## 2022 VTrans Safe Routes to School Spot Improvements – Criteria Template

**Applicant Name:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**Project Title:** Click or tap here to enter text.

## Application Checklist

Make sure everything is included

(1) Project Application Form (separate PDF file)

All other materials noted below to be provided in the same order as below.

(2) Project Map(s)

(3) Project Evaluation Criteria Answers

(4) Project area photographs (minimum of two current photos)

(5) Notify your Regional Planning Commission

(6) Current letter of support from the municipal governing body or school acknowledging their willingness to provide future maintenance of the completed project

(7) Documentation of contact with VTrans District office **if project is on the state system**

## SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL SPOT IMPROVEMENTS

1. **Demonstrated Project Need—20 Points:** What walking and/or bicycling access or safety problem are you trying to solve? **Describe the proposed improvement (e.g. length and type of facility being proposed - *500 feet of concrete sidewalk with granite curb* or *install bulbouts and flashing beacons at existing crosswalk*).** Describe the project area and how the proposed project will improve conditions for children walking and/or bicycling to school. How does the project tie into the local walking or bicycling network? If proposing an improvement to an existing pedestrian crossing, is the improvement one of the measures identified in the FHWA STEP initiative (<https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/ped_bike/step/resources/>)?

If applying for a specific pedestrian crossing improvement, such as Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons, be sure to include information such as the posted speed, traffic volumes and other factors that support the need for these devices. See the VTrans Ped Crossing Guide for technical guidance - <https://tinyurl.com/ped-crossing-guide>.

Click or tap here to enter text.

**12-20 Points** – Project is critical for safe walking and bicycling to school/is specifically identified in a school travel plan or other local planning document.

**6-11 Points** – Project generally improves local walking and bicycling, but not clear how it provides access to a school

**0-5 Points** – Unclear how proposed facility contributes to school walking or bicycling or solves a safety problem

*Higher scores are given for quantifiable evidence of safety issues or documented deficiencies such as ADA compliance, demonstration of facility as high need via planning documents or connecting segments of an existing network and increasing access and safety for school travel.*

1. **Complexity—15 points***:* Is the project straightforward and easy to implement? Is it within existing highway right of way? Are there any known environmental constraints e.g. wetlands or hazardous waste? Are there design challenges like structures or new subsurface drainage?

Click or tap here to enter text.

**11-15 Points** – Project likely to be within existing town highway right of way. Little or no technical challenges (e.g. improvements at existing crossing, provision of missing sidewalk links).

**6-10 Points** – Minor complexity with clear identification of how to address issues and/or project is in VTrans Right of Way.

**0-5 Points** – Needs additional land acquisition or ROW. Historic resources impacted. Technical difficulties such as structures or drainage required.

*Higher scores for fewer complexities and likelihood that project can be built within existing municipal highway right of way.*

1. **Project coordination – 5 points:** To your knowledge, are there other state or local projects in the same area that might impact the project timeline and schedule for completion? Is the project on a state-maintained route?

Click or tap here to enter text.

*Higher score for no conflicting projects, lower score for several coordination needs.*

1. **Project Management—10 Points***:* Who will be the local point of contact for the project? Describe the role this person plays at the local level.

Click or tap here to enter text.

**6-10 Points** – A responsible party identified with a clear nexus to the identified school.

**0-5 Points** – Unclear who the point of contact is.