COMMUNITY PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE SAFETY TRAINING PROGRAM

Creating Safer Streets for Walking and Biking

THE PROGRAM

Road design, traffic speed, and road/sidewalk quality are all factors that influence health, physical activity levels and the number of pedestrian and bicycle collisions that occur in our communities. Research also shows that deciding where and when to walk or bike on local streets and public areas to be active is shaped by how risky or safe we perceive them to be. Involving communities in data collection and decision-making processes is critical to promoting community investment in road safety and developing long term solutions to health concerns related to transportation.

The Community Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Training (CPBST) program is a joint project of UC Berkeley SafeTREC and California Walks. The CPBST includes training and skill building in pedestrian and bicycle safety and creates opportunities for collaboration among communities, local officials and residents. The goal is to help make communities safer and more pleasant for walking and biking.

WHAT TO EXPECT

The half day training is designed to provide participants with: 1) knowledge on how to conduct walking/biking assessments; 2) walking and biking safety countermeasures through the 6 E's safety approach: Equity and Community Empowerment, Evaluation, Engineering, Encouragement, Education, and Enforcement; and 3) an opportunity to address and plan for pedestrian and bicycle safety projects and programs with their community.

PART 1  Walking/Biking Assessments:
Participants take part in a walking/biking assessment of nearby streets.

PART 2  6 E's Educational Activity:
Participants then take part in an activity to discuss the 6 E's and how they relate to observations made during the walking/biking assessments.

PART 3  Table Talks Activity:
In smaller groups, participants reconvene to plan for infrastructure projects, community programs, and actionable next steps for their community.

“CPBST provided the space, time, and expertise Healthy Lompoc needed to convene stakeholders, build motivation and move our work forward. CPBST helped put data and credibility behind the message of increased safety and walkability in Lompoc.”

- Executive Director,
Lompoc Valley Community Healthcare Organization
As of 2017, SafeTREC and California Walks have conducted 77 trainings. Many cities have had success in obtaining additional funding for crossing signals, street improvements, walking school buses, educational presentations, etc. Communities have developed media campaigns about ped/bike safety; youth have conducted presentations to city councils.

Initiatives taken after CPBST workshops:
- Infrastructure improvements
- Education and enforcement efforts
- Community-based programming
- Coalition building and policy changes
- Expanded media coverage & outreach

Explore our interactive map of the CPBST Program to view and access summary reports from trainings held throughout California at bit.ly/CPBSTMap.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

“I never would have predicted that [CPBST] would have caused such great changes in our community. [CPBST] brought all the players together and gave us the tools to talk about and make decisions.”

- Town Manager, City of Paradise