

Red Wing Public Schools
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Red Wing
Public Schools
ISD # 256



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School Board Meeting Agenda Item

Topic: Safe Routes to Schools Infrastructure Grant
Contact(s):
Presenter(s): Jay Owens, City of Red Wing

Nature of Action Requested

Board Action
Board Information or Report

X

Background Information

The following information is largely copied from the agenda for the December 13th City Council meeting:

The School Board is asked to approve a resolution supporting a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) grant application for a proposed 2022 infrastructure grant for improvements around Sunnyside Elementary School and Twin Bluff School. This grant application is seeking 100% construction funding estimated at \$240,000, with the City's General Fund Contingency proposed to cover project engineering costs estimated at \$50,000. The School District will not pay for any of the costs of the project.

In 2012, the City and School District were awarded an SRTS Planning Grant for Twin Bluff and Sunnyside. In 2013, the plans were finalized. To date, numerous plan recommendations have been implemented including infrastructure improvements and program initiatives.

In 2013, SRTS plans recommended performing an engineering study for the possible establishment of school speed zones around Twin Bluff and Sunnyside. Per State statute, residential streets have a set speed limit of 30 mph but "local authorities may establish a school speed limit within a school zone of a public or non-public school upon the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation as prescribed by the Commissioner of Transportation." Speed studies were conducted on Twin Bluff Road in 2015; the 85th percentile speed was 36.7 mph with 38.4 mph in the northbound direction and 34.1 mph in the southbound direction.

In 2019, staff from the City, County, and School District discussed SRTS next steps. In 2020, the City received an SRTS grant to fund the required engineering/traffic investigation for speed zone establishment, so the study was finalized in July, 2021. The grant covered 100% of the study costs and some additional planning work. The resulting Engineering Study includes 10 infrastructure recommendations, with the following included in this latest grant request:

1. School Speed Zone for Sunnyside (see page 94 of 208)
2. School Speed Zone for Twin Bluff (see page 95 of 208)
3. Crossing improvements with ADA compliant pedestrian ramps and bump outs at the Twin Bluff/Spruce/Hallquist intersection (see pages 104 and 105 of 208)

Recommendation

I move adopt the attached resolution supporting submission of the Safe Routes to Schools Infrastructure Grant.