

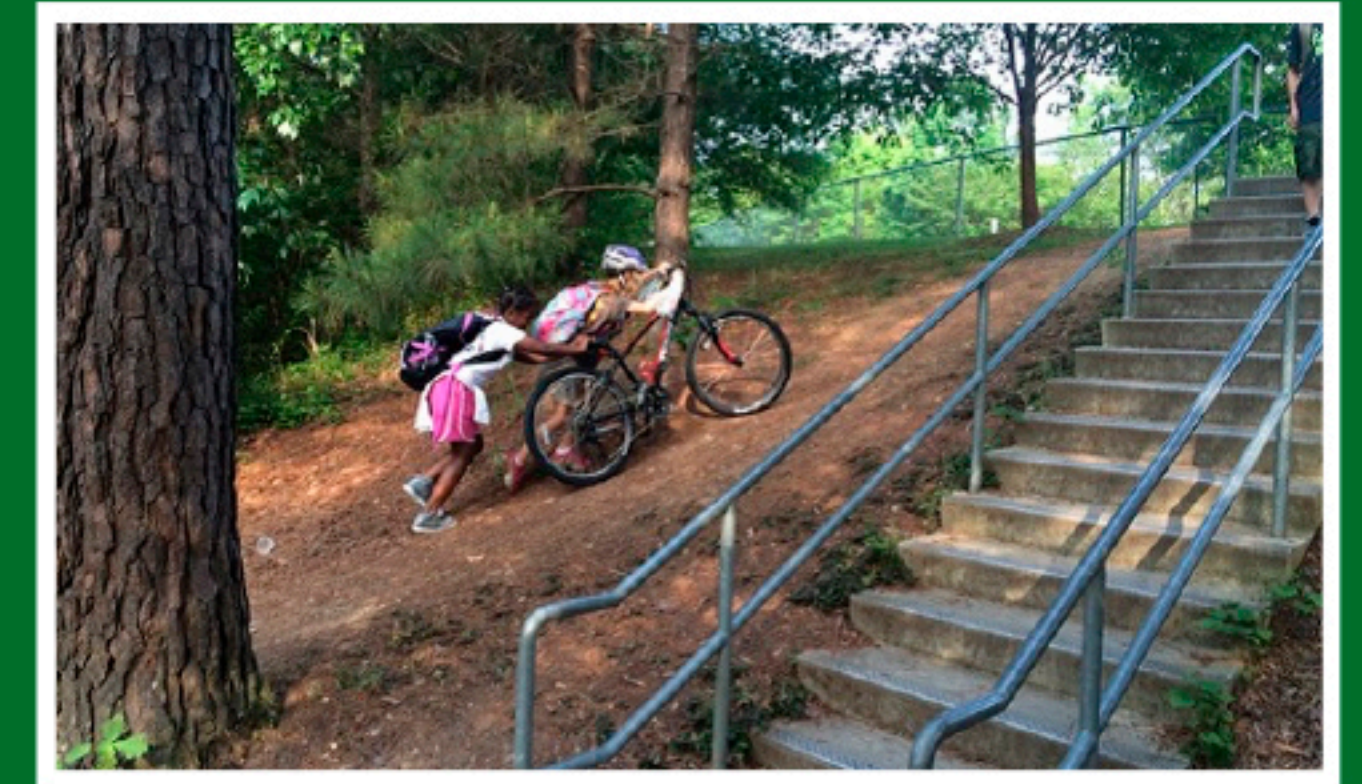
Northwoods Elementary SRTS - BACKGROUND



- ▶ Located in downtown Cary, NC
- ▶ Enrollment: 540 students (Data is from Oct 2015 Survey)
 - 20% lived within 1/4 mile, with about 80 students within the "No Transport - Walk Zone".
 - For parents whose children don't currently walk or bike to school, the four primary reasons for not walking were: distance, traffic along route, safety of intersections and crossings, and speed of traffic. For existing walkers, the main difficulty identified was lack of sidewalks and pathways.
- ▶ Existing programs included participation in International Walk to School Day (dating back to 2001), National Bike to School Day, monthly Walk-To-School Days and a Walking Wednesday Program.



- ▶ During the 2014/15 school year, a group of parents worked to win a State Farm Neighborhood Assist Grant in order to replace an aging staircase pedestrian access with an new bicycle and stroller friendly ramp.



Northwoods Elementary SRTS - **HOW WE STARTED**



- ▶ In the Fall of 2015, Northwoods was one of 5 schools in Wake County chosen to participate in a Safe Routes to School grant, managed by the UNC Highway Safety Research Center with funding provided by the John Rex Endowment.

- ▶ Northwoods Elementary received staff support, guidance and funding to develop a comprehensive Safe Routes to School Plan and implement the priority recommendations identified in the plan. The effort also involves working with WCPSS and the Town of Cary to examine policies and practices that can improve safety for child pedestrians.

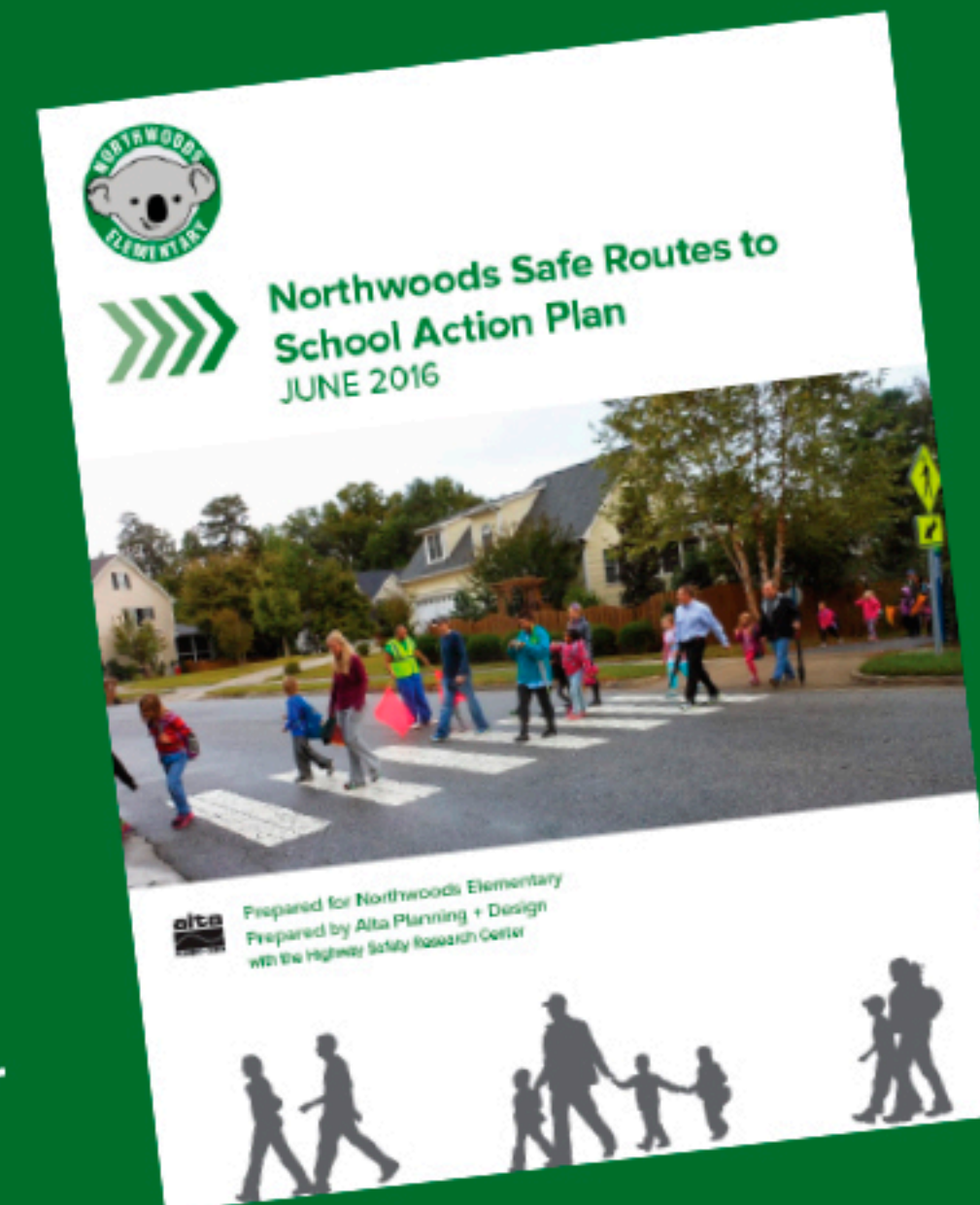
- ▶ Created a Standing PTA Board Position - SafeRoutes to School Programs Coordinator



NorthwoodsSafeRoutesToSchool.weebly.com



Steering Committee kickoff meeting - October 2015



Northwoods Action Plan - June 2016



Getting parent feedback on Draft Action Plan at International Night - March 2016

Northwoods Elementary SRTS - RESULTS

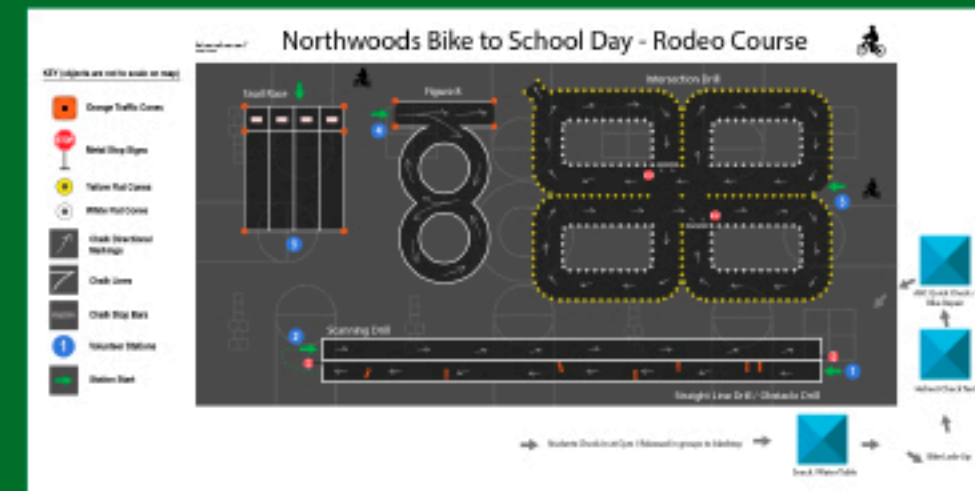


Infrastructure Improvements



International Walk To School Day

Weekly Walking School Bus



National Bike To School Day



Spring Bike to School Contest
and lock check-outs



Walking Recess



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Northwoods Elementary SRTS - TIPS FOR GETTING STARTED



COMMITMENT --- PLANNING
BIG OR SMALL? --- COMMUNICATION
BUY-IN --- PATIENCE
--- BE AN ADVOCATE!

Remember - Every School is UNIQUE!

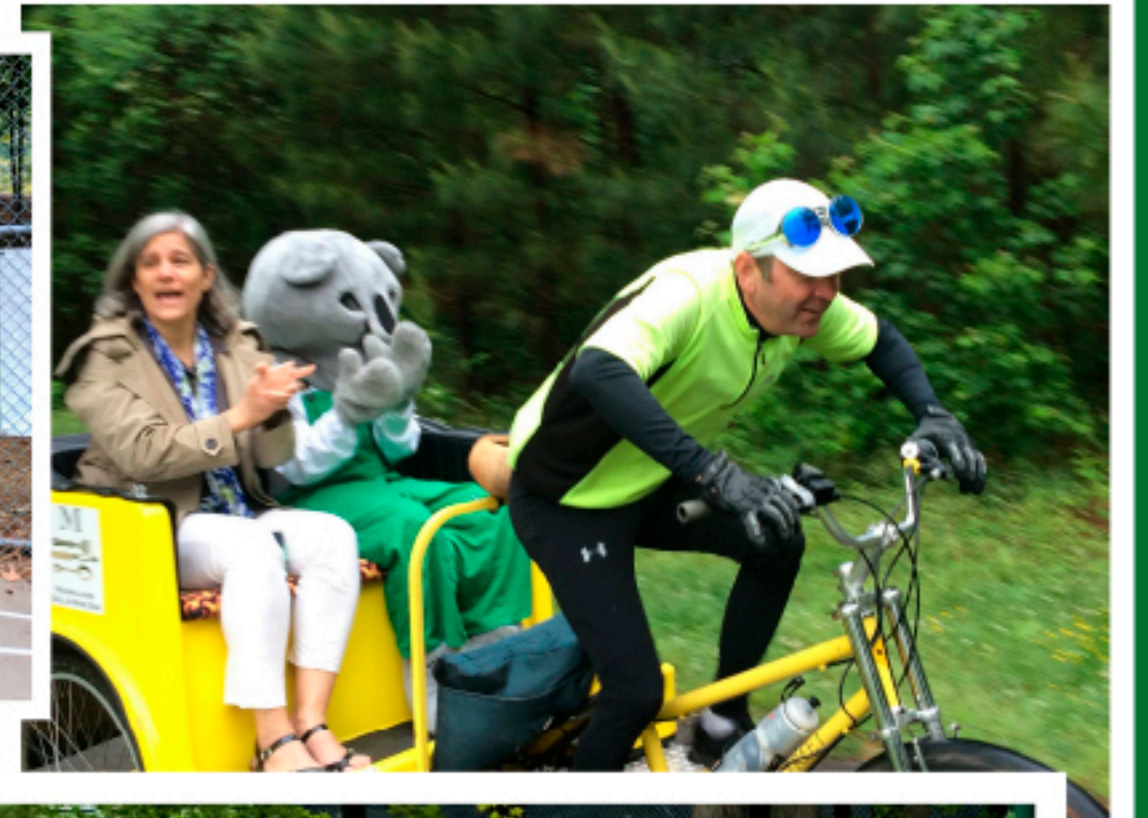
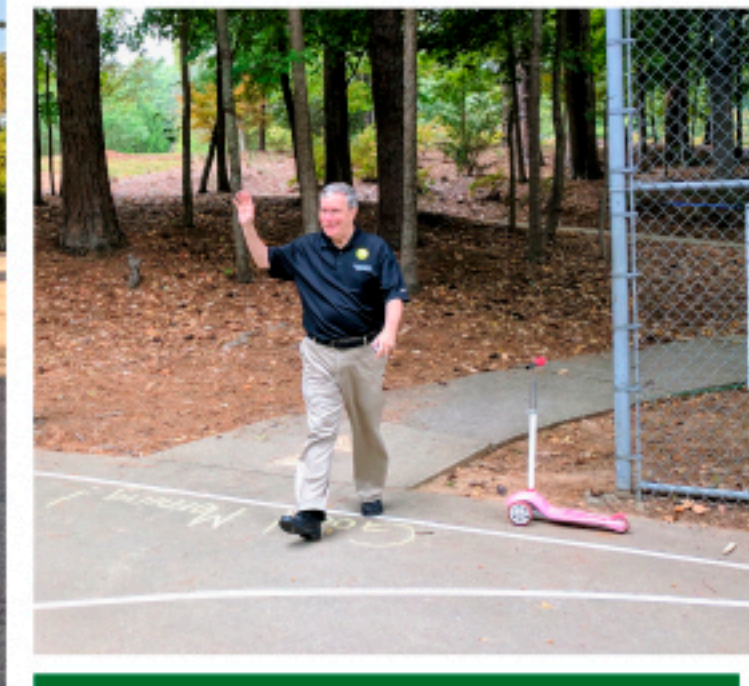


Northwoods Elementary SRTS - INVOLVE COMMUNITY LEADERS



ALWAYS invite community leaders, such as Mayors, Town Council, School Board, Police, etc. to your events!

Be the BRIDGE between agencies and groups!



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Northwoods Elementary SRTS - **PARTNERS**



Northwoods School Administrators and Teachers!

Town of Cary

Police Traffic & Safety
Police School Outreach Team
Town Planning Department
Political Figures - Mayor and Town Council Members
Parks & Recreation Department

Local Businesses (prizes and donations)

EarthFare
Ricky's Rickshaw
Cycling Spoken Here
Trader Joes
The Cycle Surgeon

Alta Planning & Design

NC Department of Transportation

Wake County Public School System

Active Routes To School Region 5

UNC Highway Safety Research Center

Media:

The News and Observer
GoTriangle
Cary Citizen

Boundary Village Apartments



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Northwoods Elementary SRTS - GROWING AND MAINTAINING



MARKET YOUR PROGRAM!

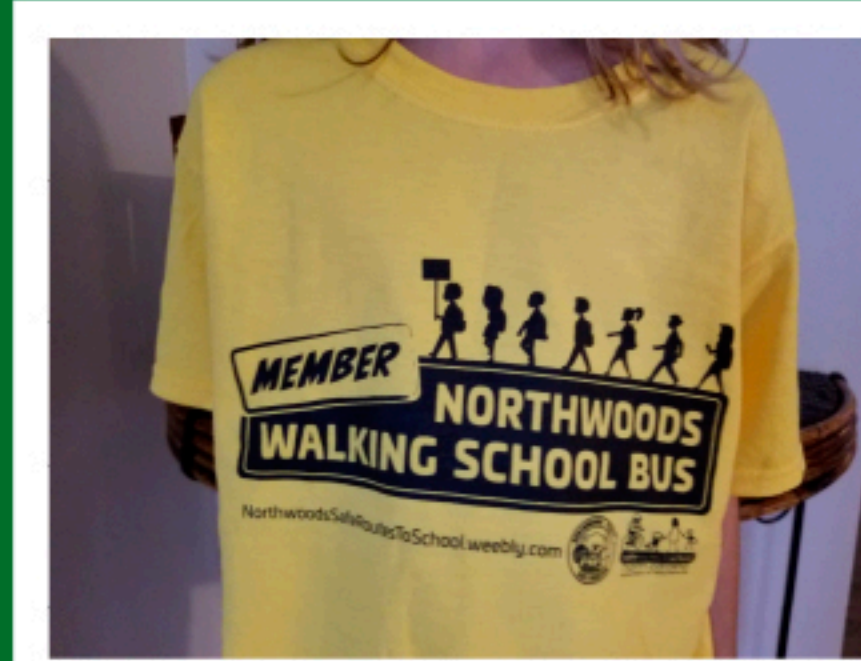
Social media, signs, stickers, shirts...
Apply for grants and awards!

PLAN FOR LONG TERM

Make safe routes a permanent part of PTA.
Prepare to pass knowledge on.

SHARE AND LEARN

Take advantage of resources at the local, state
and national level. Talk to other schools in
your community!



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