



**DATE OF MEETING:** OCTOBER 3, 2019

**ITEM TITLE:** REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS – SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS – SPRINGFIELD PROGRAM UPDATE

**STAFF CONTACT** Theresa Brand, Transportation Options Manager  
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**ACTION REQUESTED:** For Board Information

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**BACKGROUND/HISTORY:**

Point2point, formerly Commuter Solutions, has been providing transportation options services and programs in the Lane MPO area since its inception in the 1990's. Point2point, with funding from local road funds and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), serves as Lane MPO's regional transportation options program focused on assisting the region with meeting its goals around congestion mitigation, reducing single occupancy vehicle miles, and increased awareness and use of active transportation choices. These goals are outlined in local and regional transportation plans, such as LTD's Long Range Transit Plan, local Transportation System Plans, and Eugene's Climate Recovery Ordinance.

In 2005, Point2point initiated a research effort to determine how best to develop school and family transportation option services for school age children. Out of that effort came the development of the first student transit pass program in the state within the Lane MPO. Point2point and Lane Transit District, along with successful grant writing, helped establish the first Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program in the region within the 4J School District. Soon thereafter, a vision was developed to establish a regional SRTS program offering services to all three regional school districts.

As of 2013, that vision became a reality with the establishment of the Bethel (2010) and then Springfield School District (2013) SRTS Programs.

The Springfield SRTS program was launched in 2013 using ODOT Safe Routes to School Non-Infrastructure grant funds. The funding covered startup costs of a .50 FTE Springfield Public Schools (SPS) SRTS Coordinator. Shortly after the ODOT startup funds were awarded, Springfield Public School District chose to match the existing .50 FTE position with an additional .50 FTE funded through SPS Transportation Department dollars. The rationale being that the SPS SRTS Coordinator could help reduce some need for student hazard busing and assist with other District transportation priorities. The SPS SRTS program was awarded two rounds (six years in total) of ODOT grant funding to both initiate the program and get it on solid long footing.

With this in mind, Point2point at Lane Transit District (who serves as the acting grant manager and key initiator of the program) **requests \$106,268 in Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds** in order to maintain the current program within the Springfield School District as well as **align funding** for the SPS SRTS program with the other two school districts in the region cycle which would run through 2021.



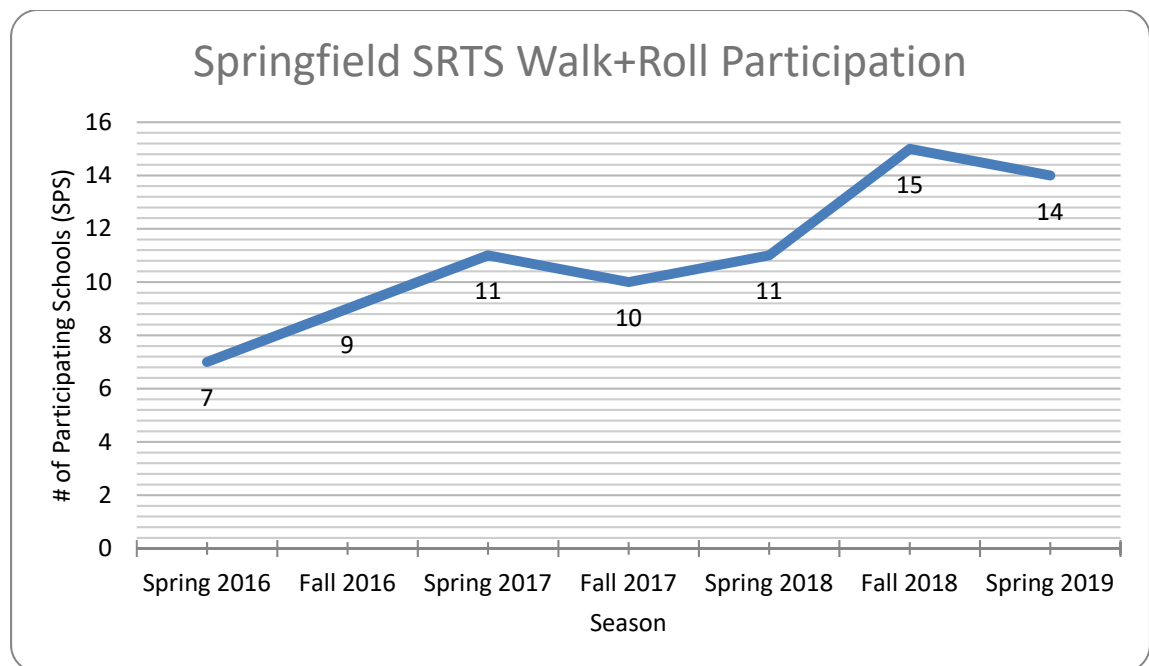
**KEY PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE:**

- ✓ Establishment of a formal partnership with Willamalane Park and Recreation District to lead bicycle and pedestrian education efforts within Springfield Public Schools which will in turn allow more program expansion in 4J and Bethel School Districts.
- ✓ Recently approved additional Education dollars will be used in Springfield to hire a Willamalane Bike Safety Education (BSE) and Pedestrian Safety Education (PSE) Coordinator who will work to expand BSE and PSE capacity at Willamalane.
- ✓ Springfield SRTS increased Encouragement events by 124.5% from the 2017-2018 year to 2018-2019 year. In 2017-2018 Springfield SRTS held or participated in 49 Encouragement events and engaged 2993 people. In 2018-2019 those numbers increased to 110 events and 5314 engaged.
- ✓ Title I Schools have priority in programming efforts.
- ✓ SRTS Team participates in Vision Zero and Mayor’s Challenge regional efforts.
- ✓ Completed an Infrastructure Prioritization Tool and with LCOG’s support, ran 112 projects from 12 Springfield Public School sites through the tool.
- ✓ Obtained \$75,000 in CMAQ funding for bike parking improvements Bike racks were installed at 9 elementary schools and 3 middle schools with an increased or improved bike parking capacity of 428 spaces.
- ✓ The Springfield SRTS program has created an internship program.
- ✓ Jane Higdon Foundation made a 5 year, \$30,000 per year commitment to the program for bicycle education some of which is being used for the Springfield Bicycle Education Program

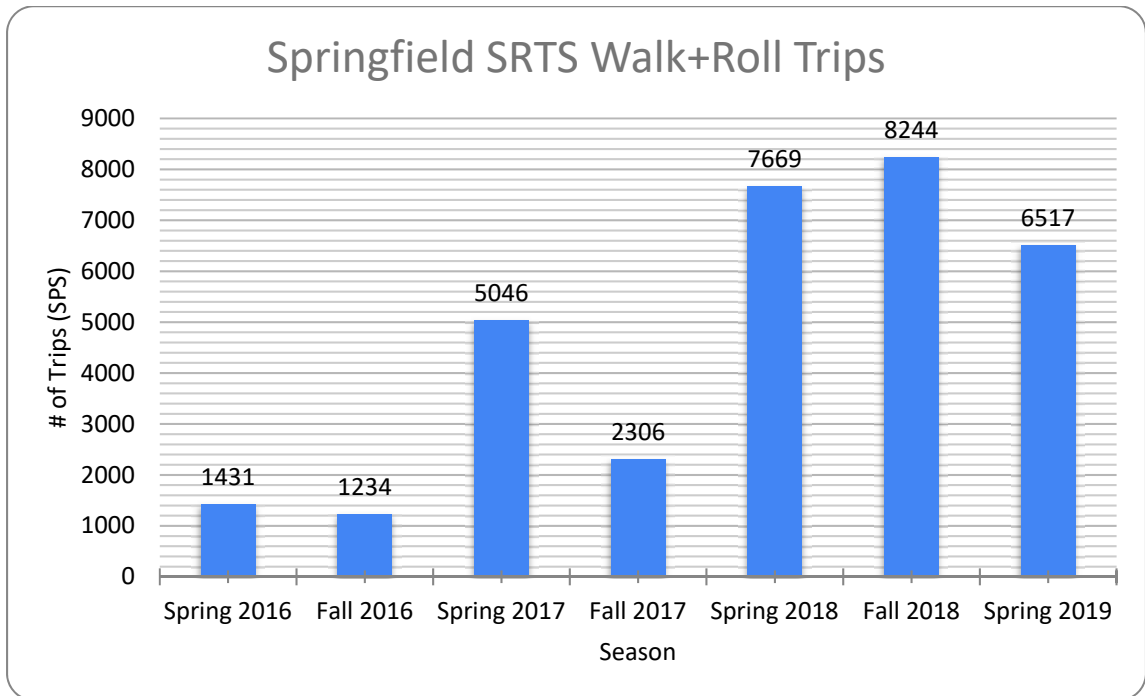
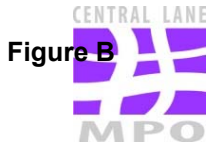
**PROGRAM STATISTIC AND/OR FAST FACTS:**

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- ❖ ‘Figure A’ depicts the number of schools participating in the May and October SRTS Walk+Roll challenge months.

Figure A



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- ❖ ‘Figure B’ outlines the number of Walk+Roll trips (active transportation trips) for the May and October SRTS Walk+Roll Challenge activities in the Springfield Public School District.



❖ 'Figure C' identifies the number of students in Springfield Public School District completing Bike Safety Education. 'Figure D' identifies the number of students in Springfield Public School District completing Pedestrian Safety Education. The downward trend in the chart is a result of City of Eugene River House's decreased capacity to teach BSE and PSE in Springfield. BSE and PSE duties in Springfield have been shifted to Willamalane Parks District as of fall 2018. The Springfield SRTS Coordinator and the Point2point Schools Specialist will continue to work with Willamalane staff to finalize the transition and expansion of the BSE program at Willamalane Parks District.

Figure C

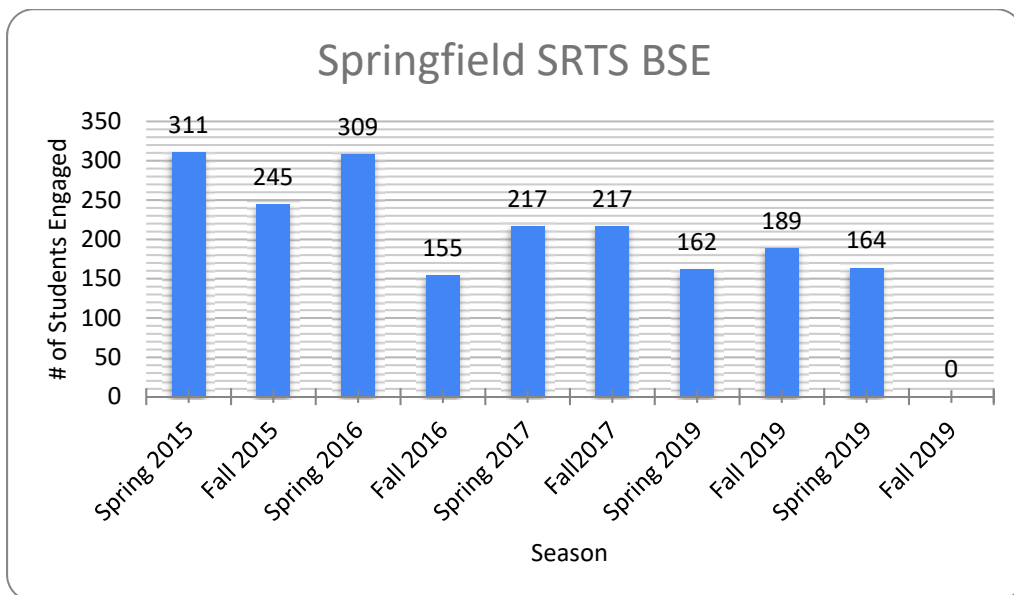
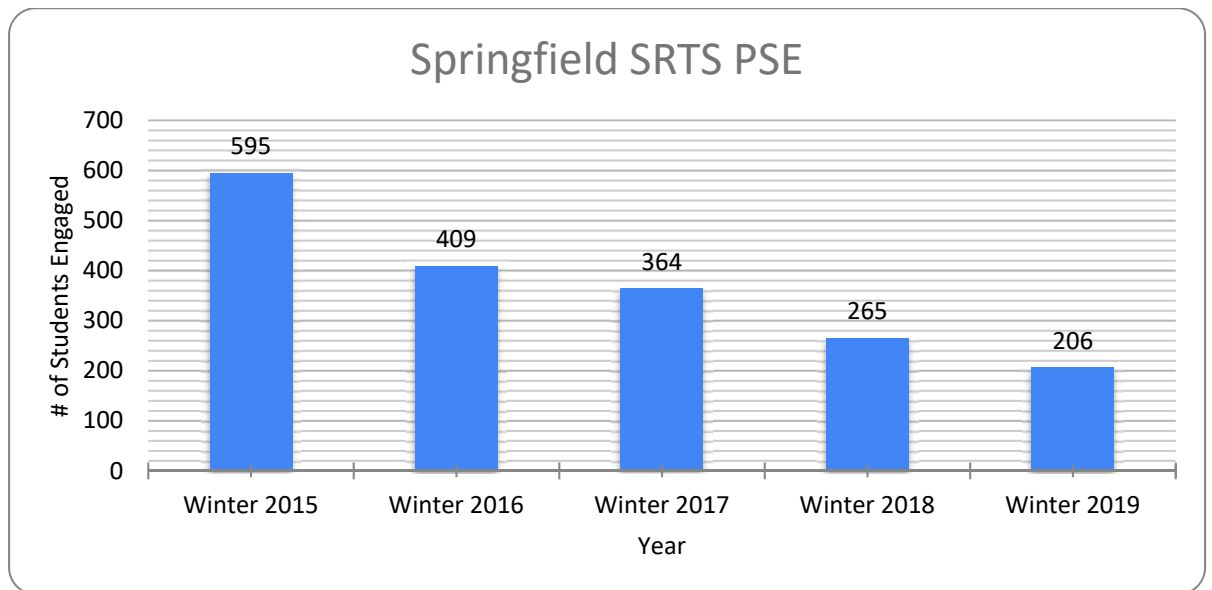




Figure D



❖ The number of Springfield SRTS events grew by 124.5% in the last year. See 'Figure E'.

Figure E

Event Engagement		
	2017-2018	2018-2019
Number of Events	49	110
Number Engaged	2993	5314

❖ 'Figure F' summarizes planned and completed SRTS infrastructure projects, as well as the completed school Action Plans.

Figure F



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Completed Infrastructure Projects</li> <li>❖ (Projects were completed in the last 5 years and are located within 1.5 miles of a SPS School site.)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ 9 Projects.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Benefiting Schools:</li> <li>❖ Page, Yolanda, Maple, Two Rivers-Dos Rios, Agnes Stewart, Briggs, Hamlin, and Springfield HS</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Planned Infrastructure Projects</li> <li>❖ (Projects are located within 1.5 miles of a SPS School site, have approved funding, and will be completed in the next 5 years.)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ 13 Projects.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Benefiting Schools:</li> <li>❖ Mt Vernon, Maple, Riverbend, Ridgeview, Page, Yolanda, Douglas Gardens, Mt. Vernon, Two Rivers-Dos Rios, Centennial, Agnes Stewart, Thurston (MS), Agnes Stewart, Briggs (MS), Hamlin, and Thurston (HS)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Schools with Completed Action Plans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ 12 Action Plans. 3 more completed by Nov 5, 2019.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Benefiting Schools: Centennial, Douglas Gardens, Guy Lee, Maple, Mt Vernon, Page,</li> </ul>



		Ridgeview, Riverbend, Thurston, Two Rivers-Dos Rios, Yolanda, Agnes Stewart MS, Briggs MS, Hamlin MS, and Thurston MS. These are all of the K-8 Schools is the Urban Growth Boundary.
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❖ **FOCUS AREAS FOR FY 19 – 21:**

- Efforts to help assist with the creation of a comprehensive crossing guard program strategy.
- Continued bicycle and pedestrian education program expansion.
- Continued focus on grant/sponsor funding for certain aspects of the SRTS Program.
- Continued expansion of encouragement activities with an ongoing focus on Title 1 Schools.
- Continued effort to work with regional partners to build a permanent traffic garden in Springfield.
- Continue to provide outreach and education around high risk and recently improved infrastructure to Springfield families.

**ACTION:** For MPC Information Only

**ATTACHMENT:** Regional SRTS 2018 Action Plan Program Summary.

**NEXT STEPS:** Each year, the SRTS Summary Report will be reviewed with the partner agency staff through the TOAC and TPC staff groups and with MPC.

Point2point will also work closely with ODOT Active Transportation Division, which will develop and administer a comprehensive survey on an annual basis each February, to measure program effectiveness as required by the State ODOT Transportation Options Plan, and as it relates to SRTS Programming.

**PROPOSED MOTION:** None. For MPC Information Only.