (DOT) to report annually on the status and progress of the safe routes to school (SRTS) program.

The federal SRTS program was created by Section 1404 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) in 2005 and is a federally-funded program administered by the DOT. It is designed to encourage elementary and middle school aged children to be physically active; make walking and bicycling to school a safe, routine activity; and facilitate planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity of schools.

Under the current federal legislation, the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), SRTS projects are also eligible to be funded by the Transportation Alternatives Program.

Act 317 signed into law on July 10, 2012 created county-level SRTS programs and established a state SRTS program special fund. A surcharge fee from every moving violation is deposited into the SRTS program special fund. The DOT is responsible for managing and distributing funds in the SRTS program special fund.

SRTS Federal Program:

The County of Maui was awarded SRTS federal funds for the two infrastructure projects discussed below.

The Princess Nahienaena Elementary School SRTS project will construct pedestrian improvements at the Niheu Street/Kumukahi Street intersection and Lahainaluna Road/Kuialua Street intersection, and relocate various signs along Lahainaluna Road near Kuialua Street. Bids for the project were received and opened on October 15, 2013. The current estimated cost of the project is \$145,000.

The Kamalii Elementary School SRTS project will construct an upper Keonekai corridor crosswalk and sidewalks, and install speed radar feedback signs on roads approaching the school. Bids for the project were received and opened on October 2, 2013. The current estimated cost of the project is \$491,000.

Following SRTS informational workshops that were offered on the islands of Hawaii, Kauai, Maui and Oahu, the DOT issued its third round of call for applications for federal SRTS funds on March 19, 2013. A total of 10 applications (5 non-infrastructure and 5 infrastructure) were received by the deadline date of June 21, 2013. These applications were evaluated and ranked, and we are currently awaiting approval before grants can be awarded.

SRTS Program Special Fund:

Administrative rules to distribute state funds in the SRTS program special fund to counties for county-level SRTS programs were drafted. A public hearing was held at the DOT Oahu District office on November 21, 2013. Neighbor islands were included in this public hearing by video conference. Written comments were also accepted until December 2, 2013. The administrative rules are currently being finalized, after which appropriate approvals will be obtained. As of November 2013, the balance in the SRTS program special fund was \$546,162. This figure does not account for administrative expenses incurred by the DOT.