

FACTSHEET

EVANSDALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL (SRTS) SIDEWALK PROJECT (PI No. 0010394)

Date: May 7, 2015

SRTS INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

- The SRTS infrastructure program, administered by the **Federal Highway Administration**, is intended to **promote walking and bicycling by students** living within a two-mile radius of schools. The desired outcome of the SRTS infrastructure program is to improve the health and well-being of children by enabling and encouraging them to walk and bicycle to school.
- GDOT issued two calls for SRTS infrastructure projects; 44 projects were selected totaling approximately \$23 million.
- All construction and land disturbing activities occur **entirely within existing, publically owned right of way**. SRTS projects are low-cost and have **compressed project schedules**.
- Project proposals were developed by project sponsors (sponsors included county governments, Regional Commissions, cities, and school districts) in cooperation with the schools. Proposals were submitted to the Georgia DOT and ranked by need and impact by a team of reviewers which included GDOT Board Members representing the congressional districts of Georgia.
- Federal funding is **no longer available** for SRTS infrastructure projects through GDOT, although GDOT continues to fund the SRTS Resource Center: <http://www.saferoutesga.org/>.

EVANSDALE ELEMENTARY PROJECT

- **DeKalb County Transportation** responded to GDOT's 2010 call for SRTS projects and was granted \$500,000 to address identified needs at 5 schools, including Evansdale Elementary.
- For Evansdale Elementary the application awarded requested sidewalks along Evans Dale Drive from Townley Circle to Whitby Drive. Sidewalks were also identified as needed on Northbrook Drive from Evans Road to Gladney Drive. Other needs were identified in an expanded project impact description; however **sidewalks were prioritized to best utilize the available funds**.
- In the fall of 2014 Evansdale Elementary boasted a 5% share of students walking to school; the four year average for 2010 to 2014 is **8.3% walkers**. The statewide average for schools partnered with the SRTS Resource Center is **7.8% walkers**.
- Evansdale Elementary is a **Gold Partner** with the SRTS Resource Center.

FOLLOW UP

- Comments concerning the Evansdale Elementary SRTS project may be submitted via email to Sylvia Smith of DeKalb County until **Sunday May 17, 2015** at sasmith@dekalbcountyga.gov.
- Community members will be notified by **June 1st** of next steps for the project.