



A Partnership between the NC Division of Public Health
and the NC Department of Transportation

North Carolina Active Routes to School Project

September 2013



What is Active Routes to School?

Partnership

- NC Division of Public Health and NC Department of Transportation
- Administered through the local NC health departments

Alignment

- Community Transformation Grant Project partnerships
- NC Safe Routes to School initiatives
- Local, regional and state community safety and health initiatives

Timing

- Three year project



Why focus on Walking and Biking to School?



Image:
Provided by Joel Cranford.

- Fewer kids today walk and bike to school

<u>1969</u>	<u>2009</u>
48% walked or biked	13% walked or biked
12% driven	44% driven

(U.S. DOT, 2009)
- Fifteen percent of North Carolina children ages 5-17 live within one mile of their school and 34% live within two miles, however, only **4%** walk or ride a bicycle to school. (CHAMP, 2011)
- Parents driving their children to school amount for up to 25% of morning rush hour traffic. (Parisi Associates, 2003; Morris, 2001)



Benefits of Walking and Biking to School

Children

- Improves health
- Teaches fundamental safety skills
- Increases sense of freedom and responsibility

School / Community

- Improves the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists
- Provides cost savings by reducing need for hazard busing
- Benefits the local economy by funding construction projects

Environment

- Reduces emissions
- Reduces traffic congestion around the schools



Roles and Responsibilities

Project Manager

Oversees project

Develops tools, training and assessment

Liaison with technical assistance provider and evaluator

Holds regions accountable

Regional Project Coordinator

Aligned with Community Transformation Grant Project Staff

Conducts assessment

Implements intervention activities

Join or establish regional partnerships/coalitions

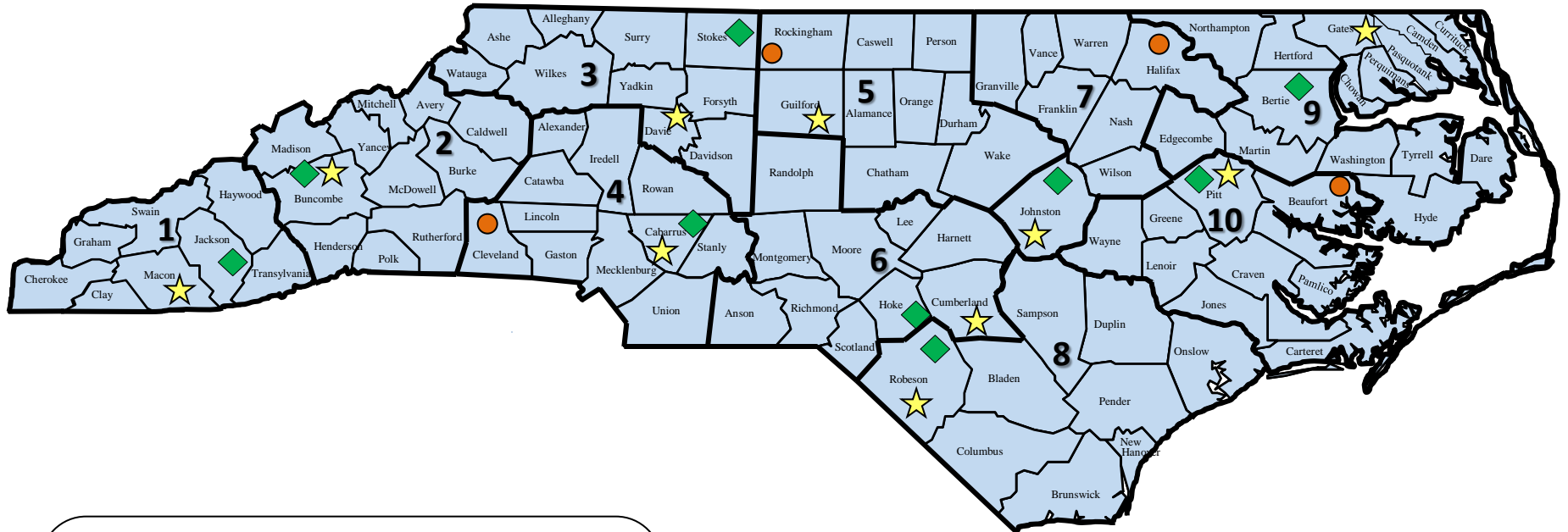
Evaluator

Independent party






Conducts evaluation in years 2 and 3



North Carolina Regions



Legend

-  Active Routes to School Lead Counties
-  Community Transformation Grant Lead Counties
-  Community Transformation Catalyst
-  Counties
-  Regions



Assessment

Criteria

Schools (K-8)

2011-2012
academic school year



Components

All walking, biking and
awareness raising activities

Trainings / Workshops

Policy change efforts for
towns and schools



Outcome

Creates baseline for NC

Used in developing work plans
for years 2 and 3



Intervention activities

Awareness Activities

- Walk to School
- Bike to School
- Other

Training or Workshops

- Two / year
- Topics include – SRTS and Five E's
- Catered to school or the public
- Student focused (K-8)

School Specific Programming

- Increase # of walk or bike to school days
- Enhance walking school busses or bike trains
- etc...

Policy Change

- Joint Use Agreements
- Complete Streets
- Unified Development Ordinances
- etc...

Environmental Change

- Infrastructure statement development



Active Routes to School Project Goals

Year 1

- Staff is on board and trained
- Regional Assessment is completed
- Work plan for year 2 is defined

Year 2

- Begin execution of work plan and intervention activities
- Evaluation starts
- Work plan for year 3 is defined

Year 3

- Begin execution of work plan and intervention activities
- Evaluation is completed

Program End

- ***Demonstrate growth*** that exceeds the baseline
- Create momentum to ***achieve future sustainability***



Thank you!

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