

Final report of grant activity

Safe Routes to School Grant- JeffCo Public Schools and North Evergreen Activity Trails (NEAT)

Per the grant, the following activities took place at each of the schools involved in the grant.

Evergreen Middle School:

- EMS participated in International Walk to School Week 2007 as part of the North Evergreen Walking and Wheeling Week. Students were encouraged to bike and walk to school as many times as possible during the week of October 1st through 5th and competed for prizes including a final “grand prize” of a new bicycle!
- PE Teachers at EMS were trained in bicycle and pedestrian safety education modules to be taught in the classroom. Bicycle Colorado staff also taught students about basic bicycling skills and maintenance through a bike rodeo during health class.
- Bicycling and Walking information was included in the weekly e-mail newsletter home to parents and students during the 2007/2008 school year.
- Jefferson County Sherriff’s officers (including the school resource officer for the schools) performed traffic speed checks and issued a number of tickets during the Walking and Wheeling Week promotion in October.
- Parents and community volunteers were trained to be volunteer crossing guards near the school at difficult crossing areas.
- Bicycle Colorado performed bike a bike rodeo after school at EMS as well as participated in 2 rodeos during safety days for the area schools in conjunction with Drive Smart, Evergreen Fire Rescue and NEAT.

The Bergens Schools (both Bergen Meadow and Bergen Valley):

- Bicycle and pedestrian information was distributed during the Pirate Booty Run/Walk as well as the Buffalo Stampede events.
- Bicycle Colorado performed school assemblies at both Bergen Meadow and Bergen Valley to educate students on Bicycling and Walking. Bicycle Colorado also taught in the Bergen Meadow classrooms as well as the Bergen Valley PE classes.
- Newsletters about special events were sent home to families throughout the program
- Jefferson County Sherriff’s officers (including the school resource officer for the schools) performed traffic speed checks and issued a number of tickets during the Walking and Wheeling Week promotion in October.

- Parents and community volunteers were trained to be volunteer crossing guards near the school at difficult crossing areas.
- Walking school bus captains were identified in surrounding neighborhoods and participated in the Walking and Wheeling week. Several captains have continued to walk groups of children to school this past school year.
- Bicycle Colorado participated in 2 rodeos during safety days for the area schools in conjunction with Drive Smart, Evergreen Fire Rescue and NEAT.

Increases in students bicycling and walking to school:

Based on pre and post survey data (post survey was done in October 2007) we saw the following increase in the number of days per week that students bike and walk to school (as represented by the number of days per week they are driven). This data was collected using our own survey due to the fact that the FHWA survey did not exist when we did our pre surveying. Families surveyed live within 2 miles of the school.

February 2006: Average % of days that students are driven to school EMS: 75%, BM: 92%. BV: 99%

October 2007: Average % of days that students are driven to school EMS: 62%, BM: 81%. BV: 89%

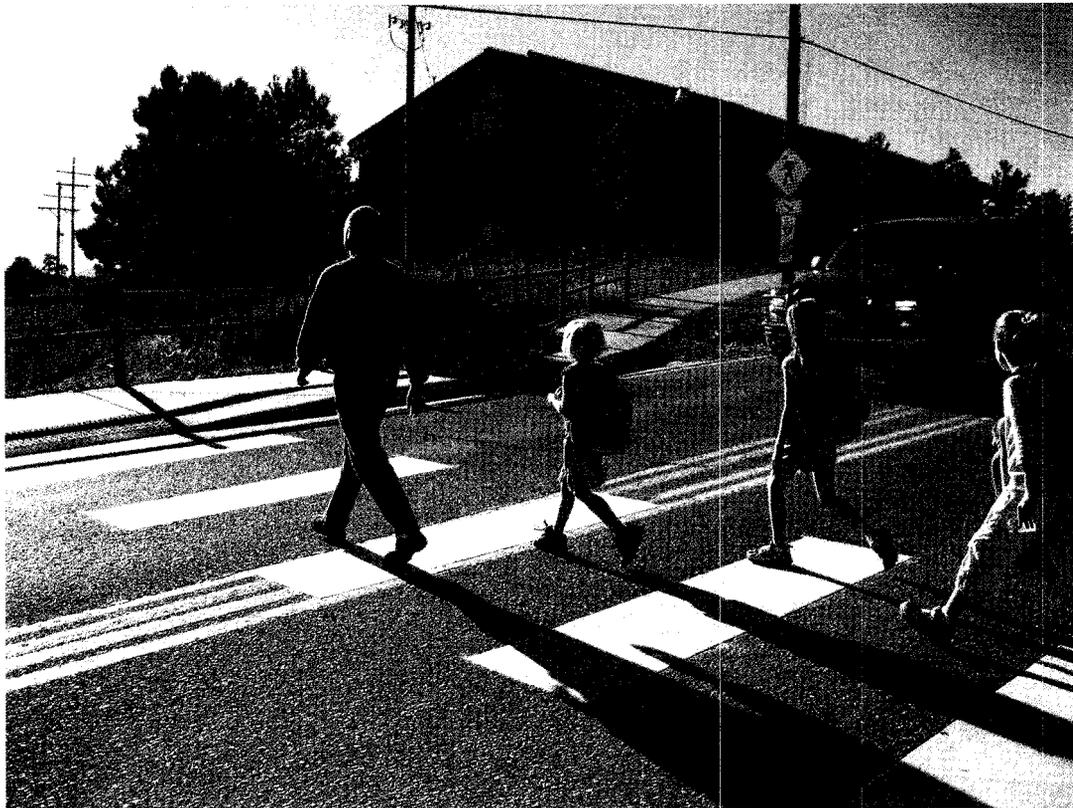
Conclusion and other notes:

During the period of time that this program was going on a two major physical improvements were made to the school area. Pedestrian activated flashing signals were installed at the trail crossings on Bergen Parkway and “State Law, Stop for Pedestrians in Crosswalk” Signs were installed.

Based on informal conversations with parents as well as feedback from surveys, the number one concern for parents in the need for children to cross Bergen Parkway in order to get to school. Since the beginning of this program, Jefferson County’s DOT has helped local activists procure grant funds in order to continue making improvements to the pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure in North Evergreen. It is our belief that as these improvements are made and bicycling and walking are continuously promoted at the schools, the number of children bicycling and walking to school will continue to increase.



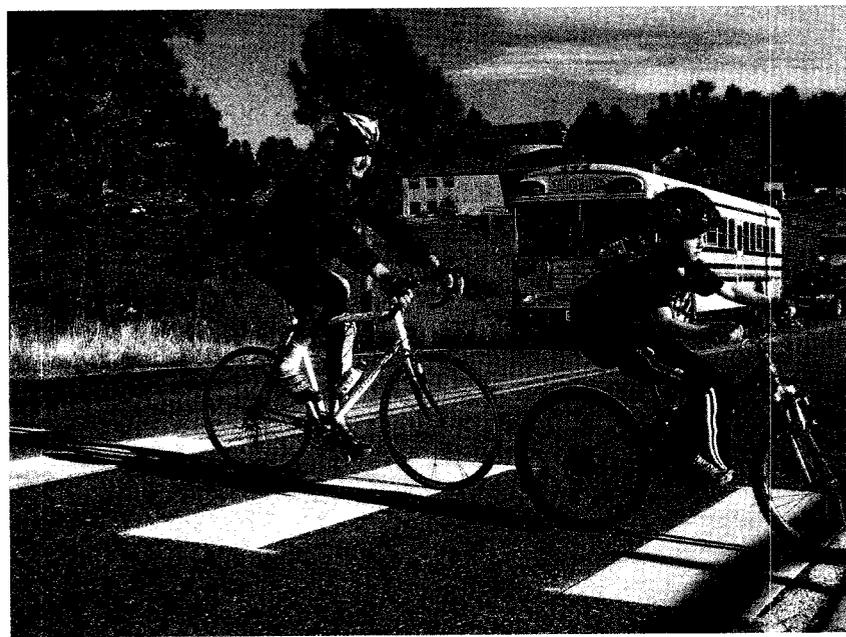
A couple of the boys arrive by bike in the morning at Evergreen Middle School



Students using their new crosswalk on Bergen Parkway.



One of the PTO mom's working as a volunteer crossing guard before heading off to work.



Father and son crossing while traffic stops!



Students that ride the bus were given the chance to walk out on the track to participate in Walkin and Wheelin' Week.



Some students were lucky enough to be able to take the Multi Use Path to get to school

Some thank you notes written by Evergreen Middle Students.

Dear Maggie & Dave,
 Thank you for coming and teaching
 us our bike safety lessons. My
 favorite thing was making the bike
 obstacles. I made one at my house
 with my brother. It was so fun! I
 had a great time! -Thank You-
 Sincerely,
 Emily Glick

Dear Maggie & Dave,
 Thank You so much for coming
 and teaching us about bike
 safety. I loved the obstacle course
 I had so much fun doing the snail
 race. I never lost! I taught my
 brother all about bike signals.
 He uses them well. Again, thank
 You for coming.
 Sincerely,
 Brian Ambur
Brian Ambur

