



intersections
WHERE TRANSPORTATION + HEALTH MEET

APRIL 5-7, 2016

COLUMBUS, OHIO



Safe Routes to School National Conference in Columbus, April 5-7 ***Intersections – Where Health and Transportation Meet***

(COLUMBUS, March 29, 2016) — Whether using feet or wheels, hundreds of attendees are converging in Columbus on April 5-7 to learn about improving connections for people and the “intersections” of health and transportation at the fifth Safe Routes to School National Conference. It is being held at the Hilton Downtown Columbus, 401 North High Street, Columbus, OH 43215.

The three-day conference features dynamic keynote speakers, hands-on mobile workshops and more than 30 breakout sessions with six tracks — equity, health, partnerships, policy, safety and sustainability — to engage and educate attendees.

“We are delighted to celebrate Safe Routes’ 10th anniversary at the conference and to showcase a decade of progress making it safer for school children to walk and bicycle to school,” said Safe Routes to School National Partnership Executive Director Cass Isidro.

“We know the importance of sharing great ideas and best practices, and the National Conference is a golden opportunity to do so in-person. There are exciting ‘intersections’ throughout the conference for attendees and the opportunity to earn professional development credits while finding out about practical, proven hands-on ways to make it safer for walking and bicycling to school,” said National Center for Safe Routes to School Director Nancy Pullen-Seufert.

Nationwide is the conference’s Program Sponsor.

“We are excited to show the rest of the country what our local governments and schools in the Columbus region and Ohio are doing to make it safer to walk and bicycle to school as the host of the Safe Routes to School National Conference,” said Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) Executive Director and Conference Host William Murdock.

The conference kicks off on Tuesday, April 5, at noon, with keynote speaker Kevin Carroll, founder of Kevin Carroll Katalyst/LLC. He is the author of three highly successful books, *Rules of the Red Rubber Ball*, *What’s Your Red Rubber Ball?!* and *The Red Rubber Ball at Work*.

Tuesday afternoon’s mobile workshop is a “How We Roll” ride around downtown and nearby neighborhoods led by local bike advocacy group Yay Bikes!

The National Center for Safe Routes to School will announce the winner of its Oberstar Award and the Safe Routes to School National Partnership will present its inaugural Hubsmith Award at the conference.

“Safety is our top priority. Ohio has one of the most dynamic Safe Routes to School programs in the country and we are thrilled to be able to showcase our many innovations and cutting edge programming to the nation,” said Ohio Department of Transportation Director Jerry Wray.

The conference's second day, Wednesday, April 6, is full of breakout sessions, mobile workshops and keynote presentations. The morning begins with remarks by Gil (Guillermo) Penalosa, Founder & Chair of the Board, 8 80 Cities from 8-9:30am.

Wednesday's lunch speakers, at noon, will discuss the intersections between health and transportation. Columbus-based physicians Ihuoma Eneli, Director, Nationwide Children's Hospital Center for Healthy Weight and Nutrition; and Mike Patrick, Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at The Ohio State University College of Medicine and Medical Director of Interactive Media for Nationwide Children's Hospital; will be joined by Jennifer Toole, Founder and President of Toole Design Group.

Keynote speaker details are at — saferoutesconference.org/program/keynote-speakers

There are three mobile workshops on Wednesday afternoon:

- Ride with a Bike Cop
- Blind Walk Audits, where participants will walk around downtown while blindfolded with guide dogs or white canes
- Bike Co-Op Field Trip to Franklinton Cycle Works with a basic bike mechanics class.

"Intersections" continues on Thursday, April 7 with breakout sessions and a luncheon featuring TED-style talks by local Safe Routes to School advocates and participants from 11:30am-1pm.

Learn more at saferoutesconfrence.org and be social — like [Facebook.com/SafeRoutesNationalConference](https://www.facebook.com/SafeRoutesNationalConference), follow [@SRTS_Conference](https://twitter.com/SRTS_Conference) on Twitter and Instagram, and use the hashtag #Intersections2016.

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About

Safe Routes to School National Partnership

The Safe Routes to School National Partnership is a nonprofit organization that improves the quality of life for kids and communities by promoting active, healthy lifestyles and safe infrastructure that supports bicycling and walking. We advance policy change; catalyze support for safe, active, and healthy communities with a network of more than 800 partner organizations; and we share our deep expertise at national, state and local levels with those who are helping propel our mission forward.

Founded in 2005, the Safe Routes to School National Partnership's mission is to advance safe walking and bicycling to and from schools, and in daily life, to improve the health and well-being of America's children and to foster the creation of livable, sustainable communities. The National Partnership is a 501(c)(3) non-profit.

Facebook: [facebook.com/saferoutespartnership](https://www.facebook.com/saferoutespartnership)

Twitter: @SafeRoutesNow

National Center for Safe Routes to School

Established in May 2006, the National Center for Safe Routes to School helps support communities in changing their culture around safe and active travel. The National Center assists states and communities in enabling and encouraging children to safely walk and bicycle to school. Its role includes providing technical support for U.S. Walk to School Day and Bike to School Day; coordinating online registration, developing resources, and facilitating worldwide promotion and participation. Part of the University of North Carolina Highway Safety Research Center, the National Center serves as the information clearinghouse for the federal Safe Routes to School program with funding from the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration.

Facebook: [facebook.com/saferoutesinfo](https://www.facebook.com/saferoutesinfo)

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC)

The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) is a voluntary association of local governments and regional organizations which envisions and embraces innovative directions in economic prosperity, energy, the environment, housing, land use and transportation. Our transformative programming, services and innovative public policy are designed to promote and support the vitality and growth in the region.

Facebook: facebook.com/morpc

Twitter: @MORPC

Instagram: @CentralOhio

Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT)

The Ohio Department of Transportation maintains the state's largest man-made asset– the transportation system. ODOT's mission is to provide the safe and easy movement of people and goods from place to place. As a \$2.8 billion per year enterprise, ODOT invests the bulk of its resources in system preservation through maintenance, construction and snow and ice operations.

Facebook: facebook.com/OhioDepartmentOfTransportation

Twitter: @ODOT_Statewide

Instagram: @ODOT_Statewide

Contacts:

- Margaux Mennesson, Safe Routes to School National Partnership, M: 503-313-6400, margaux@saferoutespartnership.org
- Colleen Oliver, National Center for SRTS, T: 919-962-7769, M: 919-271-7860, oliver@hsrc.unc.edu
- Bernice Cage, MORPC, T: 614-233-4157, M: 614-626-1117, bcage@morpc.org
- Matt Bruning, T: 614-466-6906, Matt.Bruning@dot.ohio.gov
- Stephanie Tresso, for Intersections Conference, T: 614-221-2885 x15, M: 614-397-7814, stresso@murphyepson.com