



STATE-LEGISLATED SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL (SR2S) PROGRAM

I. BACKGROUND

Interim guidelines for the State-legislated Safe Routes to School (SR2S) program were removed from the Local Assistance Program Guidelines (LAPG) when guidelines for the federal Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program were issued as Chapter 24 of the LAPG on October 26, 2006. With the upcoming call for Cycle 8 SR2S projects, SR2S guidelines were updated and will be issued as an Office Bulletin initially with the intent of issuing a formal LPP at a later date. Once the LPP process is completed, SRTS and SR2S guidelines will be combined in a revised Chapter 24 as 24-A and 24-B respectively.

II. POLICY

Major policy changes from the previous 7 cycles of the SR2S program include the following:

- Funds will be apportioned to the Districts on the basis of student enrollment instead of population. Current figures will be obtained from the State Department of Education. \$1M will be apportioned off the top to Districts O1, 02, and 09 to allow them to undertake a single large project or multiple less costly projects.
- Districts, as opposed to Headquarters will prepare the final list of projects. District review committees will score and rate applications with Headquarters playing a strong oversight role.
- A multi-year project selection process, as opposed to an annual selection process will be followed. In this scheme, Districts will be selecting projects up to \$48.50M in Cycle 8.

III. PROCEDURE

Once projects are selected and prioritized, Districts will then determine which projects will be placed on the Tier I list (projects that are ready to go now), and on the Tier II list (projects that will be ready later) based on the project's delivery schedule. Projects in Tier I will be funded with FY 08/09 funds up to \$24.25M, while Tier II projects will be funded when the next round of funding becomes available.

When the recommended list of projects is developed, Headquarters will validate their selections and compile a statewide list for District concurrence before seeking Director approval.

Districts will notify applicants of the results.

IV. APPLICABILITY/IMPACTS

The streamlined processes and procedures described above will apply in Cycle 8 and all future cycles of the SR2S program and will be reflected in the future update of Chapter 24 of the LAPG.



The benefits to approach are: 1) projects that are shovel-ready will be funded first, 2) allows for better planning for projects that are selected for future funds, 3) minimizes workload, and 4) improves chances of continued funding for the SR2S program during the annual budget development if decision-makers are aware that projects have already been selected and ready for funding.

Recommended: _____ Date
Joyce Parks, Safe Route to School Coordinator
Office of Project Delivery and Safety

Approved: _____ Date
Yin-Ping Li, Office Chief
Office of Project Delivery and Safety

Attachments:

- 1) Attachment 1 – SR2S Guidelines
- 2) Attachment 2 – SR2S Program Application (8th Cycle)