Chicago’s Safe Routes Ambassadors: Backgrounder

WHO: Chicago’s Safe Routes Ambassadors are the education and outreach team for the Chicago Department of Transportation, teaching pedestrian and bicycle safety to students across Chicago.

WHAT: Chicago’s Safe Routes Ambassadors provide pedestrian and bicycle safety presentations, workshops and training opportunities to students, parents and community members across the city. Chicago’s Safe Routes Ambassadors promote walking and biking as a safe, fun, healthy way to get to school.

WHEN: The Safe Routes Ambassadors promote safety year-round.

WHERE: The Safe Routes Ambassadors promote safe walking and biking at any Chicago public or private school and at community events throughout the city.

WHY: The Safe Routes Ambassadors provide practical, skills-based traffic safety training to reduce the number of fatalities and serious injuries from car-bike and car-pedestrian crashes, and to increase the number of trips taken to school by foot and by bike.

HOW: The Safe Routes Ambassadors give engaging in-class presentations and outdoor workshops at public and private schools in Chicago. The Safe Routes Ambassadors partner with organizations to provide schools and community groups with the tools they need to develop other Safe Routes to School activities. In addition to classroom programming, the Ambassadors can give presentations to parents, teachers and community members on walking and biking safely.

Services provided free of cost by Chicago’s Safe Routes Ambassadors:
- Up to TWO classroom visits for 2nd and 5th grades:
  - 45-60 minute in-class safety presentation
  - 45 (2nd grade) or 60 (5th grade) minute follow-up outdoor workshop
- Classroom presentations for high school driver’s education classes
- Workshops for parents and community members
- Walk and Bike to School Day toolkit
- Student and parent safety publications
- Teacher and administrator resources and lesson plans

For more information, visit http://www.saferoutesambassadors.org