

SENATE DEMOCRATIC LEADER • MARK SCHAUER • 19TH DISTRICT

Schauer Press Release

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Schauer Praises Grants to Help Jackson Students Get to School Safely *Program Encourages Healthy Transportation such as Walking and Biking*

LANSING-Students who attend five schools in Jackson County will have improved routes to get to and from school safely thanks to funding announced by MDOT and praised by State Senator Mark Schauer (D-Battle Creek). The schools are among nearly 300 in Michigan participating in the “Safe Routes to School” (SRTS) program, which recently awarded \$1.6 million to schools statewide.

“A good education is critical to success down the road in life, so we need to make sure students are safe on the road to school,” said Schauer. “These initiatives will help provide local improvements that foster safe, healthy travel for our children.”

Jackson County schools receiving funds in this round of grants include:

- George Long Elementary School, village of Grass Lake;
- Frost and Cascades Elementary Complex, city of Jackson;
- Jackson Arts and Technology Academy, city of Jackson;
- Northeast Elementary School, city of Jackson; and
- Springport Elementary and Middle School, village of Springport.

SRTS aims to enable and encourage all children to walk and bike to school; make bicycling and walking to school safer and more appealing alternative modes of transportation; and develop projects and encourage activities that will improve student health and safety while reducing traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity of schools.

Funding for SRTS comes entirely from the federal grants; no match by the state is required. SRTS grant funds can support both infrastructure and non-infrastructure projects. For more information about Michigan's Safe Routes to School Program, please visit www.saferoutesmichigan.org.

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