

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S
FINAL REPORT TO LEGISLATURE
OF
THE STATE OF HAWAII
ON
ACT 100

SESSION LAWS OF HAWAII 2009
(HOUSE BILL NO. 983, HD 1, SD 2, CD 1)

**Relating to Education (Safe Routes to School).
Report Title: Schools; Traffic Safety**

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
JANUARY 2010

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(HOUSE BILL NO. 983, HD 1, SD 2, CD 1)

Report Title: Schools; Traffic Safety (Safe Routes to School)

Description: Requires the director of transportation to provide federal Safe Routes to School program funds for school-based workshops and community-based planning projects that will reduce vehicular travel & congestion, encourage walking and bicycling, and promote health & safety. Requires the director to develop and streamlined process for the federal Safe Routes to School grant program. (HB 983 CD1)

INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to Act 100, of House Bill No. 983, HD 1, SD 2, CD 1, Session Laws of Hawaii 2009:

“Requires the director of transportation to provide federal Safe Routes to School program funds for school-based workshops and community-based planning projects that will reduce vehicular travel & congestion, encourage walking and bicycling, and promote health & safety. Requires the director to develop and streamlined process for the federal Safe Routes to School grant program.”

The most effective method for improving traffic safety is through a multi-facet approach involving the “5-E’s” of safety: **E**ngineering, **E**nforcement, **E**ducation, **E**mergency services, and **E**veryone else. Utilizing this comprehensive approach, the Department of Transportation (DOT) has implemented or supported the Safe Routes to School (SRTS).

The DOT manages Hawaii’s SRTS program. This federal program aims to promote walking and bicycling to school. The SRTS program serves as a health incentive to encourage kids to get out and about in order to prevent childhood obesity. Involvement by schools, families and communities are promoted which are vital elements to supporting healthy lifestyles for kids. The SRTS program receives proposals from government, communities and organizations statewide for infrastructure and non-infrastructure projects. From the first round of proposals, 5 non-infrastructure projects were awarded and 5 infrastructure projects are in the process of being awarded. A second round of Call for Applications for both Infrastructure and Non-Infrastructure applications was advertised on September 30, 2009 with a deadline of November 30, 2009. A total of 10 applications were submitted in the second round of which 4 are Infrastructure and 6 are Non Infrastructure applications, which are currently in the evaluation stage. The DOT annually receives \$1,000,000.00 in federal funds during the SAFETEA-LU period. We are in the last fiscal year of the Safe Routes to School program funding and are awaiting reauthorization of the program.