



# TOWN OF FAIRFAX

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February 7, 2013

Governor Jerry Brown  
c/o Brian Putler  
Deputy Legislative Affairs Secretary  
[brian.putler@gov.ca.gov](mailto:brian.putler@gov.ca.gov)  
State Capitol, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Support for Safe Routes to School in California's Budget**

Dear Governor Brown:

The Town of Fairfax values the direct benefits of California's Safe Routes to School programs to children, families and communities in California and asks you to specifically include dedicated funding for Safe Routes to School in your budget. This funding has dramatically improved the safety of our children in Fairfax.

We appreciate the Administration's proposed creation of the new and consolidated Active Transportation Program in your budget proposal released on January 10. However, we strongly believe that the considerable gains achieved in traffic safety for children since the Safe Routes to School program was enacted in State law in 1999 are at risk if Safe Routes to School does not have specific funding.

Through these funding sources, sidewalks, pathways, and street improvements benefiting children and families throughout Marin County's school districts have been constructed. These improvements have increased the number of children walking and biking to school. Since 1999, our combined efforts, State and local, have shifted nearly 20% of school trips away from driving.

The Town of Fairfax urges you to continue the level funding of at least \$46 million per year as a minimum guarantee for Safe Routes to School in your February budget trailer bill. Please ensure that this important program continues to maintain and increase progress toward safety and sustainable mobility for children traveling to school by funding Safe Routes to School infrastructure and non-infrastructure programs and maintaining Safe Routes to School as a State-administered program.

We look forward to your response and to continued State support of Safe Routes to School in your budget. Safe Routes to School benefits the health, mobility and safety of our children while reducing greenhouse gas emissions and is critical for serving California's needs today, and for future generations.

Sincerely,

John Reed  
Mayor

AGENDA ITEM # ***11***