Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG): Administration of Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Studies

Fact Sheet August 2019

What is a SRTS Study?

Conducting SRTS studies is a **proactive approach** to identifying safety improvements for K-8 students walking and biking to school. The recommendations are used as a **tool** by local agencies, schools and school districts to prioritize improvements and can be used to **leverage** future funding within five and ten year budgets, or for seeking local, state or federal aid funding.

SRTS studies are requested by local agencies in coordination with schools and school districts, as stakeholders, in order to promote partnerships toward the goal of encouraging walking and biking to school.

Recommendations identified in the study are developed by third party, engineering consultants qualified to conduct SRTS studies, in close coordination with the stakeholders.

The tasks completed by the consultant include:

- Collect data: vehicle, pedestrian, bicyclist counts as well as any available crash data,
- Conduct pick-up and drop-off event observations,
- Conduct parent and student surveys,
- Assess pedestrian and bicyclist facilities,
- Develop SRTS report to include walking and biking route maps.

MAG SRTS Studies Program

In order to help **expedite** and **streamline** the process, MAG has obtained approval from the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) to carry out the SRTS studies through existing MAG consultant contracts. There will be **no need for an IGA** between local agencies and MAG and the required local match can be met with **in-kind services**. Local agencies will no longer have to process reimbursement payments to ADOT for these projects. Once the funds awarded to local agencies have been authorized, we can get right to work on the scope in coordination with the local agency and school/district staff. Once the scope has been approved by these stakeholders, MAG will assign task orders to on-call consultants.

The SRTS studies will have a six to eight month timeline. **All tasks** in the scope will be **completed by the consultant** assigned the task order, in close coordination with the stakeholders. Throughout the scope development and study timeline, stakeholders will have the opportunity to:

- Refine the study scope
- Identify issues and barriers
- Participate in development of recommendations
- Review study documents
- Form partnerships

| Estimated Staff Time Commitment (Hours within the 6-8 month Study timeframe) |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| City (Town)                    | 40     |
| School                         | 15     |
| District                       | 10     |

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A complete list of SRTS Studies projects currently programmed for FY2018-2022 can be found at http://srts.azmag.gov