



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WSDOT Offers Grants for Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Projects

Olympia – Communities across the state have an opportunity to increase safety for bicyclists and pedestrians through two grant programs that are managed by the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT). The programs support pedestrian and bicycle safety projects such as pedestrian and bicycle paths, sidewalks, safe routes to school and safe routes to transit projects. Today WSDOT issued a “call for projects”. A total of \$11 million is available for the Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Grant Program and the Safe Routes to School Grant Program.

The Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Grant Program was established to address the nearly 400 statewide fatal and injury collisions involving pedestrians and bicycles each year. It aids public agencies in funding projects that improve pedestrian and bicycle safety. Eligible projects may include engineering solutions and educational programs. Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety grant applications must be submitted to WSDOT by May 9, 2008.

The Safe Routes to School program was created to provide children a safe, healthy alternative to being driven to school. Eligible projects are those within two-miles of primary and middle schools (K-8) that address engineering solutions, educational programs, and law enforcement efforts. Applications for Safe Routes to School project grants must be submitted to WSDOT by May 2, 2008.

WSDOT’s Highways and Local Programs division provides educational, technical and financial support, and federal oversight to local agencies and other transportation partners to help them succeed in meeting their transportation goals. This group has six regional offices around the state, promoting cooperative planning and partnerships between WSDOT and local governments.

More detailed information about these grant programs and the application process is available on WSDOT’s website at http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/bike/Ped_Bike_Program.htm.

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