

Connecticut's Safer People, Safer Streets Spring Cleanup List

The **Mayors' Challenge for Safer People and Safer Streets** is a call to action from U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Secretary Foxx. The goal is for local elected officials "to take significant action to improve safety for bicycle riders and pedestrians of all ages and abilities over the next year." Secretary Foxx provided local civic leaders with a list of suggested activities for meeting the challenge on the national website: www.dot.gov/mayors-challenge. Below is a Connecticut-specific spring cleanup list for ideas to help achieve safer people, safer streets.

- **Create safe routes to schools for students**
 - Volunteer to help with a local Bike to School Day event
 - Attend a parent-teacher organization meetings to hear what barriers exist for children walking and bicycling to community schools
 - Discuss what fixes can be implemented right away to address these barriers with public works staff and local law enforcement
 - Apply for technical assistance at no charge from the State SRTS Team to develop a local program for providing bicycling and walking safety education to kindergarten through eighth graders
 - Encourage your local Parks and Recreation Department to register for the State SRTS Team's Summer K-8 Safety Education Initiative to have Skills Clinics offered in your town for ages 5-14
- **Maintain a passable, connected system through regular maintenance and inspection**
 - Participate in national Bike to Work Day events
 - Ride your local trail segments with your public works staff and work together to address any maintenance that needs to be done such as removing fallen trees or filling washed out areas
 - Tour your town with your public works staff to develop a list of short term maintenance solutions that can be implemented right away to remove barriers for safer passage of bicyclists and pedestrians
 - Coordinate with local businesses, colleges, employers and transit providers to learn what is needed and make a plan to connect people safely to services
 - Clear sand and debris from the roadways and storm drains to reduce hazards for bicyclists
 - Inventory pedestrian signals to ensure that they are functioning
 - Replace fallen regulatory signage and repaint worn pavement markings, especially at crosswalks
 - Repair sidewalks and plan more ADA ramps to address gaps in these systems for better connectivity to retail, social services, medical care, open space and employment
- **Submit testimony in support of bicycle/pedestrian friendly bills, such as "The Bike Bill" - SB 502, An Act Concerning Bicycle Safety**

Reference: Connecticut Department of Transportation, www.ct.gov/dot/completestreets