

## Safe Routes to Schools Advisory Committee

August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025

10:00-11:00 AM

Remotely via Microsoft Teams

### Meeting Minutes

#### I. Call to Order, Roll Call

Chair Abbey Seitz called the meeting to order at 10:01am and conducted a roll call of committee members and confirmed a quorum was present.

Member requirement	Appointment detail(s)	Name	Present?
One member to be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives	House of Representatives appointee,	Kathleen Rooney	Y
One member to be appointed by the president of the senate	Senate appointee, chair for 2025-2026	Abbey Seitz	Y
The department of transportation's safe routes to school program coordinator		Fa'alepo Unutoa for Tara Lucas	Y
The deputy director of the department of transportation's highways division		Larry Dill for Robin Shishido	Y
One member representing the physical activity and nutrition section of the department of health's chronic disease prevention and health promotion division		Heidi Hansen-Smith	Y
The superintendent of education		Audrey Hidano, official designee	Y
The co-chair of the Hawaii climate change mitigation and adaptation commission	Chairperson, Department of Land and Natural Resources	Ian Hirokawa for Luke Sarvis, official designee	Y
The co-chair of the Hawaii climate change mitigation and adaptation commission	Director, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development	Leah Laramée, official designee	X
One member representing the Hawaii state energy office		Chris Yunker, official designee	N
One member representing the Hawaii state council on developmental disabilities		James Labrie for Sierra Whiteside	Y
One member representing each county agency with jurisdiction over transportation	City and County of Honolulu	Yamato Sasaki	N
	County of Hawaii	Jesse Domian	Y
	County of Kauai	Michael Moule	Y
	County of Maui	Kurt Watanabe	N
One member representing an organization with a focus on bicycling	Appointed by the governor, pursuant to section 26-34, for a three-year term	Thomas Noyes	Y
One member representing an organization with a focus on	Appointed by the governor, pursuant to section 26-34, for a three-year term	James Burke	Y

## Safe Routes to Schools Advisory Committee – Meeting Minutes

August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Page 2 of 3

senior citizens and their families			
One member representing an organization that understands the ways families with young children navigate through the State	Appointed by the governor, pursuant to section 26-34, for a three-year term	Pending	N
One member representing an organization with a focus on public health and mobility	Appointed by the governor, pursuant to section 26-34, for a three-year term	Jessica Thompson	Y
One member representing an organization with a focus on transportation equity and mobility	Appointed by the governor, pursuant to section 26-34, for a three-year term	Jeanne Torres	N
The chair of representatives standing committee with primary jurisdiction over transportation	Senate, serving as non-voting, ex-officio member	Senator Chris Lee	N
The chair of the senate standing committee with primary jurisdiction over transportation	House of Representatives, serving as non-voting, ex-officio member	Dorene Edy for Representative Darius Kila	Y

Identified Guests – Ryan Roylo (Supervising Deputy Attorney General); Patti Hatzistavrakis (Hawaii Public Health Institute); Justin Menina (Hawaii Department of Health); and Bev Brody (Get Fit Kauai).

### II. Old Business

Chair Seitz provided context for the updated recommendation, based on the previously presented recommendation by the permitted interaction group (PIG). There is a total of \$12.5 million currently available in the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) special fund. The chair's recommended action reflects the current amount in the special fund plus including a project for the County of Kauai. The remaining monies in the special fund were previously approved with \$1 million for the plan request for qualifications (RFQ) and \$3 million for staffing a network of SRTS positions. Vice-chair Rooney was asked to provide additional detail on what is covered in the staffing monies; she responded by detailing that those funds will cover one staff position for Hawaii Department of Transportation, one staff position for the Hawaii Department of Education, and one staff position for each county (totaling 6 positions).

Additional information on the scoring process was requested. Patti Hatzistavrakis, as the PIG's representative, provided additional detail. The PIG used a scoring rubric with individual project evaluations and scores considered factors like project need, feasibility, and impact. Kurt Watanabe asked for the PIG to share the scores to which they agreed and will be sending later.

The Committee approved the initial \$8 million allocation in the [list of projects for Committee approval](#) and approved the allocation of additional funds on a rolling basis.

**III. Open Forum**

None

**IV. Announcements**

- The September 26th meeting is at 2pm to accommodate the speaker residing in Vietnam.
- The Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission released their draft climate action plan, which includes Safe Routes to Schools. It is available at [climate.hawaii.gov](https://climate.hawaii.gov).
- James Labrie as Sierra Whiteside's designee requested that the recording be shared with him when made available.
- The Hawaii Department of Health and the Hawaii Public Health Institute are teaming up to host a series of walk audits across the state. If interested, please reach out to Justin Menina for more information.

**V. Adjournment**

- Meeting adjourned at 10:48am.