Safe Routes to School Program Leonia Middle School Travel Plan

500 Broad Ave. Leonia, NJ 07605



Prepared By: EZ Ride 144 Park Place East Wood-Ridge, NJ 07075 (201) 939-4242 www.ezride.org

February 26, 2021



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Executive Summary

A Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Travel Plan is a resource to encourage and increase the number of students walking or bicycling to school. It provides directions for schools, students, families and the city to build a safer walking and biking environment.

School Travel Plans are site specific and describe the needs of each particular school being studied. The plan includes observations, ideas and an action plan to address issues and problem areas. The Plan covers five aspects of the Safe Routes to School program – Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, Evaluation, and Engineering.

The School Travel Plan outlines the timeframe and funding priorities to support a coordinated schedule of streetscape improvements. In fact, the New Jersey Safe Routes to School (SRTS) infrastructure funding program requires applicants to have an approved School Travel Plan in order to apply for a grant.

1. Goals

The goals of the Leonia Middle School Travel Plan are:

- a. Identify any issues that impact safety on the key travel routes used by students
- b. Provide suggestions to improve the safety of the travel environment around school
- c. Prioritize the suggestions in terms of cost and time needed to make improvement.
- d. Propose solutions to encourage more students to walk and bike to school

2. Task Force

This School Travel Plan is the product of a robust and productive partnership. The Leonia Middle School SRTS Task Force came together out of a shared community interest in improving the health of students and residents by encouraging more walking and biking. The involvement of local stakeholders is an important part of ensuring the sustainability of the SRTS initiative and the enactment of the Action Plan.

3. Community Barriers to Health

- Cost of living and housing is high in Bergen County
- 9.6% of Bergen County residents under age 65 do not have health insurance
- NJ and Bergen County residents have high rates of physical inactivity
- According to the American Lung Association 2017 report, Bergen County received a grade of F, with 22 "orange alert" days because of bad air quality
- Traffic and speeding are common along Broad and Grand Avenue and parents are reluctant to let children walk and bike to school

4. School Travel Data

In June 2018, Leonia Middle School's teachers conducted a School Travel Tally in each classroom to determine how students travel to and from school. Tallies were submitted to the Voorhees Transportation Center (VTC). Results are shown in the table below.

| Mode | Arrival (Morning) | Dismissal (Afternoon) |
|----------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Walk | 36% | 61% |
| Bike | 0% | 0% |
| School Bus | 22% | 17% |
| Family Vehicle | 41% | 13% |
| Carpool | 0.8% | 8% |
| Transit | 0% | 0.8% |
| Other | 0% | 0% |

Table 1: Current Student Commute Mode

5. Barriers and Opportunities Identified for Safer Walking & Biking

The Safe Routes to School Taskforce and Community Partners conducted a detailed walkability assessment of the road conditions along the main routes used by the students to walk to school on November 21, 2019. The major roads and intersections surrounding the school include: Broad Avenue and Grand Avenue, Vreeland Avenue & Lakeview Avenue, Hillcrest Avenue & Christie Heights Street.

6. Action Plan

The Safe Routes to School program categorizes the Action Plan into the "Five E's:" Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, Evaluation and Engineering. This is a useful tool because it helps the school prioritize next steps. In a particular community, some of the action items may be more urgently needed than others, so the school can execute the recommendations in any order they choose. This School Travel Plan recommends a number of improvements that can be made to encourage safe walking and biking. The action plan can be used to support SRTS and other Federal or State grant applications to fund pedestrian and bicycle improvements.

Key Actions/Recommendations in Action Plan include:

- Paint/repaint high visibility crosswalks and stop bars in school route area.
- Install radar speed limit signs, SLOW School Zone signs, pavement markings and narrow lanes where possible to reduce speeding. Add pedestrian lights on corners.
- Hold a "Drive 25 on Broad Avenue" campaign to slow traffic.
- Protect cyclists and slow traffic by painting bike lanes where space permits.

1. Walking and Cycling to Health

1.1 The Challenge

Over the past few decades, a number of societal and environmental changes have limited children's access to safe places where they can walk, bike and play. For example, increased traffic, neighborhoods that lack sidewalks and urban sprawl have contributed to a sharp decline in the number of students who walk or bike to school. Nationally, while 42 percent of children walked or biked to school in 1969, only 13 percent of children did so in 2009. Additionally, the popularity of television and video games as a means to entertain children has contributed to a more sedentary lifestyle. As a result, children and adolescents are less physically active than they were several generations ago.

The decrease in walking and biking to school and fewer physical forms of play has resulted in an alarming increase in childhood obesity. During the past four decades, the obesity rate for children ages 6 to 11 has more than quadrupled (from 4.2 to 17 percent), and the obesity rate for adolescents ages 12 to 19 has more than tripled (from 4.6 to 17.6 percent).

Developing policies and practices to address these environmental and social barriers to daily physical activity are critical to reducing and preventing obesity among children. Supporting "active transport" (or walking and bicycling) to school presents an excellent opportunity to increase daily physical activity among youth.¹

1.2. The Program

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) is a federal program that encourages, teaches, and enables children to safely bicycle and walk to school. The program aims to help children be more physically active with the intent to reduce chronic disease and prevent and reduce obesity. SRTS focuses on increasing the number of children walking and bicycling to school by building and repairing infrastructure such as sidewalks, crosswalks, and bicycle lanes. The program also encourages changes in travel behavior, supports increased enforcement of traffic laws around schools, and educates communities on the benefits and safety aspects of active transport. This report summarizes research on active transport to school. It also explores the factors that influence walking and biking to school, including the impact of SRTS programs.

In the 2013 book, <u>Designing Healthy Communities</u>, Dr. Richard Stockton and Stacey Sinclair note that "walking to school is good for children's cognitive health and learning

¹ Walking and Biking to School, Physical Activities and Health Outcomes, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

ability. It improves children's concentration, boosts moods and alertness, and enhances memory, creativity and overall learning".

The SRTS Program is a collaborative effort of multiple stakeholders that include community members, elected officials, city planners, and police departments. SRTS brings a community closer together by implementing programs such as walking school buses, walkability audits, bicycle rodeos and pedestrian safety presentations. The benefits of SRTS extend far beyond the schools into the community as a whole.

A SRTS School Travel Plan "maps out" specific ways to improve pedestrian and bicycle travel to increase the number of students who walk and bike to school and to improve safety. A School Travel Plan identifies the following:

- Where students currently walk and bike?
- Where students would walk and bike if they could?
- What changes need to be made so that students can and will walk and bike to school?

The School Travel Plan identifies short term solutions for immediate action and implementation as well as long term solutions that may require planning and additional funds. Benefits of developing a School Travel Plan include:

- Creating partnerships between the school and surrounding community
- Generating ideas and actions so walking and bicycling is safer
- Building community excitement and support
- Making an application for a SRTS grant more competitive by demonstrating a connection between goals, actions and targets

1.3. The Team

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) funds and administers the SRTS program in New Jersey, and the Voorhees Transportation Center (VTC) at Rutgers' University provides technical and administrative support.

EZ Ride and SRTS

In New Jersey, Transportation Management Associations (TMAs) have taken the lead in coordinating the implementation of the SRTS programs. TMAs are non-profit organizations whose mission is to implement transportation programs and services like carpools, vanpools, shuttles, biking and walking that reduce congestion and improve air quality. EZ Ride is one of eight Transportation Management Associations (TMAs) in New Jersey and serves Bergen, Essex, Monmouth, Passaic and Union counties.

Borough of Leonia

In 2017, EZ Ride was contacted by a resident member of the Leonia Pedestrian Safety and Traffic Committee and asked to provide assistance in making their roads safer for walking and biking. The Regional SRTS Coordinator attended the Borough Council meeting on Nov. 20, 2017 to make a presentation about SRTS and services we provide. We encouraged the Borough and school district to work on SRTS recognition and provided the SRTS Recognition criteria. Leonia was awarded a 2018 Silver SRTS Recognition Award and a 2019 Gold SRTS Recognition Award. The Leonia Police Department provided pedestrian safety talks at the schools, conducted a study of five busy crossing guard posts and annual Crossing Guard training. The municipality also installed a "Barnes Dance" or pedestrian scramble signal at the intersection of Broad Ave and Ft. Lee Road in 2016 after a 60 year old resident was struck and killed. This signal stops traffic in all four directions and allots time for only pedestrians to cross and prevents vehicles from turning – this qualified them for the Gold award.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/tripping/wp/2017/07/18/everybody-stop-n-j-finds-simpleway-to-cut-crashes-involving-pedestrians/



Home School Association (HSA)

The Safe Routes to School program was initiated at several schools in Leonia in 2017. The police provided Pedestrian Safety Workshops at Anna C. Scott Elementary School and Leonia Middle School. The Middle School's SRTS activities also included a jog-a-thon in 2017. In 2018, the Anna C. Scott Elementary School and Leonia Middle School received the Bronze Safe Routes to School Recognition Award. On March 8, 2019, EZ Ride was invited to host a table on walking and biking safety at the Leonia Middle School Health Fair where we provided bike and pedestrian safety information such as

biking and walking safety tips, Street Smart tip cards, and helmet fitting guidelines. In 2019 both schools received the Silver Award along with the municipality. In 2020, the municipality and Leonia Middle School received the Gold Safe Routes to School Award. This community has been consistent in supporting Safe Routes to School and working to create safer streets for the children and members of their community. The PTO has held several activities to promote walking and biking and student health and wellness.

Mayor's Advisory Committee on Bike/Pedestrian Safety and Traffic

The Mayor's Advisory Committee on Pedestrian Safety and Transportation in Leonia started January 9, 2017. The Committee worked with the City Council to pass a Complete Streets policy in July 2018 and worked with the Borough Planner/Engineer to apply for a 2018 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Grant entitled "Broad Avenue Complete Streets Improvement Project". Leonia was successful in applying for this grant and received \$920,000.00 in May 2019. The project will be constructed on Broad Avenue from Hillside Avenue north to the Englewood border and from Crescent Avenue south to Oakdene Avenue.

Some of the improvements include:

- Adding 5 foot bicycle lanes on both sides of Broad Avenue
- Installing a center median with pedestrian crossing island, as well as LED warning signs, at the Christie Heights St. intersection by Leonia Middle School
- Adding new pedestrian warning signs throughout the area
- Adding 380 feet of sidewalk connecting the bus stop at Van Orden Avenue
- Installing a center median with pedestrian crossing island, as well as flashing beacon signals, at the Crescent Ave. intersection by Anna C. Scott School
- Installing raised gateways at the entrance to Leonia from Palisades Park, as well as the entrance to Leonia from Englewood.

Leonia Green Team

Members of the Green Team participated in the Walk/Bike audit done Nov. 21, 2019.

Background to the Walkability Assessment at Leonia Middle School

EZ Ride was asked by the Leonia HSA to conduct a walk audit around the Leonia Middle School in spring 2019. The Bike and Pedestrian team worked with the HSA and school to develop four routes frequently used by students to travel to school and towards the elementary and high school. Routes also included the downtown area and senior housing area.

EZ Ride conducted a presentation entitled "How to Conduct a Walk Audit" to the Task Force group including several students who gathered to do the walk audit on Thursday November 21, 2019. The walk audit began after the presentation and as the school dismissal bell rang.



"How to Conduct a Walk Audit" Presentation with Students, Parents"

The Walk Audit Task Force



A list of the Task Force who attended the Walk Assessment and who are crucial to the implementation of the project are included in the table below.

| Organization | Role/Responsibility | Contact | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Leonia School District | Superintendent of Schools | Ed Bertolini | | | |
| | | 570 Grand Ave. | | | |
| | Leonia, NJ 07605 | | | | |
| | | (201)-302-5200 | | | |
| Leonia Middle School | School Principal | David Saco | | | |
| | | 500 Broad Ave. | | | |
| | | Leonia, NJ 07605 (201)-302-5231 | | | |
| | | saco@leoniaschools.org | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Borough of Leonia | Mayor & Chief Executive | Judah Zeigler | | | |
| | Officer | 312 Broad Ave. | | | |
| | | Leonia, NJ 07605 | | | |
| | | (201)-446-4603 | | | |
| | | <u>Jzeigler@leonianj.gov</u> | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Bergen County Traffic | Bergen County Traffic | Eugene Murphy | | | |
| Engineering Department | Engineer | 1 Bergen County Plaza | | | |
| | | Hackensack, NJ 07601 | | | |
| | | (201)-336-6822 | | | |
| | | <u>emurphy@co.bergen.nj.us</u> | | | |
| New Jersey Department of | NJ Safe Routes to School | William Riviere | | | |
| Transportation | Coordinator | Trenton, NJ | | | |
| Transportation | Coordinator | (609)-963-2230 | | | |
| | | William.riviere@dot.nj.gov | | | |
| | | <u>windminvicre@dot.nj.gov</u> | | | |
| Leonia Board of Education, | Board of Education and | Roland P. Heimer | | | |
| Transportation Committee | member of Transportation | 329 Moore Ave. | | | |
| | Committee | Leonia, NJ 07605 | | | |
| | | (201)-592-7430 | | | |
| Leonia Bike & Pedestrian | Chair | Alec Melman | | | |
| Safety & Traffic Committee | | 172 Highwood Ave. | | | |
| | | Leonia, NJ 07605 | | | |
| | | (917)287-3575 | | | |
| | | Alec.melman@gmail.com | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Leonia Middle School | Co-Chair | Kim Queren | | | |
| HSA | | 175 Highwood Ave. | | | |
| | | | | | |

Leonia Middle School Travel Plan Task Force

| | | Leonia, NJ 09605 (201)-424-4395 <u>kmqueren@msn.com</u> | |
|---|--|---|--|
| Leonia Middle School HSA, Leonia Transportation Committee | Leonia Parent, HSA Co- Chair, Member of Transportation Committee | Jamie Sclafane 254 Glenwood Ave. Leonia, NJ 07605 (917)-757-7129 | |
| Leonia Green Team | Leonia Middle School Parent | Shehrina Tabassom (585)-309-4305 <u>Shehrinat@yahoo.com</u> | |
| Leonia Middle School | Student | John Young | |
| Leonia Middle School | Student | Tiffany Bello | |
| Leonia Middle School | Student | Youmna Hajjam | |
| Leonia Middle School | Student | Lauren Sailer | |
| EZ Ride Safe Routes to School Team | Deputy Director Bike & Pedestrian Program | Lisa Lee 144 Park Place East Wood-Ridge, NJ 07075 (201)-939-4242 ext. 123 Ilee@ezride.org | |
| EZ Ride Safe Routes to School Team | Assistant Coordinator of Bike & Pedestrian Team | Latoya Howard 144 Park Place East Wood-Ridge, NJ 07075 (201)-939-4242 ext. 122 | |

2. District & School Profile

A school profile for Leonia Middle School was developed using data from the Leonia, NJ School District Website, and the Leonia Middle School website. As well as the Leonia School District webpage and also Great Schools webpage.

Leonia NJ school district serves approximately 1,823 students from Pre-Kindergarten – Grade 12. The district has 3 schools in total. One high school grade 9-12 and one

middle school grade 6-8th grade. The district has one elementary school servicing students grades pre-kindergarten – grade 5. The student demographics are displayed in the table below.

| Ethnicity* | # of Students |
|---|---------------|
| White | 550 |
| Hispanic | 468 |
| Black or African American | 81 |
| Asian | 815 |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 4 |
| Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander | 4 |
| Two or more Races | 81 |
| Sex* | # of Students |
| Male | 1,080 |
| Female | 957 |
| Non-Binary/ Undesignated Gender | Less than 20 |
| Grade Level* | # of Students |
| Primary (Pre-Kindergarten – Grade 5) | 729 |
| Middle School (Grade 6 - 8) | 527 |
| High School (Grade 9 - 12) | 782 |
| Special Needs Students/Individualized Education Program/Ungraded | |

| Table 2: Leonia School District – Student Demographics |
|--|
| Total Students in District: 2,038 |

Source: NJ School Performance Report

Academic Performance

A District Factor Group (DFG) is an indicator of the socioeconomic status of citizens in school districts of New Jersey. DFGs were first developed by the New Jersey Department of Education in 1975 for the purpose of comparing student performance on statewide assessments across demographically similar school districts. The school district is then given a letter rating between A - I (A indicating the most disadvantaged). The Leonia Middle School District is classified by the NJ Department of Education as District Factor Group "GH".

2.1 Borough of Leonia & Bergen County Health Profile – Community Health Needs Assessment

The Bergen County Department of Health Services wrote a five year strategic plan that has an outlook on the county from 2018 until 2023. This strategic plan included a number of facts about the county and its population. In the plan it stated that Bergen County is comprised of 70 municipalities. It is the most populous county in New Jersey, with a 2016 U.S Census population estimate of 939,151 persons. Almost 73.6% of residents identify as White; 16.7% as Asian or Asian-American, and 7.1% as Black or African-American. Nearly 20% of residents identify as being of Hispanic or Latin origin. Sixteen percent of county residents are 65 years of age or older. Among those under 65 years of age, 9.6% are without health insurance. As of 2010, the population per square mile was 3885. Between 2011and 2015, nearly 39.1% of the population over five years of age spoke a language other than English at home.

Understanding Social Determinants of Health

Conditions in the places where people live, learn, work, and play affect a wide range of health risks and outcomes. These conditions are known as social determinants of health. We know that poverty may limit healthy food access and coincide with unsafe neighborhoods, and that more education is a predictor of better health. We also know that differences in health are striking in communities with poor social determinants of health such as unstable housing, low income, unsafe neighborhoods, or substandard education. By applying what we know about social determinants of health, we can not only improve individual and population health but also advance health equity. *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*



Chart 1: Percent of Population Living Below 100% and 200% of Poverty Level

US Census Bureau American Community Survey 5-year estimates. Retrieved April 2016 from Community Commons at http://www.chna.org

- The latest census estimate shows 7.5% of Bergen County population living below the federal poverty level.
- Lower than state and national percentages
- 18.6% of Bergen County residents (est.169,353 individuals) live below 200% of the federal poverty level.



Chart 2: Estimated Median Household Income – Leonia, NJ

• Leonia families earned over \$20,000 more than the average U.S. household in

Source: Datausa.io, 2017

2017, however Bergen County cost of living is also higher



Chart 3: Percent Surveyed Who Have Been Told They Have Asthma

2013 Community Health Needs Assessment

- As of 2013, 11 percent of Bergen County residents have ever been told by their doctors that they have asthma which is comparable to the state rate of 13%.
- African Americans are nearly twice as likely to report their doctor told them they have asthma.

Chart 4: Child Obesity Prevalence (Children 5-17 who are Obese; BMI in 95th Percentile of Higher)



2016 Community Health Needs Assessment

Child Obesity in Bergen County is:

- Nearly twice the national percentage
- Statistically similar by child's gender
- More prevalent among children age 5 to 12 than teenagers

Media Viewing Habits

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children spend a maximum of two hours per day on entertainment media like television, computers, and video games.

Physical Activity/Exercise

The HHS 2008 Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans recommend that adults get at least thirty minutes of moderate to vigorous activity daily and that children get at least sixty minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity daily. Chart 5 below indicates the percentage of Bergen County residents that meet physical activity recommendations.



Chart 5: Percentage of Population that Meets Physical Activity Recommendations

2016 PRC Community Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants, Inc. [Item 174] US Department of Health and Human Services. Healthy People 2020. December 2010. http://www.healthypeople.gov [Objective PA-4]

Those less likely to meet physical activity requirements include:

- Women
- Low and middle-income residents (positive correlation with income)
- African Americans



Source: USA.com

- The Air Quality Index is measured for cleanliness and possible health affects to the population.
- A higher index average is associated with a greater chance of health disparities/illnesses.
- Moderate air quality may range from 50 to 100 AQI (Air Quality Index), however Leonia tested for a 102 average, placing Leonia in a considerably worse place in comparison to the rest of the United States which was noted as a 74 average in 2018.



Chart 7: Means of Transportation to Work

Source: City-data.com, 2017

• As shown in in Chart 7, more than half of the Leonia population surveyed drive in their cars alone, and less than 30% use other modes of transportation approach that reduce air pollution (carpool, public transportation, walk, and other).

Air Pollution

Air pollution is a risk factor for developing illnesses such as respiratory infections and asthma. Choosing to use "cleaner" modes of transportation (carpool, reduced trips, public transportation, walking or biking), conserving energy (ENERGY STAR label), and using clean products (house cleaning solutions & paint) may lower the air quality index and protect individuals from later developing an illness.

2.2 Leonia Middle School

Excerpt from the school's website:

Cultural and Social Impact on Educational Equity

Leonia Middle School (LMS) was entered into New Jersey Focus Status monitoring in 2012. This drew attention to the achievement gaps among various sub groups at that time. LMS faculty, staff, and administration have done remarkable work since being identified as a Focus School. Test score differences among Asian, White, and Hispanic populations have been minimized, and in June of 2017 the NJ Department of Education saw fit to exit LMS from Focus Status.

LMS offers Portfolio Program courses in each of the four Core subject areas. Students who opt into the application process, and are scheduled for Portfolio courses will experience a class best differentiated for advanced rigor and a deeper dive into content that the student may intrinsically seek.

The LMS Leadership Team is composed of students, faculty, parents, and administration. This committee meets throughout the school year, and discusses a broad array of issues including school safety, academic programing, professional development, school climate, cultural issues, and community involvement. The goal of the team is to identify areas of need of examination, and to make recommendations for growth to the larger school community.

LMS students participate annually in the Peace Project sponsored by the Leonia Organization for Peace.

Organizational Support

LMS has many school structures in place to insure smooth operation of the school that fosters Teacher and PLC, accountability, respect, and academic growth for all students.

LMS is organized into teams. Each teacher team member participates in our Intervention and Referral Services for students who are identified as being socially or academically at-risk. I&RS meetings are held with the entire team of teachers during common planning periods that are built into the master schedule.

LMS has Team Leaders in place to facilitate meaningful discussions about student work and student progress. Team Leaders manage all I&RS meetings and action plans. LMS is entering Year 3 of a 3-year project to develop and implement a new master schedule. The goal for the new schedule will be to maximize our time and provide flexible scheduling that permits student choice and provides opportunities for enrichment, innovation, and support.

Over the past three years LMS has installed Chrome Books in virtually every classroom. Having 1:1 student access to Chrome Books has allowed us to grow in our effective use of Google Apps for Education, Google Docs, and Google Classroom. The additional efficiencies have improved our faculty meetings, PLC meetings, and instructional learning activities.

LMS has a very active Home and School Association (HSA) which supports many initiatives within the school. Most recently, HSA has focused on workshop-style, performance-based assemblies that show the children the power of words, and demonstrate what distinguished relationships, are like in person and on Social Media.

Chart 8: Leonia Middle School Enrollment by



Student Ethnicity in (2019 – 2020)

The number of students in 2019-20 totaled 527. We have seen a decrease in population compared the previous report from year 2017-18.

| 5 5 | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Language Spoken at Home | | | | |
| English | 54.5% | | | |
| Spanish | 9.9% | | | |
| Chinese | 2.5% | | | |
| Russian | 2.1% | | | |
| Korean | 20.7% | | | |
| Other | 10.4% | | | |
| Spanish Chinese Russian Korean | 9.9% 2.5% 2.1% 20.7% | | | |

Table 3 - Student Language Diversity (2017 – 2018)

The main language spoken at home by students and their parents is English. The next most frequently spoken language is Spanish. The category described as other, includes any other languages spoken at school which stands at 1.6% have a presence at Leonia Middle School have a comparatively smaller presence.

Source: NJ School Performance Report, 2019-20

3. Journey to School

In the 1960s, about 50 percent of children in the United States walked or biked to school. Over the last few decades, concerns about vehicle traffic, safety for the children, and longer commutes have forced more and more parents to drive their children to school. This results in more traffic on the road and fewer children who walk to school. Today, on average only about 15 percent of children walk or bike to school. Maps 1 and 2 provide a broad overview of the residential area near Leonia Middle School.

Map 1: One Mile Radius Around Leonia Middle School



Source: NJ Safety Voyager, 2019

EZ Ride analyzed all crashes within a one-mile radius of Leonia Middle School, over a 10-year period. Based on police incident Reports via Safety Voyager, from 2009 to 2019

most crashes happened on Grand and Broad avenues. The reported incidents were plotted down below on Map 2.

Map 2: Leonia Middle School – Vehicle Crash Map

Map 2 displays all vehicle to vehicle crashes in Leonia. Each colored circle indicates the number of crashes, green indicating a low number. Circles turn yellow as number of crashes increase and then turn red to indicate the highest number of crashes.



3.1. Current Student Travel Environment

School Hours

The school day for Leonia Middle School starts with zero period (honors or extra classes) at 7:50 am. Homeroom which is required begins at 8:22 am and the last bell rings at 2:51 pm, afterschool detention is held from 3:00 pm until 3:30 pm, Monday through Friday.

Drop-off/Pick-up Procedure

Parents who drop off students make a left or right from Broad Ave onto Christie Heights Street. Cars pull over to the right and drop off and then proceed to Kingsley Street and make a left to exit the area. Pick up by car is the same. There is no official drop-off or pickup procedure in the Student/Parent Handbook. A PTO leader shared that about 20-25 cars pick up students after school. The number of cars that drop off students in the AM is about four times that number in the morning as per the Travel Tally data.

Buses

Leonia is a walking district and does not provide bussing for Leonia students except for sports and field trips. Leonia and Edgewater have a regional school system starting at Middle School and bussing is provided for about 80-110 students from Edgewater in the morning and after school. Bussed Edgewater students arrive and enter the Middle School at 8:00 am and must be on the bus promptly at 2:55 pm after school. Late buses are provided only for students who provide the bus driver with a late pass.

Crossing Guards

Crossing guards are stationed at intersections throughout the Leonia community near the three schools as follows:

- Glenwood Ave. & Fort Lee Rd.
- Glenwood Ave. & Crescent Ave.
- Broad Ave. & Crescent Ave.
- Broad Ave. & Fort Lee Rd. (two guards at this location)
- Broad Ave. & Hillside Ave.
- Broad Ave. & Christie Heights
- Grand Ave. & Fort Lee Rd.
- Grand Ave. & Christie Heights St.

Anna C. Scott School is located on Highland Avenue, Leonia Middle School is located on Broad Avenue, and Leonia High School is located on Christie Heights Street.

In June, 2018, Leonia Middle School's teachers conducted a School Travel Tally in each classroom. It was done to determine how students travel to and from school. Tallies were submitted to the Voorhees Transportation Center (VTC). Results are shown in the table below.

| Mode | Arrival (Morning) | Dismissal (Afternoon) |
|----------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Walk | 36% | 61% |
| Bike | 0% | 0% |
| School Bus | 22% | 17% |
| Family Vehicle | 41% | 13% |
| Carpool | 0.8% | 8% |
| Transit | 0% | 0.8% |
| Other | 0% | 0% |

 Table 1: Current Student Commute Mode



Chart 9: Morning and Afternoon Travel Mode Comparison



The number of students being driven to school in the morning is 41% and 13% in the afternoon. It's suggested to encourage carpools or walking and biking to school in the morning to reduce the amount of traffic at arrival. Fewer students being driven to school can help to reduce the idling and air pollution around the schools and will help increase the alertness and test scores of students during school.

3.2 Pedestrian Safety

EZ Ride conducted an analysis of the pedestrian and bicycle related crashes within a one-mile radius of the school over a 4-year period from 2015 to 2019 based on police incident reports and NJ Safety Voyager mapping system. The reported incidents are shown in Map 3.

Map 3: Pedestrian and Bicycle Crashes within One Mile of Leonia Middle School



Source: NJ Safety Voyager, 2013-2018

= Approximate site of pedestrian/bicycle crash NJ Safety Voyager is a crash map data program created by the NJ Department of Transportation. The numbered circles on the map show the number of pedestrian and bicycle crashes that have occurred in that general area. Green circles indicate the lowest number of crashes at each location. Circles turn yellow as the number of crashes increases and to orange and red to indicate the highest number of crashes.

| Table 5: Pedestriar | & Bicyclist | Crashes by A | Age in Leonia | (2009-2019) |
|---------------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
|---------------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|

| Age of Victim | Number of Crashes |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 0-9 | 2 |
| 10-19 | 12 |
| 20-29 | 12 |

| 30-39 | 10 |
|---------|----|
| 40-49 | 10 |
| 50-59 | 11 |
| 60-69 | 14 |
| 70+ | 12 |
| Unknown | 16 |
| TOTAL: | 99 |

Source: Safety Voyager, (2009-2019)

Using the program Safety Voyager, pedestrian crashes by age were determined for the Borough of Leonia, and from 2009-2019 there were 99 pedestrians hit by cars. There were 14 crashes that involved children and teens under the age of nineteen. Another 26 crashes involved seniors from 60+ which is a serious concern. 16 crashes did not record the age of the victim. It's suggested for the municipality and the School District to work with EZ Ride and Safe Routes to School to educate seniors and students about bike and pedestrian safety.

3.3 Walkability Assessment

The SRTS Task Force conducted a walkability and bikeability assessment of the major routes used by students to get to Leonia Middle School on November 21, 2019. School children and residents of all ages and abilities walk in and through the neighborhood. Map 4 below shows the walking and biking routes which were assessed in the audit.

A walkability and bikeability assessment evaluates the sidewalks, roads, crosswalks, lighting, signs, signals, and walking environment along a predetermined route.

We divided into three groups: one walking group, one with a stroller and the other used a senior walker. Our audit started as the dismissal bell rang at 2:51 pm so that we could follow students as they made their way home and see the issues they face.



A walkability assessment identifies road improvements that can be made and notes what is currently done well and what improvements can be made. The SRTS Task force took photos of areas on each route. Comments and recommendations are listed with each photo and are summarized in the Action Plan at the end.



The following 3 pages will show all three of the walking routes which were assessed.

Route 1 Map



Route

Right on Vreeland Left on Grand Left on Ft. Lee Rd. Left on Broad Ave Left on Woodridge Place Rt on Wood Terrace Rt on Hillside Left on Kingsley St. to School

Route 2 Map



Route 2

School - Left on Broad Ave. Left on Lakeview Ave. Left on Grand Ave. Left on Vreeland Ave. Right on Broad Ave. to School

Route 3 Map



Route

School – Right on Broad Ave. Left on Woodland Place Left on Glenwood Ave. Left on Hillside Ave. Right on Broad Ave. Left on Harrison Ave. Right on Kingsley St. Right on Christie Heights St. Left on Broad Ave. to School

1. Good Practices

The following pictures show good safety practices we observed during the walk and roll assessment. These should be encouraged in the school vicinity, near parks, libraries, businesses, and along the routes where students/residents walk, bike, study and play.







2. General Areas Needing Improvement


Individual Routes Assessments

Suggest to paint high visibility ladder crosswalks here. Investigate to see if painted shoulder can be used for bike lanes.



Suggest to make these high visibility ladder crosswalks to slow traffic – dome pad angled to lead blind into intersection

High visibility crosswalk and crossing guard in heavy traffic area is good.



There should be two dome pads on the curb ramps to assist visually impared pedestrians. While the installation is allowed by NJDOT, it is not helpful for the blind.





Crosswalk can be painted with ladder design to be visible and slow traffic

Low visibility crosswalks on the corner of Harrison St. where St. Hon church is located one block away from the school. Dome pad missing on curb ramps



Stop bar needs repainting. Restripe the crosswalk for greater visibility

High visibility crosswalk near Leonia Middle School, with a good pedestrian sign located at the crosswalk.



Move signs and sawhorses so people can use the crosswalks

Cracked sidewalks make it hard for strollers, walkers, and wheelchairs. Can also be a pedestrian tripping hazard Trees and shrubs obstruct the sidewalk and prevent pedestrian access to full sidewalk.



Repaint yellow curbs at corner to prevent parked cars from blocking view of pedestrians at corner



Trim bushes back so they do not block sidewalk



Blue Route



Only two low visibility crosswalks painted at intersection, third should be painted

Lighting on pedestrian sign near school not working



Yellow Route

Dome pad is placed correctly and is a safety tool for blind or visually impaired individuals.

Low visibility crosswalk at the corner of Leonia Ave at the Presbyterian Church.





Dome pads have broken edges and need to be secured to sidewalk.



Corners are widely curved making it easy for drivers to speed around corners. Recommend to reduce turning radius at corners to slow traffic.

Sidewalk cut due to the size of the tree making it hard for wheelchairs and scooters.



Sharp turning radius corners slow traffic which is good. Repaint short crosswalk with high visibility stripes approaching Leonia Public Library. Realign dome pads.









4. Action Plan & Recommendations

The Safe Routes to School Action Plan is organized into the "Five E's": Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, Engineering and Evaluation. Additionally, each element of the Action Plan considers two parameters – time and cost as shown below. Together, they comprise a set of directions to help the community prioritize their action steps to increase safety for students. The tables below identify preliminary recommendations specific to this school and its immediate area. To realize the full benefit of the SRTS program, it is suggested that this School Travel Plan be used to apply for SRTS grant funds to fully implement all the action steps.

| Timeframe Definition | Cost Definition |
|--|--|
| Short-term = less than 3 months | Low = Less than \$2,000 |
| Mid-term = between 3 to 6 months | Medium = between \$2,000 and \$10,000 |
| Long-term = longer than 6 months | High = more than \$10,000 |

1. Education: Programs to educate students, parents and the public about safe walking and biking

| Education Actions | Responsibility | Time Frame | Cost |
|--|-----------------------|------------------|---------|
| Invite EZ Ride to provide bicycle and | School, EZ Ride, | Short-term, Mid- | No Cost |
| pedestrian safety education presentations, | Borough, Senior | term, Long-term | |
| and bicycle rodeos for students and | Center | | |
| community (seniors, library, etc) | | | |
| Remind parents where and when to pick | School | Short-term, Mid- | No cost |
| up and drop off students via Robo Call twice a year annually | | term, Long-term | |
| Create and/or update Student/Parent | School, HSA | Long-term | No Cost |
| Handbook that defines arrival and | | | |
| dismissal procedures with map of area | | | |
| and text that defines drop-off/pick-up | | | |
| areas, the rules such as no U-turns, | | | |
| parking, no engine idling, and 25 mph | | | |
| speed limit within the school zone | | | |
| Integrate walking and safety education | School, | Short-term, Mid- | No Cost |
| (wear helmets, use crosswalks) into | Health/PE | term, Long-term | |
| classroom education | teacher | | |
| Leverage Social Media to spread | School/District, | Short-term, Mid- | No Cost |
| awareness of school zone and | PTO, Borough, | term, Long-term | |
| enforcement activities | Police | | |
| Perform a crossing guard training in town | NJ SRTS | Short-term, Mid- | No Cost |
| | Resource | term, Long-term | |
| | Center/VTC, Police | | |
| | FUICE | | |

2. Encouragement: Programs to encourage or promote walking and biking

| Encouragement Actions | Responsibility | Time Frame | Cost |
|--|------------------|------------------|---------|
| Work with Twp. to designate a safe | BOE, Borough, | Short Term, Mid- | No cost |
| drop-off and pickup area 2-3 blocks | HSA | Term | |
| from the school for cars/busses. This | | | |
| will encourage kids to walk a short | | | |
| distance, keep the area near school | | | |
| traffic-free for cyclists and walking | | | |
| students, and eliminate air pollution in | | | |
| the school building from cars/buses | | | |
| idling outside and waiting for students. | | | |
| School or District can pass a SRTS, | School, District | Short-term, Mid- | No cost |
| Walking or Biking Policy to encourage | | term | |
| walking and biking to school | | | |
| Encourage City and County to pass and | Borough, County | Mid-term | No cost |

| School, District | Short-term, Mid- | No cost |
|------------------|---|--|
| | term | |
| Cohool EZ Dido | Chart tarres | |
| SChool, EZ Ride | Snort-term | No cost |
| | | |
| <u> </u> | | |
| · · · | · · | No cost |
| Ride | term, Long-term | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| School Tech | Short-term, Mid- | No cost |
| Coordinator | term, Long-term | |
| | | |
| School, HSA | Short-term, Mid- | No cost |
| | term, Long-term | |
| | | |
| | | |
| School, HSA | Short-term | Low cost |
| | | |
| School, HSA | Short-term, Mid- | No cost |
| | term, Long-term | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | School, EZ Ride School, HSA, EZ Ride School Tech Coordinator School, HSA | termSchool, EZ RideShort-termSchool, HSA, EZ RideShort-term, Mid- term, Long-termSchool Tech CoordinatorShort-term, Mid- term, Long-termSchool, HSAShort-term, Mid- term, Long-termSchool, HSAShort-term, Mid- term, Long-termSchool, HSAShort-term, Mid- term, Long-termSchool, HSAShort-term, Mid- term, Long-term |

3. Enforcement: Activities to improve safety and security for those walking and biking to school

| Enforcement Actions | Responsibility | Time Frame | Cost |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|------|
| Conduct bicycle registration and helmet | School, Police, EZ | Short-term | Low |
| giveaways at Back to School nights | Ride | | |
| Investigate training Walking School Bus | School Liaison, | Mid-term, Long- | Low |
| volunteers to do crossing guard training | Police | term | |
| Ask police to set up radar signs that | Police, School | Short-term, Long- | Low |
| post driver speeds and remind people | Liaison | term | |
| to not speed in school zone | | | |

| Pedestrian Decoy Operation – target | Police, Board of | Long-term | Low |
|--|--------------------|------------------|-----|
| unsafe drivers, especially during school | Education | | |
| commute time | | | |
| Conduct Street Smart campaign near | Police, NJTPA, EZ | Short-term, Mid- | Low |
| school at hot spot intersections | Ride | term, Long-term | |
| Ensure sidewalks are shoveled and | Borough, DPW and | Winter | Low |
| cleared of snow on school days | School can remind | | |
| | parents, residents | | |
| | to shovel | | |

4. Engineering: Infrastructure upgrades that improve walking and biking environment.

| Engineering Actions | Responsibility | Time Frame | Cost |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Repaint/paint crosswalks at: Broad Ave and Vreeland Ave., all along Grand Ave., where a lot of crosswalks are unpainted and low visibility. | Borough, County, Engineering | Short-term | Low |
| Repair/Reinstall sidewalks On Broad Avenue., Vreeland Ave., Hill Crest Ave., and Christie Heights St. | Borough, County, Engineering | Mid-term, Long term | High |
| Install and paint speed bumps on Broad Ave., and Grand Ave., to help slow traffic. | Borough, Engineering | Mid-term, Long term | Medium |
| Add pedestrian level lighting on corners of Broad Ave. and Grand Ave. as current street lights are not producing enough light for drivers to see pedestrians/cyclists at corners and crossing. | Borough, County, Engineering | Long term | High |
| Identify areas where most senior and student pedestrian crashes are occurring. Add pedestrian signal heads and lengthen time on countdown signal timers. Add more and brighter pedestrian lighting. | Borough, County Engineering | Short-term, Mid- term | Medium for lighting, ped signals, no cost to adjust signal timer |
| Install 25 mph speed limit signs and 'Slow School Zone" signs (if applicable) on Broad Ave., Grand Ave., Christie Heights St., and Hillcrest Ave. | Borough, County, Engineering | Short-term, Mid- term | Medium |
| Investigate traffic speeds around the | Borough, County, | Short-term, Mid- | Medium |

| school and post speed limit signs/ speed radar as traffic calming concepts | Engineering, Police | term | |
|---|---|--------------------------|---------|
| Install additional School Zone signs outside the school perimeter; install more signs with augmented flashing beacons | Borough, County, Engineering | Mid-term | Medium |
| Install signs that say "No U-Turns" on Broad Ave. | Borough, Engineering | Short-term | Low |
| Trim bushes and tree branches obstructing sidewalks on Vreeland Ave. | DPW, Homeowner(s) | Short-term | None |
| Consider how to slow traffic on Grand Avenue. Using infrastructure changes such as a road diet, narrowing lanes, painting bike lanes on one side | Borough, County, Engineering, Police | Long-term | High |
| Install "No turn on red" signs during the timeframe when students are walking to and from school | Borough | Short-term | Low |
| Consider having a pedestrian only interval for all pedestrians and cyclists to cross and cars at intersection are not allowed to turn. | Borough, County | Short-term, Mid- term | No cost |

 Evaluation: Efforts to monitor and evaluate progress towards the achievement of SRTS goals

| Evaluation Actions | Responsibility | Time Frame | Cost |
|--|-----------------|------------------|--------|
| Continue to conduct student travel | School, EZ Ride | Short-term, Mid- | Low |
| tallies to measure how effective the | | term, Long-term | |
| SRTS program has been in increasing | | | |
| the number of students walking, biking | | | |
| or carpooling | | | |
| Improve communications between | School , HSA, | Short-term, Mid- | Low |
| school officials and families | School Tech | term, Long-term | |
| establishing a convenient mechanism | Coordinator | | |
| to share information and get feedback | | | |
| Conduct speed study on roadways to | Borough, Police | Short-Term, Mid- | Medium |
| evaluate if speed limit is being | | Term | |
| complied with. | | | |

Conclusion

The walk audit that was conducted showcased the different neighborhoods surrounding the Leonia Middle School. The task force found that it is a beautiful and walkable community but is made less pleasant and safe due to faded and/or non-existent crosswalks mainly along Grand Avenue, as well as a lack of pedestrian signal heads and good lighting on both Broad and Grand Avenues.

Community priorities around Leonia Middle School should include tasks such as painting/repainting high visibility crosswalks and stop bars, setting up a pickup/dropoff zone a few blocks away from the school for all buses and students older than 2nd grade, and installing street lighting at or near areas where students and seniors frequently walk. The city can reduce the number of drivers who are speeding by installing radar speed limit signs and narrowing lanes. This can help to stop speeding of cars coming to the school from both directions on Broad Avenue. This plan could stop many cars from speeding, increase the alertness of drivers and encourage more students to walk and bike to school. Parents may also decide that it is safe to allow their children to walk to school and reduce the amount of pollution caused by driving by not dropping off and picking up their children every day.

Traffic congestion in the school zone can be greatly reduced by implementing staggered dismissal times to allow walkers and bicyclists to leave earlier. This will create more safety for walkers and bikers since they will not have to maneuver around so much vehicle traffic. There is a bike rack already placed at the school, so installing bike lanes near school on one side of the road would be a great and helpful resource for students biking to school. This could also motivate other students to begin riding their bikes to school making them feel safer riding along Broad Avenue. Through increased use of active transportation practices like walking and biking, residents can help to make Leonia a more appealing community to live in and visit by reducing air pollution and heavy traffic congestion.

EZ Ride is proud to work with the community to improve safety and bring SRTS programs to the schools. EZ Ride's Safe Routes to School team has provided important information and incentives for students to walk to school. This is the first School Travel Plan prepared for Leonia Middle School and EZ Ride hopes that Leonia Middle School will continue to educate their students on walking and biking safety, as it is vital that the students have this information. This report should be used by the District, Borough and County to apply for SRTS infrastructure and TAP grants to make the sidewalks and neighborhood safer for students, residents and seniors to walk and bike to the school and community programs.

Appendix A

Typical Opportunities for Improvement



Typical Bicycle/Pedestrian Treatments



Typical Bicycle/Pedestrian Treatments



Typical Bicycle/Pedestrian Treatments



Typical Traffic Calming Devices



Typical Traffic Calming Devices





CURB EXTENSION

- Reduces Vehicle Speeds
- Reduces Pedestrian Crossing Distance
- Increases Pedestrian Visibility
- Protects Parking Area & Prevents Parking Close to Intersection

MEDIAN REFUGE

- · Reduces Vehicle Speeds
- Reduces Pedestrian- Vehicle Conflict
- Reduces Pedestrian Crossing Distance
- Improves Aesthetics if wellmaintained



MID-BLOCK CROSSING

- Reduces Vehicle Speeds
- Increases Pedestrians Visibility
- Reduces Pedestrian Crossing Distance
- Connects Pedestrian Generators



Sidewalks and Access

- Simplifies Crossing Movement
- · Reinforces pedestrian priority
- Improves visibility
- Provides safe accessibility

Appendix B: Funding and Building Resources to Build Infrastructure

Source: Together North Jersey (TNJ): Funding and Resources Database <u>https://togethernorthjersey.com/?page_id=24974#home/</u>

| Program Name | Program Description | Eligibility | Eligibility | Source |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|----------------|
| | | Description | | |
| 21st Century | To provide municipalities and | New Jersey | County, | New Jersey |
| Redevelopment | counties with the funding | municipal or county | Municipal | Economic |
| Program | necessary to redevelop "stranded | governments, and | | Development |
| | assets," which are underutilized | redevelopment | | Authority |
| | or vacant office or retail spaces, | agencies | | |
| | usually located far from transit | | | |
| Biking in New | NJDOT offers engineering | New Jersey | Municipal | New Jersey |
| Jersey - | guidelines, a Master Plan for | communities | | Department of |
| Planning | roadways that are compatible | | | Transportation |
| Resources | with bicyclists and walkers and a | | | |
| | resource center for statewide | | | |
| | projects | | | |
| Community | The Community Development | Larger cities and | County, | US Housing |
| Development | Block Grant (CDBG) program is a | urban counties | Municipal | and Urban |
| Block Grants | flexible program that provides | | | Development |
| | communities with resources to | | | |
| | address a wide range of unique | | | |
| | community development needs | | | |
| Congestion | To advance readily | Local, County, | County, | NJTPA |
| Mitigation and | implementable and innovative | State, and Regional | Municipal, | |
| Air Quality | projects and services that | governments | State | |
| Initiatives | improve air quality and reduce | | | |
| Program | congestion in the NJTPA's air | | | |
| | quality maintenance and non- | | | |
| | attainment areas | | | |
| Environmental | Eligible entities, including | Non-profit | County, | US EPA |
| Workforce | nonprofit organizations, to | organizations and | Municipal, | Environmental |
| Development | deliver environmental workforce | local government | Non-profit | Workforce |
| and Job | development and job training | agencies in | organizations | Development |
| Training Grants | programs that recruit, train, and | communities | - | and Job |
| | place local, unemployed and | historically affected | | Training Grant |
| | under-employed residents with | by economic | | Fund |
| | the skills needed to secure full- | , disinvestment, | | |
| | time employment in the | health disparities, | | |
| | environmental field | and environmental | | |

| Contamination, including low- income, minority, and tribal communities Future in NJFIT changed the way NJDOT | |
|--|----------------|
| income, minority, and tribal communities | |
| and tribal communities | |
| communities | |
| | |
| Future in NJFIT changed the way NJDOT New Jersey Municipal | |
| | New Jersey |
| Transportation does business in New Jersey by Communities. | Department of |
| using a comprehensive and | Transportation |
| cooperative approach to | |
| transportation and land use | |
| planning. Working with | |
| community planners, we can | |
| keep jobs, goods and services | |
| within reach of every New Jersey | |
| citizen and reinvest in our | |
| infrastructure by shaping | |
| transportation to fit into the | |
| environment of our communities | |
| Geraldine R. Funds Arts, Education, no restrictions State, County, | Geraldine R. |
| Dodge Environment and Informed Municipal, | Dodge |
| Foundation Communities initiatives that are Private, Non- | Foundation |
| innovative and promote profit | |
| collaboration and community- organizations, | |
| driven decision making Other | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| Local Planning Local Planning Services (LPS), an Municipalities Municipal | New Jersey |
| Services office within DCA, works with | Department of |
| communities to achieve local land | Community |
| use and planning goals. As part of | Affairs |
| DCA's commitment to provide | |
| technical assistance to | |
| municipalities, our professional | |
| planning staff offers | |
| comprehensive planning services | |
| at no-cost to local governments. | |
| LPS Can provide a variety of | |
| planning services: master plans | |
| and redevelopment plans, land us | |
| land mapping, economic | |
| development plans, and special | |
| municipal projects | |
| | New Jersey |

| Preservation | financial and technical assistance | | | Department of |
|------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| Program | to municipalities over a three to | | | Community |
| | five year period to conduct | | | Affairs |
| | activities associated with the | | | |
| | preservation of designated | | | |
| | neighborhoods based on | | | |
| | strategic revitalization's plans | | | |
| | within those municipalities. | | | |
| New Jersey | The aim of the initiative is to | | Non-profit | New Jersey |
| Healthy | prevent chronic disease and | | organizations, | Healthy |
| Communities | improve health by advancing | | Other | Communities |
| Network - | environment, policy, and system | | | Network |
| Community | change; and enhancing the built | | | |
| Grants Program | environment to support healthy | | | |
| - | eating and active living. | | | |
| | Supported projects are creating a | | | |
| | culture of health by increasing | | | |
| | food access and opportunities for | | | |
| | physical activity in communities, | | | |
| | schools, places of worship, early | | | |
| | care and education, | | | |
| | neighborhoods, and | | | |
| | municipalities. | | | |
| | The Network also facilitates a | | | |
| | statewide community of practice | | | |
| | to share best practices, provide | | | |
| | networking and professional | | | |
| | development opportunities, and | | | |
| | encourage collaboration. Within | | | |
| | this community of practice, | | | |
| | grantees will be connected to | | | |
| | people and organizations with | | | |
| | shared goals and agendas and be | | | |
| | recognized as a leader in building | | | |
| | healthy communities | | | |
| Our Town | The Our Town grant program | Communities | Municipal | National |
| Grants | supports creative place making | | | Endowment |
| | projects that help to transform | | | for the Arts |
| | communities into lively, | | | |
| | beautiful, and resilient places | | | |
| | with the arts at their core. | | | |
| People for Bikes | The People For Bikes Community | Communities | Municipal | People for |
| Community | Grant Program provides funding | across the US | | Bikes - |
| Grants | for important and influential | | | Community |

| | and a station that is a second factor of | | | Creation |
|----------------|--|-----------------------|-----------|----------------|
| | projects that leverage federal | | | Grants |
| | funding and build momentum for | | | |
| | bicycling in communities across | | | |
| | the U.S. These projects include | | | |
| | bike paths and rail trails, as well | | | |
| | as mountain bike trails, bike | | | |
| | parks, BMX facilities, and large- | | | |
| | scale bicycle advocacy initiatives | | | |
| Safe Routes to | Provides federal and state | County, municipal | County, | New Jersey |
| Schools | funding to projects that enable | governments, | Municipal | Department of |
| | children in grades K-8 to walk and | school districts, and | | Transportation |
| | bicycle more safely to school. | schools | | |
| Safe Routes to | Safe Routes to School (SRTS) is a | Communities in | County, | New Jersey |
| Schools | federal, state and local effort to | New Jersey | Municipal | Department of |
| | enable and encourage children, | / | | Transportation |
| | including those with disabilities, | | | |
| | to walk and bicycle to school. | | | |
| | SRTS facilitates the planning, | | | |
| | development and | | | |
| | implementation of projects that | | | |
| | improve safety and air quality, as | | | |
| | well as reduce traffic and fuel | | | |
| | consumption around school | | | |
| Safe Routes to | The Safe Routes to Transit | Counties and | County, | New Jersey |
| Transit | | | | - |
| ITAIISIL | program was established in 2006 | municipalities. | Municipal | Department of |
| | with state funding to enable | | | Transportation |
| | counties and municipalities to | | | |
| | improve safety in the vicinity of | | | |
| | transit facilities and to make | | | |
| | routes to bus stops and rail | | | |
| | stations safer for bicyclists and | | | |
| | pedestrians | | | |
| | | | | |
| Street Smart | Communities that participate in | Municipalities and | Municipal | North Jersey |
| Program | the Street Smart Program work to | communities in | | Transportation |
| | raise awareness of pedestrian | New Jersey | | Planning |
| | safety laws by hosting events, | | | Agency |
| | handing out information, and | | | |
| | through social media. Local police | | | |
| | step up enforcement during the | | | |
| | campaign to ensure motorists | | | |
| | and pedestrians are obeying the | | | |
| | laws. All communities are urged | | | |
| | to participate | | | |

| Sustainable | Sustainable Jersey identifies | New Jersey | Municipal | |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|-------------|
| Jersey Grants | resources to help municipalities | municipalities | | Sustainable |
| and Resources | develop a comprehensive | | | New Jersey |
| | sustainable community program. | | | |
| | This includes financial resources | | | |
| | in the form of grants and | | | |
| | incentives, and technical support | | | |
| | in the form of trainings, access to | | | |
| | support organizations, and | | | |
| | guidance material | | | |