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STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA 'OIHANA ALAKAU
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

IN REPLY REFER TO:

HWY-S 24-2.45066

February 16, 2024

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
Hawaii State Senator
President and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Hawaii State Representative
Speaker and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

For your information and consideration, I am transmitting a copy of the Annual Report on Safe Routes to School from Act 317, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012.

In accordance with Hawaii Revised Statutes 93-16, I am also informing you that the report may be viewed electronically at: <https://hidot.hawaii.gov/library/reports/reports-to-the-legislature/>

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed Sniffen".

EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
Director of Transportation

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

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

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DECEMBER 2023

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S
REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE

REQUIRED UNDER

HAWAII REVISED STATUTES,

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

Hawaii Revised Statutes, Section 291C-3 previously required the Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) to report annually on the status and progress of the safe routes to school Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program. Act 244 (2023) transferred this requirement to the SRTS advisory committee. Therefore, future annual reports for the SRTS program will not be submitted by the HDOT.

SRTS Federal 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 HDOT. 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.

A summary of all SRTS non-infrastructure and infrastructure projects funded with SRTS federal funds obtained under SAFETEA-LU is shown in the attached Table 1 and Table 2, respectively. For projects that are ongoing, or completed but not closed, the amounts shown are the amount of funds awarded and may not reflect the actual cost of each project.

Construction of the King Kaumualii School SRTS Phase 1 project was completed in February 2023. The scope of the project included installing rectangular rapid flashing beacon (RRFB) systems and curb extensions at two marked crosswalks on Hanamaulu Road and constructing new sidewalk and curb ramps on Hanamaulu Road from King Kaumualii Elementary School to Hanamaulu Place and throughout the length of Akuli Street. In addition, the roadway shoulder along the south side of Hanamaulu Road near the school was widened and a crosswalk on Hanamaulu Road was relocated.

Construction of the Koloa Safe Routes Phase 2 project was completed in May 2023. The scope of the project included reconstructing the sidewalk on Poipu Road fronting Koloa Elementary, relocating a crosswalk and installing RRFB systems on Poipu Road, and relocating a crosswalk on Paanau Road. The project also included constructing new sidewalk and curb ramps on Paanau Road fronting Koloa Elementary School, and on the north side of Paanau Road from Hikina Road west to an existing sidewalk. In addition, bike lanes and accommodations for pedestrians were provided along Poipu Road from Koloa Road to Blake Lane. Paanau Road was also restriped to narrow travel lanes and encourage slower vehicular speeds.

In addition to SRTS federal funds obtained under SAFETEA-LU, both SRTS infrastructure and non-infrastructure projects are currently eligible for federal funds under the transportation alternatives program, highway safety improvement program and other programs.

SRTS Program Special Fund

Act 317 (2012), signed into law on July 10, 2012, created county-level SRTS programs and established a state SRTS program special fund. A surcharge fee on certain moving violations is deposited into the SRTS program special fund. The HDOT adopted Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR) Chapter 19-109 of the entitled “Safe Routes to School Program Special Fund” and distributed funds from the SRTS program special fund to counties for fiscal years 2014 to 2020. Table 3 shows the amount of funds distributed to each county.

Act 9 (Special Session 2021), signed into law on July 20, 2021, required that the legislature appropriate funds from the SRTS special fund to counties. Act 9 also requires each county to submit an annual report on the status and progress of its county SRTS program to the legislature. Therefore, the HDOT did not distribute funds from the SRTS Program Special Fund to counties after fiscal year 2020 and will repeal HAR Chapter 19-109. We defer to legislative reports submitted by counties for the status of county SRTS efforts that used funds obtained from the SRTS program special fund.

Act 244 (2023), signed into law on July 6, 2023, establishes the SRTS advisory committee and requires this committee to:

- meet no less than monthly,
- develop a comprehensive statewide SRTS plan that includes goals, strategies and performance metrics that ensure accountability for improving safety, active transportation mode share, community investment in supportive programming, and infrastructure quality,
- submit annual reports on the activities and recommendations of the SRTS program to the governor and legislature,
- beginning July 1, 2024, ensure distribution of moneys accrued in the SRTS special fund,
- beginning July 1, 2024, review project proposals and select priority projects within one mile of any school or place of learning, and
- develop a streamlined process for the SRTS program that meets federal and state requirements, simplifies the grant proposal application process, and expedites release of funding after completion of school-based and community-based projects.

Act 244 requires the HDOT to:

- beginning July 1, 2024, be responsible for developing and publishing goals and performance measures in coordination with the SRTS advisory committee,
- beginning July 1, 2024, provide technical assistance to counties and community organizations in support of SRTS projects and programs that advance state and county goals, and
- expend funds from the SRTS program special fund in coordination with the SRTS advisory committee to be used for the implementation of the SRTS program plan and projects.

Act 244 also deposits state highway funds into the SRTS program special fund and appropriates funds from the SRTS program special fund to:

- support and facilitate the SRTS program, projects and advisory committee, and
- match any federal funds received by the state for costs related to sidewalk and other infrastructure planning, development and construction.

Table 1: Non-Infrastructure Projects Funded with SRTS SAFETEA-LU Funds

Award Date	Project Title	Awardee	Amount	Status
5/30/08	Non-Infrastructure Public Service Announcements	State of Hawaii HDOT	\$162,662	completed
5/30/08	Safe Routes to School Awareness Project	State of Hawaii Department of Education	\$13,280	completed
6/9/08	West Hawaii Safe Routes to School Program	PATH – Peoples Advocacy for Trails Hawaii	\$34,231	completed
6/9/08	Ride to Live, Live to Ride	Honolulu Police Department	\$48,202	completed
6/10/08	SRTS for Dole Middle School	Kokua Kalihi Valley	\$12,226	completed
4/10/14	Fern Elementary School SRTS	Michaels Community Services Corporation dba Better Tomorrows	\$39,058	completed
4/10/14	Putting Our Plans to Work	PATH – Peoples Advocacy for Trails Hawaii	\$6,029	completed
4/10/14	Get Fit Kauai SRTS	University of Hawaii at Manoa Office of Public Health Studies	\$19,809	completed
7/29/16	Campaign to Utilize Safe Routes to Wilson Elementary	Wilson Elementary School	\$5,036	completed
9/13/18	Hawaii Island Schools Bicycle and Pedestrian Education and Safety Program	PATH – Peoples Advocacy for Trails Hawaii	\$20,735	completed
Total			\$361,267	

Table 2: Infrastructure Projects Funded with SRTS SAFETEA-LU Funds

Award Date	Project Title	Awardee	Amount	Status
2/22/12	Princess Nahienaena Elementary School Safe Routes to School Project	County of Maui	\$116,189	completed
2/22/12	Kamalii Elementary School Safe Routes to School Project	County of Maui/ Keonekai Neighborhood Association	\$404,629	completed
4/10/14	Island-Wide Beacon (RRFB) Crosswalks and Sidewalk Improvements	County of Kauai	\$434,979	completed
4/10/14	King Kaumualii School SRTS Phase 1	County of Kauai	\$416,540	completed but not closed
4/10/14	Koloa Safe Routes Phase 2	County of Kauai	\$490,875	completed but not closed
4/10/14	Paia School Frontage Improvements	County of Maui	\$502,443	completed but not closed
4/10/14	Paia School Sidewalk Improvements	County of Maui	\$455,495	completed but not closed
Total			\$2,821,150	

Table 3: Distributions from the Safe Routes to School Program Special Fund

State Fiscal Year	City and County of Honolulu		County of Hawaii		County of Kauai		County of Maui		Total
	Amount	Date of Transfer	Amount	Date of Transfer	Amount	Date of Transfer	Amount	Date of Transfer	
2014	\$317,801	3/2015	\$94,329	6/2014	\$86,463	6/2014	\$101,406	6/2015	\$600,000
2015	\$158,901	6/2015	\$47,165	6/2015	\$43,232	7/2015	\$50,703	6/2015	\$300,000
2016	\$582,635	8/2016	\$172,937	6/2016	\$158,516	6/2016	\$185,911	5/2016	\$1,100,000
2017	\$291,318	7/2017	\$86,469	5/2017	\$79,258	6/2017	\$92,956	6/2017	\$550,000
2018	\$291,318	5/2018	\$86,469	4/2018	\$79,258	4/2018	\$92,956	4/2018	\$550,000
2019	\$287,409	5/2019	\$87,330	4/2019	\$77,677	4/2019	\$97,584	4/2019	\$550,000
2020	\$491,207	3/2020	\$149,254	3/2020	\$132,758	5/2020	\$166,780	3/2020	\$940,000
Total	\$2,420,588		\$723,952		\$657,163		\$788,297		\$4,590,000