

Mecklenburg County
Charlotte, North Carolina

Sustaining SRTS Initiatives: Emerging policy and practice that make it happen

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Charlotte (Mecklenburg), NC



012 (945,817)

828 (695,454)

Charlotte cont.

- Government: Council (Commissioners)
- County includes 6 other municipalities
- Climate: moderate, 4 seasons, 62°F avg temp



Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS)

- 178 schools
 - 100 elementary
 - 36 middle
 - 33 high
 - 9 special program &
- 135,638 students



CMS Transportation

- 1200 buses
- 5700 separate bus runs - 25,000 stops
- 123,000 round-trip miles per day
- \$63M annual transportation budget

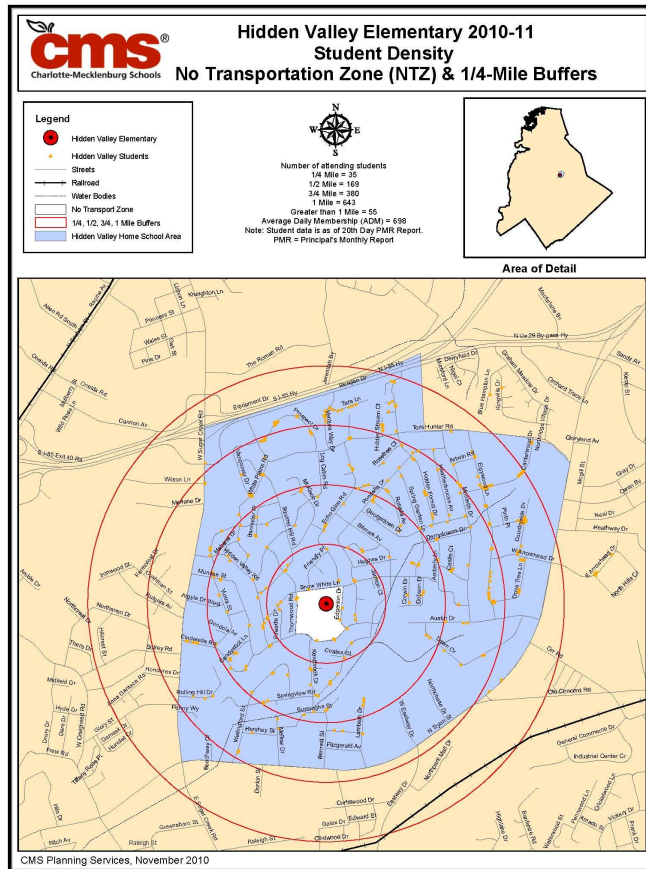


Recent & current SRTS activities

- 11 schools involved (9 elementary, 2 middle)
- 1 walk per year to 2 walks each month
- 7 schools have regular events with 125-250 students participating



SRTS Grants



- SRTS infrastructure (CDOT)
- SRTS non-infrastructure (MCHD)
- SRTS planning grant - Davidson, NC (municipality in Mecklenburg)

What's not working?

- No champion (low income challenge)
- No volunteers (low income challenge)
- Lack of City funding for SRTS (TAP)
- Severe CMS funding shortfall (low income challenge)

What's working?



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Opportunities

- Youth advisory council
- School health assessments/action plans
- SRTS workshop for Parent University
- City & State “complete streets”
- Reduced busing
- CDOT involvement
- New TAP

Opportunities (cont.)

- Obesity epidemic
- Increased media exposure
- Relatively low cost to organize walking/cycling events
- Current SRTS resources
- 2 of County's 2010 health priorities:
 - Chronic disease (i.e., obesity) prevention through healthy choices
 - Environmental health – promote active transportation

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