

January 16, 2024



RETREAT AGENDA ITEM

CRTPA SCHOOL SAFETY STUDY

STATEMENT OF ISSUE

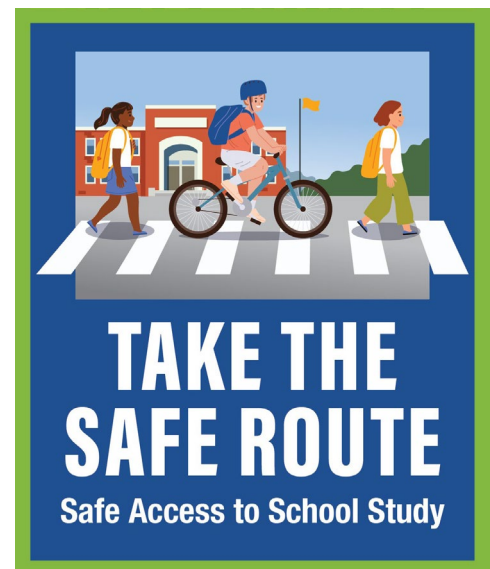
The CRTPA has initiated a school safety study for the CRTPA region. The study, titled “[Take the Safe Route - Safe Access to School Study](#)”, will provide an evaluation of the region’s schools to identify those schools with the most need related to walking and bicycling improvements. Identified schools will then receive a focused safety and accessibility analysis that will include site visits and an inventory of existing facilities resulting in the identification of recommended improvements.

BACKGROUND

The CRTPA is conducting a school safety aimed at evaluating and enhancing safety conditions for students who walk or bike to school. The “Take the Safe Route – Safe Access to School Study” will be executed as a targeted and data-driven initiative, progressing through two distinct phases.

Phase 1 involves a comprehensive data analysis of schools in the CRTPA's region (elementary, middle, and high schools) to identify those with the greatest need for capital improvements related to biking and walking facilities in their proximity. This phase includes a desktop data analysis that will be based on factors including connectivity, accessibility, and equity. Included in this analysis will be the following data:

- Identified hazardous walking condition data
- Pedestrian and bicycle crash data
- Relevant socioeconomic and demographic data
- Transportation data



Phase 2 will build upon the schools identified and selected in Phase 1 to develop a focused safety and accessibility analysis. This analysis includes on-site visits and an inventory of the existing facilities and infrastructure at the selected schools. The assessments will consider sidewalk gaps, crosswalk/intersection improvements, lighting, bicycle facilities and off-road trails. This phase also will include a student and parent survey for each of the identified schools.



The study is being guided by stakeholders' groups for Gadsden, Leon, and Wakulla counties that include local staff from school boards, law enforcement, and planning. The stakeholders' groups met in early December and are scheduled to meet again in February.

Ultimately, the "Take the Safe Route - Safe Access to School Study" will result in the identification of needed bicycle and pedestrian improvements from which an implementation effort can occur. The project is scheduled for completion in late 2024.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Draft presentation