



Small Town, Big Impact

Exploring Safe Routes Project in
Rural Communities



SAFE ROUTES
TO SCHOOL





Our beginnings!

- 2014: Contacted by CDOT to learn about SRTS
 - Appointed a coordinator
 - Started a coalition
 - Painted crosswalks
 - Incorporated SRTS into our Wellness Policy
 - Addressed SRTS in health classes
 - Walk/Bike to School Days
 - Bike rodeos
 - Started doing tallies & parent surveys (fall and spring)





The Struggles

- No crossing walks were painted to get to the school
- Consistency with coalition members
- Students did not have bikes
- Lack of safety equipment and norms for using them
- Busy intersections
- Speed of traffic around the school
- Time to coordinate the work
- The COLD!





2016: Non-Infrastructure Grant!

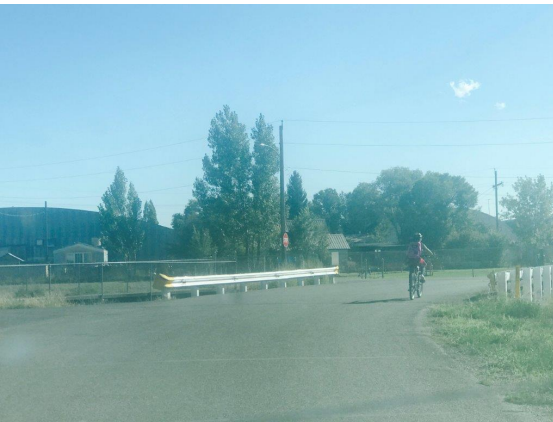
- 2016: Received our first Non-infrastructure Grant
 - Hired a part-time coordinator
 - Continued with coalition
 - Incorporated into our wellness work in the district (District Health Advisory Committee)
 - Developed crossing guard program
 - Incorporated into health and PE courses
 - Developed Walking Wednesdays
 - Created a bike fleet
 - Created after-school bike and skateboard clubs
 - Bike Rodeos





Challenges

- Safety remained the #1 concern of parents
- Struggled to recruit crossing guards
- Maintenance and storage of bikes
- Helmets!
- Push back from the Town of Center to apply for Infrastructure grant





2018: Another Non-Infrastructure Grant!

- 2018: Grant #2
 - Hired a full-time coordinator
 - Continued with coalition
 - Created goal in District Health & Wellness plan
 - Developed crossing guard program
 - Incorporated walking/biking into merit programs
 - Expanded bike fleet and purchased storage
 - Bike Rodeos
 - Bike/Skateboard clubs
 - Worked hard on Infrastructure grant





SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

More struggles

- Safety!
- Staff turnover
- Politics!
- In-kind
- Right of way easements
- Two counties





2020: Non & Infrastructure Grants!!!!

- Non-Infrastructure
 - Full-time coordinator
 - Continued with coalition
 - Expanded crossing guard program
 - Expanded bike fleet and purchased storage
 - Bike Rodeos
 - Bike/Skateboard clubs

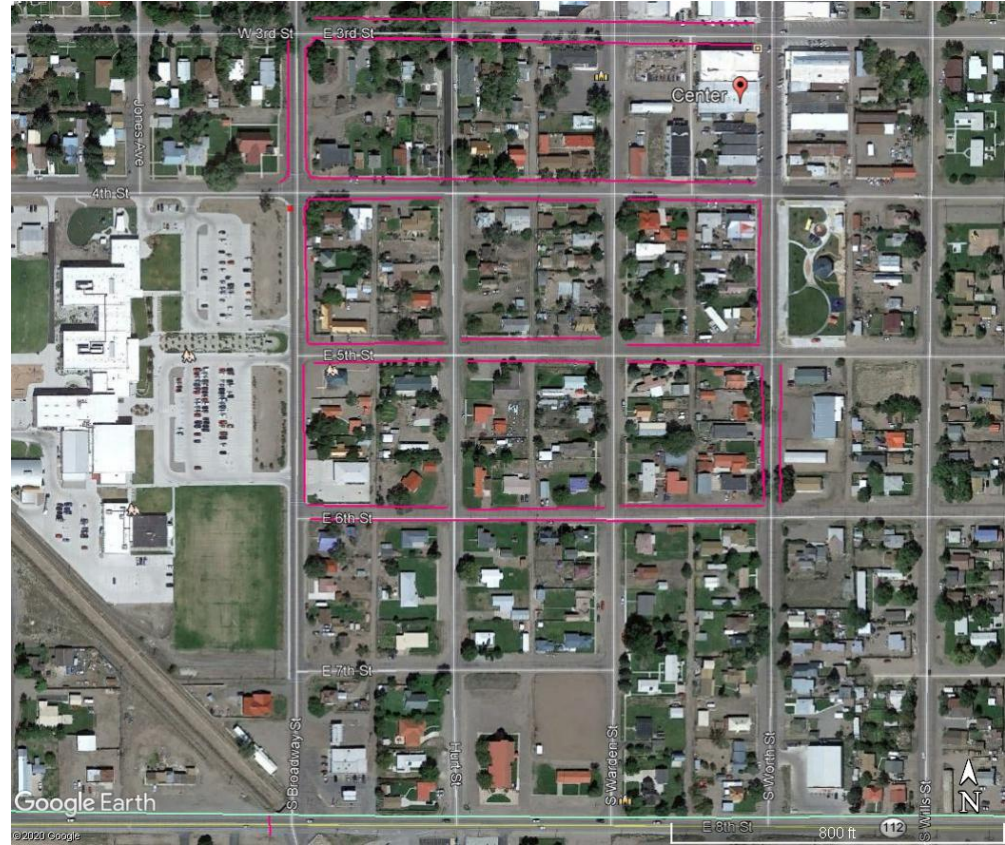




2020: Non & Infrastructure Grants!!!!

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Project consist of sidewalks, signage, crosswalks, striping and ADA/PROWAG

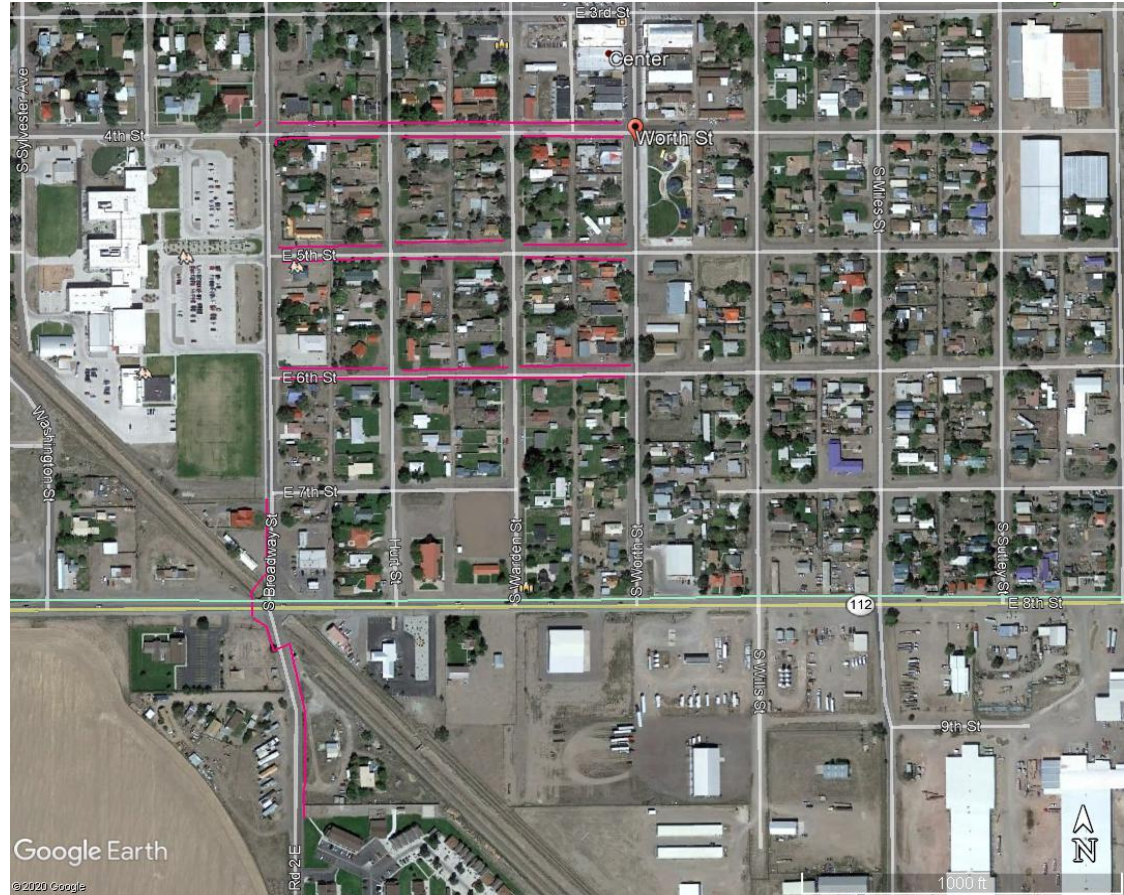




2020: Non & Infrastructure Grants!!!!

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Construct sidewalks from Worth to Broadway and Tierra Nueva Housing across HWY 112





2020: Non & Infrastructure Grants!!!!

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Project also consist a Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacon Crosswalk along with appropriate signage across HWY 112





2020: Non & Infrastructure Grants!!!!

INFRASTRUCTURE

- We found that the project would have unforeseen cost associated with the grant so we had to decrease sidewalk construction significantly.





2020: Non & Infrastructure Grants!!!!

- Challenges
 - Staff Turnover
 - Right of way easements
 - COVID-19
 - C-DOT Red-Tape :)
 - Need more sidewalks
 - Recruiting crossing guards





Overall Successes

- Coordinator Position
- Crossing Guards
- Bike and walking safety education
- Bike & Skateboard Clubs!
- Town Collaboration
- County Collaboration
- Sidewalk & Bridge





Sidewalk & Bridge





Contact Information



Brian Lujan
brian@centerco.gov
719-754-3497



Katrina Ruggles
kruggles@center.k12.co.us
719-754-2232



Questions?

