

## TAKE THE SAFE ROUTE Safe Access to School Study

## CRTPA Board Retreat

#### Project Kick-Off January 16, 2024



## Take the Safe Route: What is it?



Through the evaluation of existing conditions and recommendations at schools throughout the region, this plan seeks to:



- Ensure students have safe routes to walk and bike to school
- Identify schools in the Capital Region with the most need
- Make recommendations for infrastructure and other improvements for selected schools



- Encourage a culture of walking and biking
- Strategically engage teachers and parents
- Streamline Safe Routes to School SRTS funding requests





## Take the Safe Route: Project Phases

#### This project is being initiated in two phases:

#### Phase I

- Stakeholder meetings
  - Data collection and desktop analysis
- Prioritizations
  - Identification of ten (10) schools for further evaluation

#### <u>Phase II</u>



- Conduct survey and student travel tally at identified schools Conduct multimodal safety assessments at those schools
- Physical improvements with a focus on roadways, sidewalks, etc.
- Cost estimates and potential funding sources







## Safe Routes to School in the Capital Region





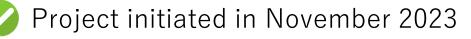
**Safe Routes to School** (SRTS) is an approach that promotes walking and biking to school through:

- Enforcement
- Tools
- Safety Education
- Incentive to encourage walking and biking to school
- Capital Region local governments have been successful in receiving SRTS funding for a number of projects in all four counties over the last few years

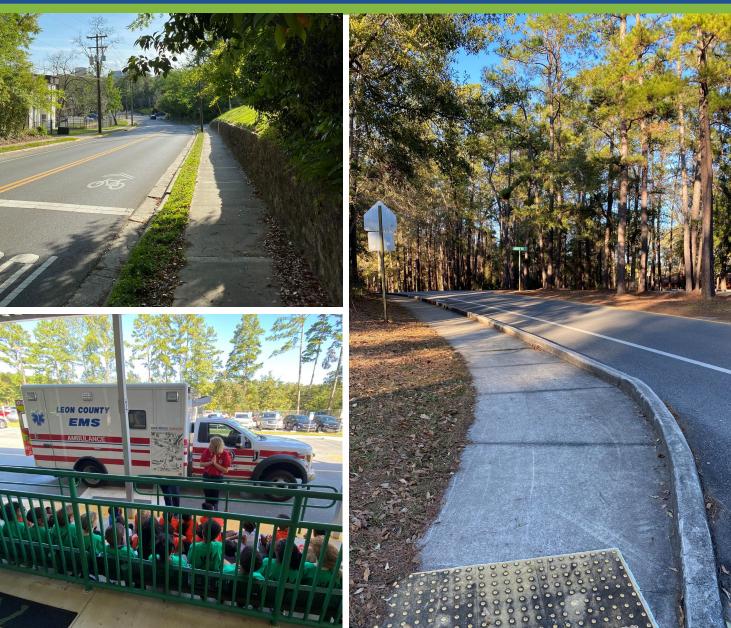


## What's been completed?





- Initial meetings in December 2023 with Gadsden, Leon, and Wakulla stakeholders
- Data collection completed
- Prioritization methodology developed
- GIS and desktop analysis initiated in December 2023
- Preliminary list of schools under development

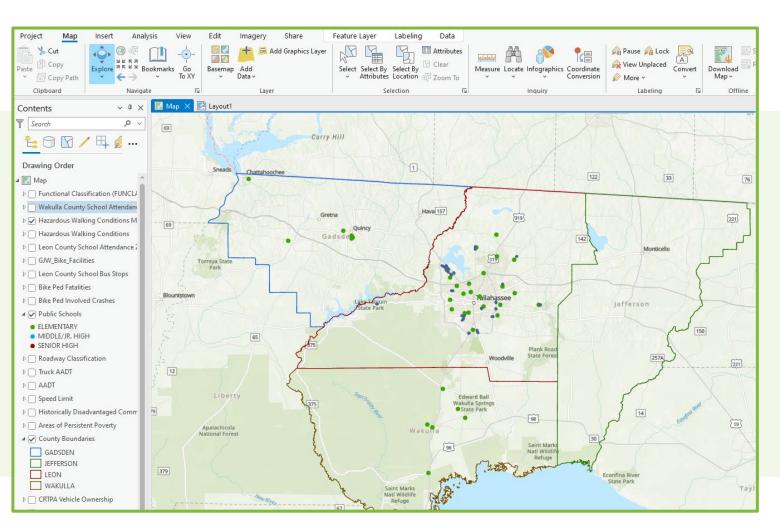




## **Desktop Analysis & Prioritization**

#### The desktop analysis included a GIS based prioritization using:

- Hazardous walking conditions (as determined by school districts)
- Bicycle and pedestrian crash data
- Socioeconomic and demographic data
- Transportation data
- Other school related factors such as school hours, crossing guard presence and speed zone boundaries





## **Desktop Analysis & Prioritization: Methodology**



	Criteria	Description	Data Source	Scoring (0-22)
1	USDOT Equitable Transportation Community (ETC) Disadvantaged Census Tract	School attendance zone is within or includes an area designated as disadvantaged by USDOT's ETC data.	USDOT, 2023	1 point
2	Area of Persistent Poverty (APP)	School attendance zone is within or includes an area designated as an APP.	USDOT, 2023	1 point
3	Vehicle ownership	School attendance zone is within or includes a Census block group where greater than 10 percent of households do not own a vehicle.	US Census, 2023	1 point
5	High Injury Network (HIN)	The school attendance zone includes an HIN segment	CRTPA, 2023	1 point
6	Hazardous Walking Conditions (HWC)	The school attendance zone includes an HWC segment	Leon County School District, 2022	1 point
7	Free or reduced cost lunch	Percentage of students at a given school who receive free or reduced cost lunches.	School Districts, 2023	0-3 points per quartile
8	Total bicycle / pedestrian crashes	Total number of bicycle/ pedestrian crashes within school attendance zone.	Signal Four Analytics, 2019- 2023	0-3 points per quartile
9	Fatal and serious injury bicycle / pedestrian crashes	Number of bicycle/pedestrian crashes resulting in a fatality or serious injury within school attendance zone.	Signal Four Analytics, 2019- 2023	0-3 points per quartile
10	Total fatal and serious injury crashes	Total number of crashes resulting in a fatality or serious injury within school attendance zone.	Signal Four Analytics, 2019- 2023	0-3 points per quartile
11	Potential Crossing Conflicts	Number of intersections with major collectors or major arterials in school attendance area. Includes anywhere any road intersections with major collectors or major arterials.	KHA created, 2023	0-3 points per quartile



## What's Next? Survey and Student Travel Tally

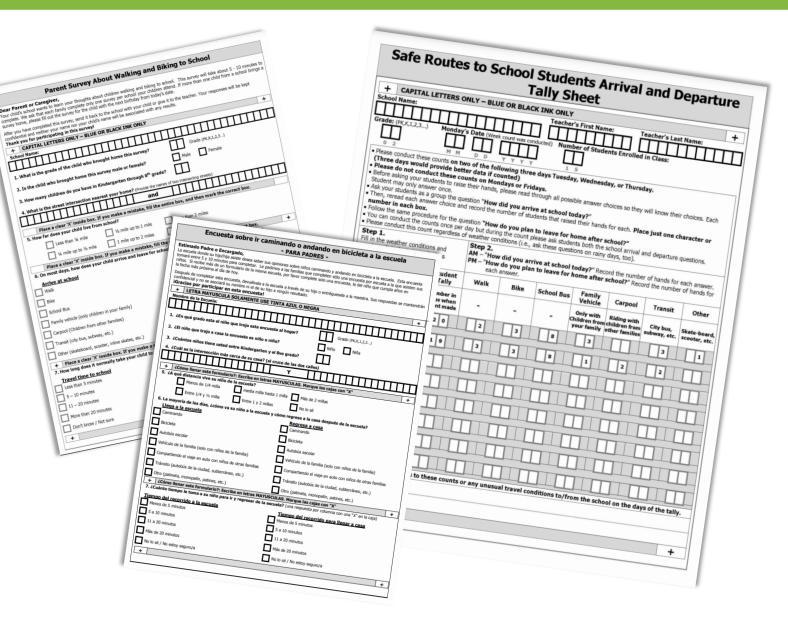




Coordination with appropriate officials at ten identified schools

#### Development of tally and survey to record how children arrive and depart school each day

Based on National Center for Safe Route to School Data Collection System





## What's Next? Focused Safety Analysis



#### 夕 Site visits

Identifying needs for physical improvements within a 2-mile radius of each school

#### Focused on:

- Roadways
- Sidewalks
- Other multimodal facilities





## What's Next? Final Technical Report



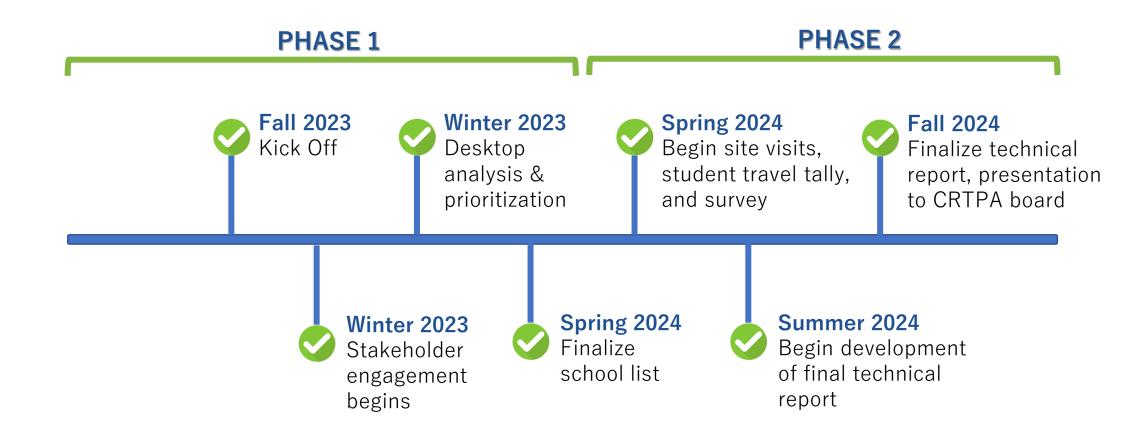
- Final prioritized lists of schools in the Capital Region
- Documentation of school analyses
- Details identified improvements and recommendations
- Planning level cost estimates & opportunities for funding





## **Anticipated Timeline**









# Questions or Comments?



