

# ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM CYCLE 1

## APPLICATION Part 1 (Includes Sections I, V, VI, VII, VIII & XI)

Please read the Application Instructions at  
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/atp/index.html>  
prior to filling out this application

Project name:

County of Kern - Highland Elementary Pedestrian Improvements

For Caltrans use only:  TAP  STP  RTP  SRTS  SRTS-NI  SHA  
 DAC  Non-DAC  Plan

Active Transportation Program  
Cycle 1 Application

**County of Kern – Highland Elementary  
Pedestrian Improvements**

Table of Contents

I.	General Information	1
II.	Project Information	3
III.	Screening Criteria	4
IV.	Narrative Questions: Q1 – Q8	6
V.	Project Programming Request	21
VI.	Additional Information	24
VII.	Non-Infrastructure Schedule Information	25
VIII.	Application Signatures	26
IX.	Additional Attachments	27

## I. GENERAL INFORMATION

**Project name:** County of Kern - Highland Elementary Pedestrian Improvements

(fill out all of the fields below)

<p>1. APPLICANT (Agency name, address and zip code)  <small>Kern County Roads Department                  2700 "M" Street Suite 400                  Bakersfield CA 93301</small></p>	<p>2. PROJECT FUNDING</p> <p>ATP funds Requested      \$ <u>275,000.00</u></p> <p>Matching Funds              \$ _____                  (If Applicable)</p> <p>Other Project funds        \$ <u>55,000.00</u></p> <p>TOTAL PROJECT COST    \$ <u>330,000.00</u></p>
<p>3. APPLICANT CONTACT (Name, title, e-mail, phone #)                  Bob Neath, P.E.                  Engineering Manager                  bobn@co.kern.ca.us      (661) 862-8850</p>	<p>5. PROJECT COUNTY(IES):                   Kern</p>
<p>4. APPLICANT CONTACT (Address &amp; zip code)  <small>2700 "M" Street Suite 400                  Bakersfield CA 93301</small></p>	<p>7. Application # <u>3</u> of <u>5</u> (in order of agency priority)</p>
<p>6. CALTRANS DISTRICT #- Click Drop down menu below                  District 6</p>	

**Area Description:**

8. Large Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)- Select your "MPO" or "Other" from the drop down menu>	KCOG Kern Council of Governments
9. If "Other" was selected for #8- select your MPO or RTPA from the drop down menu>	
10. Urbanized Area (UZA) population (pop.)- Select your UZA pop. from drop down menu>	Within a Large MPO (Pop > 200,000)

**Master Agreements (MAs):**

11.  Yes, the applicant has a FEDERAL MA with Caltrans. 06-5950R
12.  Yes, the applicant has a STATE MA with Caltrans. 00007S
13. If the applicant does not have an MA. Do you meet the Master Agreement requirements? Yes  No   
 The Applicant MUST be able to enter into MAs with Caltrans

**Partner Information:**

14. Partner Name*:	15. Partner Type
16. Contact Information (Name, phone # & e-mail)	17. Contact Address & zip code

Click here if the project has more than one partner; attach the remaining partner information on a separate page

\*If another entity agrees to assume responsibility for the ongoing operations and maintenance of the facility, documentation of the agreement must be submitted with the application, and a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding or Interagency Agreement between the parties must be submitted with the request for allocation.

**Project Type:** (Select only one)

18. Infrastructure (IF)       19. Non-Infrastructure (NI)       20. Combined (IF & NI)

**Project name:** County of Kern - Highland Elementary Pedestrian Improvements

**I. GENERAL INFORMATION-continued**

**Sub-Project Type** (Select all that apply)

21.  Develop a Plan in a Disadvantaged Community (select the type(s) of plan(s) to be developed)  
 Bicycle Plan     Safe Routes to School Plan     Pedestrian Plan  
 Active Transportation Plan

(If applying for an Active Transportation Plan- check any of the following plans that your agency already has):

- Bike plan     Pedestrian plan     Safe Routes to School plan     ATP plan

22.  Bicycle and/or Pedestrian infrastructure  
Bicycle only:     Class I     Class II     Class III  
Ped/Other:     Sidewalk     Crossing Improvement     Multi-use facility

Other:

23.  Non-Infrastructure (Non SRTS)  
 24.  Recreational Trails\*-     Trail     Acquisition

**\*Please see additional Recreational Trails instructions before proceeding**

25.  Safe routes to school-     Infrastructure     Non-Infrastructure

If SRTS is selected, provide the following information

26. SCHOOL NAME & ADDRESS: Highland Elementary School 2900 Barnett Street Bakersfield CA 93308		
27. SCHOOL DISTRICT NAME & ADDRESS: Standard School District 1200 N. Chester Avenue Bakersfield CA 93305		

28. County-District-School Code (CDS) 15 - 63792 - 6010078	29. Total Student Enrollment 830	30. Percentage of students eligible for free or reduced meal programs ** 68.60
31. Percentage of students that currently walk or bike to school 77	32. Approximate # of students living along school route proposed for improvement 639	33. Project distance from primary or middle school immediately adjacent

\*\*Refer to the California Department of Education website: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sh/cw/filesafdc.asp>

- Click here if the project involves more than one school; attach the remaining school information including school official signature and person to contact, if different, on a separate page

## II. PROJECT INFORMATION

(Please read the "ATP instructions" document prior to attaching your responses to all of the questions in Sections II. Project Information, Section III. Screening Criteria and Section IV. Narrative Questions - 20 pages max)

### 1. PROJECT LOCATION

In Oildale, north of Bakersfield, Kern County, the project will be constructed on the streets surrounding Highland Elementary including Circle Drive, Barnett Street, Ashby Street, Devore Avenue and Day Avenue.

2. **PROJECT COORDINATES** Latitude  Longitude   
(Decimal degrees) (Decimal degrees)

### 3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The first purpose of this project is to improve pedestrian access to Highland Elementary School for students who walk to the campus. This will be accomplished through constructing sidewalk behind existing curb and gutter on Circle Drive, Barnett Street, Devore Avenue, and Day Avenue as they lead to the school. In addition, wheelchair accessible ramps will be constructed at sixteen locations around the school.

### 4. PROJECT STATUS

This project is in the conceptual phase. The design of this project should be rather simple, it can be constructed within existing right-of-way, and no environmental issues are anticipated.

### III. SCREENING CRITERIA

#### **1. DEMONSTRATED NEEDS OF THE APPLICANT**

##### **Describe the need for the project and/or funding**

Kern County does not have the resources to make these improvements in the near future due to lack of funds. According to data provided by the Standard School District, an estimated 77% of the school's 830 students could walk or ride their bicycle to Highland Elementary School. Presently, there are many gaps in the sidewalks on the streets surrounding the school. This forces students who walk to school to walk in the roadway.

The risk of students getting hit by a vehicle is very high due to students walking on the roadway with no separation between vehicle and pedestrian. Parked vehicles on the shoulders create another risk for children walking to school. Whenever a vehicle is parked on the shoulder, it creates an obstruction to the pedestrian and forces the children to walk between the travel way and the parked vehicle. Currently many parents who own a vehicle prefer to drive their children to school because of the unsafe condition around the school.

This is an older neighborhood, and some areas that already have sidewalk do not have wheelchair accessible ramps at the intersections. This forces students, and other residents, who must utilize wheelchairs or scooter to operate them in the roadway where they are at risk of being hit by a vehicle.

**2. CONSISTENCY WITH REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (100 WORDS OR LESS)**

**Explain how this project is consistent with your Regional Transportation Plan (if applicable). Include adoption date of the plan.**

This project is consistent with Kern County's Regional Transportation Plan and its goal to increase Non-Motorized (Active Transportation) Facilities. This project is listed in the Constrained Program of Projects (Non-motorized) on page 5-12 of the document under "Construct Pedestrian Enhancement Improvements (Various Locations)" and "Construct Complete Streets Improvements (Various Locations)."

The latest version of the Regional Transportation Plan is currently out for public review, with approval expected in December 2014.

#### IV. NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

1. **POTENTIAL FOR INCREASED WALKING AND BICYCLING, ESPECIALLY AMONG STUDENTS, INCLUDING THE IDENTIFICATION OF WALKING AND BICYCLING ROUTES TO AND FROM SCHOOLS, TRANSIT FACILITIES, COMMUNITY CENTERS, EMPLOYMENT CENTERS, AND OTHER DESTINATIONS; AND INCLUDING INCREASING AND IMPROVING CONNECTIVITY AND MOBILITY OF NON-MOTORIZED USERS. (0-30 POINTS)**

- A. **Describe how your project encourages increased walking and bicycling, especially among students.**

This project will encourage students who live around the school to walk to Highland Elementary School. Currently, students who desire to walk have to either walk across resident's front lawn and around bushes, hedges and fences, or they must walk in the roadway and risk being hit by a car. The new sidewalks eliminate this problem for students.

The principal of Highland Elementary School, Tonny Gisbertz, states that he has heard from numerous parents and children that they would like to walk to school but won't because of the existing unsafe conditions. This project will allow them to walk to school instead of being driven.

Students who utilize wheelchairs have to operate them in the roadway as there is either no sidewalk or, in areas where there is sidewalk, no wheelchair accessible ramps. This project will eliminate that problem for students in wheelchairs.

- B. **Describe the number and type of possible users and their destinations, and the anticipated percentage increase in users upon completion of your project. Data collection methods should be described.**

According to data provided by the Standard School District, 23% of the students at Highland Elementary School currently ride the bus to school. About half of the remaining students walk or ride their bike. The District also states that about 639

students live in the area affected by this project. Therefore we estimate that there are 250 current users whose destination is the school. We anticipate a 20% increase in the number of walkers once safe conditions are provided. The District will continue to track the percentage of students who walk or ride to school and provide that information to the Kern County Roads Department for reporting.

**C. Describe how this project improves walking and bicycling routes to and from, connects to, or is part of a school or school facility, transit facility, community center, employment center, state or national trail system, points of interest, and/or park.**

This project will improve the walking route to Highland Elementary School, as the new sidewalk will connect those students to the school's entrance.

It will also improve the ability for those who utilize wheelchairs and scooters to safely navigate the neighborhood around the school.

**D. Describe how this project increases and/or improves connectivity, removes a barrier to mobility and/or closes a gap in a non-motorized facility.**

The proposed sidewalk leading to Highland Elementary School clearly improves connectivity, as it will connect to existing sidewalks that are scattered throughout the neighborhood.

The absence of wheelchair accessible ramps creates a significant barrier to mobility for those who utilize wheelchairs and scooters. The construction of wheelchair accessible ramps at sixteen locations in the neighborhood around the school will remove a significant barrier to mobility.

- Projects with significant potential- 21 to 30 points
- Projects with moderate potential- 11 to 20 points
- Projects with minimal potential- 1 to 10 points
- Projects with no potential- 0 points

#### IV. NARRATIVE QUESTIONS- continued

**2. POTENTIAL FOR REDUCING THE NUMBER AND/OR RATE OF PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLIST FATALITIES AND INJURIES, INCLUDING THE IDENTIFICATION OF SAFETY HAZARDS FOR PEDESTRIANS AND BICYCLISTS. (0-25 POINTS)**

**A. Describe the potential of the project to reduce pedestrian and/or bicycle injuries or fatalities.**

The risk of students getting hit by a vehicle is very high due to students walking on the roadway with no separation between vehicle and pedestrian. Parked vehicles on the shoulders create another risk for children walking to school. Whenever a vehicle is parked on the shoulder, it creates an obstruction to the pedestrian and forces the children to walk between the travel way and the parked vehicle. Currently many parents who own a vehicle prefer to drive their children to school because of the unsafe condition around the school.

This project would construct new sidewalks that would offer pedestrians a safer alternative to walking in the street, with the new curb providing a physical barrier separating them from the roadway.

This is an older neighborhood, and some areas that already have sidewalk do not have wheelchair accessible ramps at the intersections. This can force wheelchair users to operate their wheelchairs in the roadway, putting them at a significantly increased risk of being hit by a vehicle.

This project offers significant potential for reducing injuries and fatalities to wheelchair users by moving them off of the roadway and onto sidewalks, creating a separation between the two.

**B. Describe if/how your project will achieve any or all of the following:**

- **Reduces speed or volume of motor vehicles**
- **Improves sight distance and visibility**
- **Improves compliance with local traffic laws**
- **Eliminates behaviors that lead to collisions**
- **Addresses inadequate traffic control devices**
- **Addresses inadequate bicycle facilities, crosswalks or sidewalks**

This project will eliminate behaviors that lead to collisions by moving pedestrians out of the roadway and onto the safety of a sidewalk. It also adds wheelchair accessible ramps at sixteen intersections.

**C. Describe the location's history of events and the source(s) of data used (e.g. collision reports, community observation, surveys, audits) if data is not available include a description of safety hazard(s) and photos.**

The "Safe Routes to School Collision Map Viewer" tool found in TIMS (Transportation Injury Mapping System), created by researchers at the Safe Transportation Research and Education Center (SafeTREC) at the University of California, Berkeley, provided a list of pedestrian and bicycle accidents that occurred within ½ mile of the school over the six-year period of 2006 – 2011. It was determined that between 2006 and 2011, there were three pedestrian and two bicycle accidents that occurred within ½ mile of Highland Elementary School.

Additionally, discussions with the school's principal and teachers reveal a frightening number of close calls that happen far too frequently.

Finally, the engineering staff at the Kern County Roads Department, with decades of experience in transportation engineering, recognizes that the addition of sidewalk will greatly increase the safety for pedestrians in that area.

- Projects with significant potential- 16 to 25 points
- Projects with moderate potential- 8 to 15 points
- Projects with minimal potential- 1 to 7 points
- Projects with no potential- 0 points

#### IV. NARRATIVE QUESTIONS- continued

### 3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION and PLANNING (0-15 POINTS)

- A. Describe the community based public participation process that culminated in the project proposal or plan, such as noticed meetings/public hearings, consultation with stakeholders, etc.**

Kern County has been applying for Safe Routes to School funds since cycle one. We have established a SR2S committee, with representatives from the Kern County Roads Department, the City of Bakersfield Public Works Department, the Kern Council of Governments, the Kern County Superintendent of Schools, the California Highway Patrol, the Kern County Environmental Health Department, and Bike Bakersfield. The purpose of the committee is to identify and address safety issues for children walking or bicycling to schools throughout Kern County.

The Kern County Roads Department receives calls throughout the year from parents and school officials expressing safety concerns along school routes throughout the County. These safety concerns are documented and investigated. Whenever possible, the safety concerns are resolved by installing additional signs or painting new crosswalks and/or additional striping. Unfortunately, sometimes these safety concerns require more than just signage and striping. They require infrastructure improvements that cost a significant amount of money. It is these safety concerns that are documented and presented to the SR2S committee for evaluation.

A list of proposed projects is created and ranked based on the number of students walking, accident history and risk factors. Once a project is selected, the school district is contacted and presented with the proposed project. They are encouraged to share the project with parents and students to get their feedback.

Comments coming from the school officials and parents are also presented to the SR2S

committee. After the feedback is evaluated and the project is finalized, it is presented to the school district and a letter of support for the project is requested.

**B. Describe the local participation process that resulted in the identification and prioritization of the project**

The concept for the project was brought to the Kern County Roads Department by the Standard School District, to which Highland Elementary School belongs.

According to the principal, Tonny Gisbertz, the issue of needed sidewalk has been brought up frequently at School Site Council Meetings held at Highland Elementary School and attended by both parents and faculty.

**C. Is the project cost over \$1 Million? Y/N  N**

**If Yes- is the project Prioritized in an adopted city or county bicycle transportation plan, pedestrian plan, safe routes to school plan, active transportation plan, trail plan, circulation element of a general plan, or other publicly approved plan that incorporated elements of an active transportation plan? Y/N**

- Projects with substantial participation of community members- 11 to 15 points
- Projects with moderate participation of community members - 6 to 10 points
- Projects with minimal participation of community members- 1 to 5 points
- Projects with no participation of community members- 0 points

#### IV. NARRATIVE QUESTIONS- continued

##### 4. COST EFFECTIVENESS (0-10 POINTS)

- A. Describe the alternatives that were considered. Discuss the relative costs and benefits of all the alternatives and explain why the nominated one was chosen.

The problems for pedestrians that exist around this school and the adjoining neighborhood can really only be addressed by the solutions proposed in this project. Children are walking to school in the roadway. Wheelchair users are unable to access existing sidewalks because the intersections do not have wheelchair accessible ramps. There are no other reasonable alternatives to be considered.

- B. Calculate the ratio of the benefits of the project relative to both the total project cost and funds requested (i.e.,  $\frac{\text{Benefit}^*}{\text{Total Project Cost}}$  and  $\frac{\text{Benefit}^*}{\text{Program Funds Requested}}$ ).

*\*Benefits must directly relate to the goals of the Active Transportation Program.*

The benefit-cost ratios for this project were calculated using TIMS (Transportation Injury Mapping System), created by researchers at the Safe Transportation Research and Education Center (SafeTREC) at the University of California, Berkeley.

Using the "Safe Routes to School Collision Map Viewer" tool, it was determined that between 2006 and 2011, there were three pedestrian and two bicycle accidents that occurred within ½ mile of Highland Elementary School.

This information was then inputted into the Benefit / Cost Calculator. Based on the Program Funds Requested amount of \$275,000, the benefit-cost ratio for the project was determined to be 2.84.

Based on the Total Project Cost amount of \$330,000, the benefit-cost ratio for the project was determined to be 2.37.

- Applicant considers alternatives and exceptionally justifies the project nominated - 5 points
- Applicant considers alternatives and adequately justifies the project nominated - 3 to 4 points
- Applicant considers alternatives and minimally justifies the project nominated - 1 to 2 points
- Applicant did not consider alternatives or justify the project nominated - 0 points

- Applicant logically described how project benefits were quantified and has a benefit-cost ratio greater than 1 - 5 points
- Applicant logically described how project benefits were quantified and has benefit-cost ratio less than 1- 3. points
- Applicant did not logically describe how project benefits were quantified - 0 points

#### IV. NARRATIVE QUESTIONS- continued

##### 5. IMPROVED PUBLIC HEALTH (0-10 points)

###### A. Describe how the project will improve public health, i.e. through the targeting of populations who have a high risk factor for obesity, physical inactivity, asthma, or other health issues.

Kern County residents suffer from obesity and chronic disease at a level that is considered epidemic by the Kern County Public Health Services Department. In 2010, they along with many other health based organizations in the County issued a report entitled "Call to Action: Building a Foundation for a Healthy Kern County." According to the report, 60.3% of Kern County's population is considered overweight or obese. The report states that "poor nutrition and physical inactivity not only reinforces overweight and obesity but also has increased the risk of many chronic conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure, and many types of cancer." Kern County is the worst county in California when it comes to heart disease as a cause of death.

This project can improve public health through two avenues, both of which are encouraged in the report. It establishes a safe route for children to walk to school, thereby encouraging them to increase their physical activity. Also, because it targets young people, it can encourage lifelong changes in behavior that will prevent them from suffering from chronic diseases when they are adults.

- Applicant exceptionally described how the project will improve public health and addresses high risk populations- 7 to 10 points
- Applicant adequately described how the project will improve public health and addresses high risk populations - 4 to 6 points
- Applicant minimally described how the project will improve public health - 1 to 3 points
- Applicant did not describe how the project will improve public health - 0 points

**IV. NARRATIVE QUESTIONS- continued**

**6. BENEFIT TO DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES (0-10 points)**

A. I. Is the project located in a disadvantaged community? Y/N  Y

II. Does the project significantly benefit a disadvantaged community? Y/N  Y

a. Which criteria does the project meet? (Answer all that apply)

- o Median household income for the community benefited by the project: \$32,928
- o California Communities Environmental Health Screen Tool (CalEnviroScreen) score for the community benefited by the project: 5%
- o For projects that benefit public school students, percentage of students eligible for the Free or Reduced Price Meals Programs: 68.6

b. Should the community benefitting from the project be considered disadvantaged based on criteria not specified in the program guidelines? If so, provide data for all criteria above and a quantitative assessment of why the community should be considered disadvantaged.

**B. Describe how the project demonstrates a clear benefit to a disadvantaged community and what percentage of the project funding will benefit that community, for projects using the school based criteria describe specifically the school students and community will benefit.**

100% of the non-infrastructure portion of the project will benefit disadvantaged communities.

The median household income for Oildale, where the Standard School District is located, was \$32,928 (54% of the statewide median) in 2012, qualifying it as a severely disadvantaged community.

The CalEnviroScreen 1.1, developed by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, reports Oildale residents received a score of 46, placing them in the top 5% of CalEnviroScreen 1.1 zip code results.

According to the school's principal, many of the families' whose children attend the school do not have access to a vehicle and therefore have no choice but to walk to

school. Other parents have expressed to the principal that they would like to have their children walk to school but feel that the lack of sidewalk makes it unsafe to do so.

The barriers currently faced by the residents of this disadvantaged neighborhood would be removed and the ability (and incentive) to walk would be greatly increased by this project.

- Project clearly and significantly addresses health, safety, and/or infrastructure challenges in the disadvantaged community- 5 points
- Project adequately addresses health, safety, and/or infrastructure challenges in the disadvantaged community - 3 points
- Project minimally addresses health, safety, and/or infrastructure challenges in the disadvantaged community - 1 points

- 80% to 100% of project funding benefits the disadvantaged community- 5 points
- 60% to 79% of project funding benefits the disadvantaged community- 4 points
- 40% to 59% of project funding benefits the disadvantaged community- 3 points
- 20% to 39% of project funding benefits the disadvantaged community- 2 points
- 1% to 19% of project funding benefits the disadvantaged community- 1 points
- 0% of project benefits the disadvantaged community- 0 points

**IV. NARRATIVE QUESTIONS- continued**

**7. USE OF CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION CORPS (CCC) OR A CERTIFIED COMMUNITY CONSERVATION CORPS (0 to -5 points)**

The applicant must send the following information to the CCC and CALCC prior to application submittal to Caltrans:

Project Description Project Map	Detailed Estimate Preliminary Plan	Project Schedule
------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	------------------

The corps agencies can be contacted at:  
California Conservation Corps at: [www.ccc.ca.gov](http://www.ccc.ca.gov)  
Community Conservation Corps at: <http://callocalcorps.org>

A. The applicant has coordinated with the CCC to identify how a state conservation corps can be a partner of the project. Y/N

a. Name, e-mail, and phone # of the person contacted and the date the information was submitted to them

Virginia Clark  
[Virginia.clark@ccc.ca.gov](mailto:Virginia.clark@ccc.ca.gov)  
(916) 341-3147

Contacted Thursday, May 15, 2014

B. The applicant has coordinated with a representative from the California Association of Local Conservation Corps (CALCC) to identify how a certified community conservation corps can be a partner of the project. Y/N

a. Name, e-mail, and phone # of the person contacted and the date the information was submitted to them

Cynthia Vitale  
[callocalcorps@gmail.com](mailto:callocalcorps@gmail.com)  
(916) 558-1516

Contacted Thursday, May 15, 2014

C. The applicant intends to utilize the CCC or a certified community conservation corps on all items where participation is indicated? Y/N

I have coordinated with a representative of the CCC; and the following are project items that they are qualified to partner on:

A response from the CCC had not been received at the time this application was submitted.

I have coordinated with a representative of the CALCC; and the following are project items that they are qualified to partner on:

A response from CALCC had not been received at the time this application was submitted.

Points will be deducted if an applicant does not seek corps participation or if an applicant intends not to utilize a corps in a project in which the corps can participate\*.

- The applicant intends to partner with a conservation corps to the maximum extent possible- 0 points
- The applicant did not seek partnership with a conservation corps, or indicated that they do not intend to partner with the corps to the maximum extent possible- (-)5 points

*\*If the applicant has indicated intended use of the CCC or CALCC in the approved application, a copy of the agreement between the implementing agency and the CCC or CALCC must be provided by the implementing agency, and will be incorporated as part of the original application, prior to request for authorization of funds for construction.*

**IV. NARRATIVE QUESTIONS- continued**

**8. APPLICANT'S PERFORMANCE ON PAST GRANTS ( 0 to -10 points)**

**A. Describe any of your agency's ATP type grant failures during the past 5 years, and what changes your agency will take in order to deliver this project.**

The Kern County Roads Department has not had any grant failures during the past five years.

- The applicant has no past grant experience or has performed satisfactorily on past grants - 0 points
- The applicant has not performed satisfactorily on past grants and/or has not adequately described how they will deliver this project (-)10 points

Project name: County of Kern - Highland Elementary Pedestrian Improvements

## V. PROJECT PROGRAMMING REQUEST

Applicant must complete a Project Programming Request (PPR) and attach it as part of this application. The PPR and can be found at [http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/transprog/allocation/ppr\\_new\\_projects\\_9-12-13.xls](http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/transprog/allocation/ppr_new_projects_9-12-13.xls)

PPR Instructions can be found at <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/transprog/ocip/2012stip.htm>

**Notes:**

- Fund No. 1 must represent ATP funding being requested for program years 2014/2015 and 2015/2016 only.
- Non-infrastructure project funding must be identified as Con and indicated as "Non-infrastructure" in the Notes box of the Proposed Cost and Proposed Funding tables.
- Match funds must be identified as such in the Proposed Funding tables.

**PROJECT PROGRAMMING REQUEST**

DTP-0001 (Revised July 2013)

General Instructions

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Project					<b>Date:</b> 5/17/14	
<b>District</b>	<b>EA</b>	<b>Project ID</b>	<b>PPNO</b>	<b>MPO ID</b>	<b>TCRP No.</b>	
06						
<b>County</b>	<b>Route/Corridor</b>	<b>PM Bk</b>	<b>PM Ahd</b>	<b>Project Sponsor/Lead Agency</b>		
KER				County of Kern		
				<b>MPO</b>	<b>Element</b>	
				KCOG	Local Assistance	
<b>Project Manager/Contact</b>		<b>Phone</b>		<b>E-mail Address</b>		
Todd Wood, P.E.		(661) 862-8850		woodt@co.kern.ca.us		
<b>Project Title</b>						
County of Kern - Highland Elementary Pedestrian Improvements						
<b>Location, Project Limits, Description, Scope of Work</b>						<input type="checkbox"/> See page 2
In Oildale, north of Bakersfield, Kern County, construct new sidewalk on Circle Drive, Barnett Street, Devore Avenue, and Day Avenue as they lead to the school. In addition, wheelchair accessible ramps will be constructed at sixteen locations around the school.						
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Includes ADA Improvements			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Includes Bike/Ped Improvements			
<b>Component</b>	<b>Implementing Agency</b>					
PA&ED	County of Kern					
PS&E	County of Kern					
Right of Way	County of Kern					
Construction	County of Kern					
<b>Purpose and Need</b>						<input type="checkbox"/> See page 2
This elementary school, located in Oildale, is missing a significant portion of sidewalk for students walking from south of the school. This project will significantly improve the safety for the children who walk to school each day. It also improves the safety for those who utilize wheelchairs and scooters.						
<b>Project Benefits</b>						<input type="checkbox"/> See page 2
Increases safety for those who already walk and provides encouragement for others to begin walking.						
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supports Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) Goals			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reduces Greenhouse Gas Emissions			
<b>Project Milestone</b>						<b>Proposed</b>
Project Study Report Approved						
Begin Environmental (PA&ED) Phase						
Circulate Draft Environmental Document				<b>Document Type</b>		
Draft Project Report						
End Environmental Phase (PA&ED Milestone)						
Begin Design (PS&E) Phase						05/01/15
End Design Phase (Ready to List for Advertisement Milestone)						03/01/16
Begin Right of Way Phase						
End Right of Way Phase (Right of Way Certification Milestone)						
Begin Construction Phase (Contract Award Milestone)						06/01/16
End Construction Phase (Construction Contract Acceptance Milestone)						09/01/16
Begin Closeout Phase						10/01/16
End Closeout Phase (Closeout Report)						12/01/16

**ADA Notice** For individuals with sensory disabilities, this document is available in alternate formats. For information call (916) 654-8410 or TDD (916) 654-3880 or write Records and Forms Management, 1120 N Street, MS-89, Sacramento, CA 95814.

COUNTY OF KERN - HIGHLAND ELEMENTARY PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS

22

**PROJECT PROGRAMMING REQUEST**

DTP-0001 (Revised July 2013)

Date: 5/17/14

District	County	Route	EA	Project ID	PPNO	TCRP No.
06	KER					
<b>Project Title:</b> County of Kern - Highland Elementary Pedestrian Improvements						

Proposed Total Project Cost (\$1,000s)									Notes
Component	Prior	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20+	Total	
E&P (PA&ED)									
PS&E			55						55
R/W SUP (CT)									
CON SUP (CT)									
R/W									
CON			275						275
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>330</b>						<b>330</b>

<b>Fund No. 1:</b>	ATP								Program Code	
Proposed Funding (\$1,000s)										
Component	Prior	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20+	Total	Funding Agency	
E&P (PA&ED)										
PS&E										
R/W SUP (CT)										
CON SUP (CT)										
R/W										
CON			275						275	
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>275</b>						<b>275</b>	

<b>Fund No. 2:</b>	Local								Program Code	
Proposed Funding (\$1,000s)										
Component	Prior	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20+	Total	Funding Agency	
E&P (PA&ED)										
PS&E			55						55	
R/W SUP (CT)										
CON SUP (CT)										
R/W										
CON										
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>55</b>						<b>55</b>	

<b>Fund No. 3:</b>									Program Code	
Proposed Funding (\$1,000s)										
Component	Prior	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20+	Total	Funding Agency	
E&P (PA&ED)										
PS&E										
R/W SUP (CT)										
CON SUP (CT)										
R/W										
CON										
<b>TOTAL</b>										

Project name: County of Kern - Highland Elementary Pedestrian Improvements

**VI. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Only fill in those fields that are applicable to your project

**FUNDING SUMMARY**

**ATP Funds being requested by Phase** (to the nearest \$1000)

**Amount**

PE Phase (includes PA&ED and PS&E)	\$	
Right-of-Way Phase	\$	
Construction Phase-Infrastructure	\$	275,000
Construction Phase-Non-infrastructure	\$	
<b>Total for ALL Phases</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>275,000</b>

**All Non-ATP fund types on this project\*** (to the nearest \$1000)

**Amount**

PE Phase (local funds)	\$	55,000
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	

\*Must indicate which funds are matching

Total Project Cost	\$	330,000
Project is Fully Funded	Yes	

**ATP Work Specific Funding Breakdown** (to the nearest \$1000)

**Amount**

Request for funding a Plan	\$	
Request for Safe Routes to Schools Infrastructure work	\$	275,000
Request for Safe Routes to Schools Non-Infrastructure work	\$	
Request for other Non-Infrastructure work (non-SRTS)	\$	
Request for Recreational Trails work	\$	

**ALLOCATION/AUTHORIZATION REQUESTS SCHEDULE**

	Proposed Allocation Date	Proposed Authorization (E-76) Date
PA&ED or E&P		
PS&E		
Right-of-Way		
Construction	06/01/2016	03/01/2016

All project costs MUST be accounted for on this form, including elements of the overall project that will be, or have been funded by other sources.



Project name: **County of Kern - Highland Elementary Pedestrian Improvements**

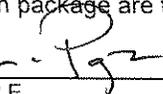
**VIII. APPLICATION SIGNATURES**

**Applicant:** The undersigned affirms that the statements contained in the application package are true and complete to the best of their knowledge.

Signature:   
Name: Bob Neath, P.E.  
Title: Engineering Manager

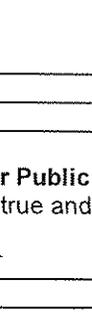
Date: 5-16-14  
Phone: (661) 862-8850  
e-mail: bobn@co.kern.ca.us

**Local Agency Official (City Engineer or Public Works Director):** The undersigned affirms that the statements contained in the application package are true and complete to the best of their knowledge.

Signature:   
Name: Craig M. Pope, P.E.  
Title: Director

Date: 5/16/14  
Phone: (661) 862-8850  
e-mail: cpopo@co.kern.ca.us

**School Official:** The undersigned affirms that the school(s) benefited by this application is not on a school closure list.

Signature:   
Name: Paul Meyers  
Title: Superintendent

Date: 5/16/14  
Phone: (661) 392-2110  
e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Person to contact for questions:**

Name: Bob Neath, P.E.  
Title: Engineering Manager

Phone: (661) 862-8850  
e-mail: bobn@co.kern.ca.us

**Caltrans District Traffic Operations Office Approval\***

If the application's project proposes improvements on a freeway or state highway that affects the safety or operations of the facility, it is required that the proposed improvements be reviewed by the district traffic operations office and either a letter of support or acknowledgement from the traffic operations office be attached ( ) or the signature of the traffic personnel be secured below.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Contact the District Local Assistance Engineer (DLAE) for the project to get Caltrans Traffic Ops contact information. DLAE contact information can be found at <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/dlae.htm>

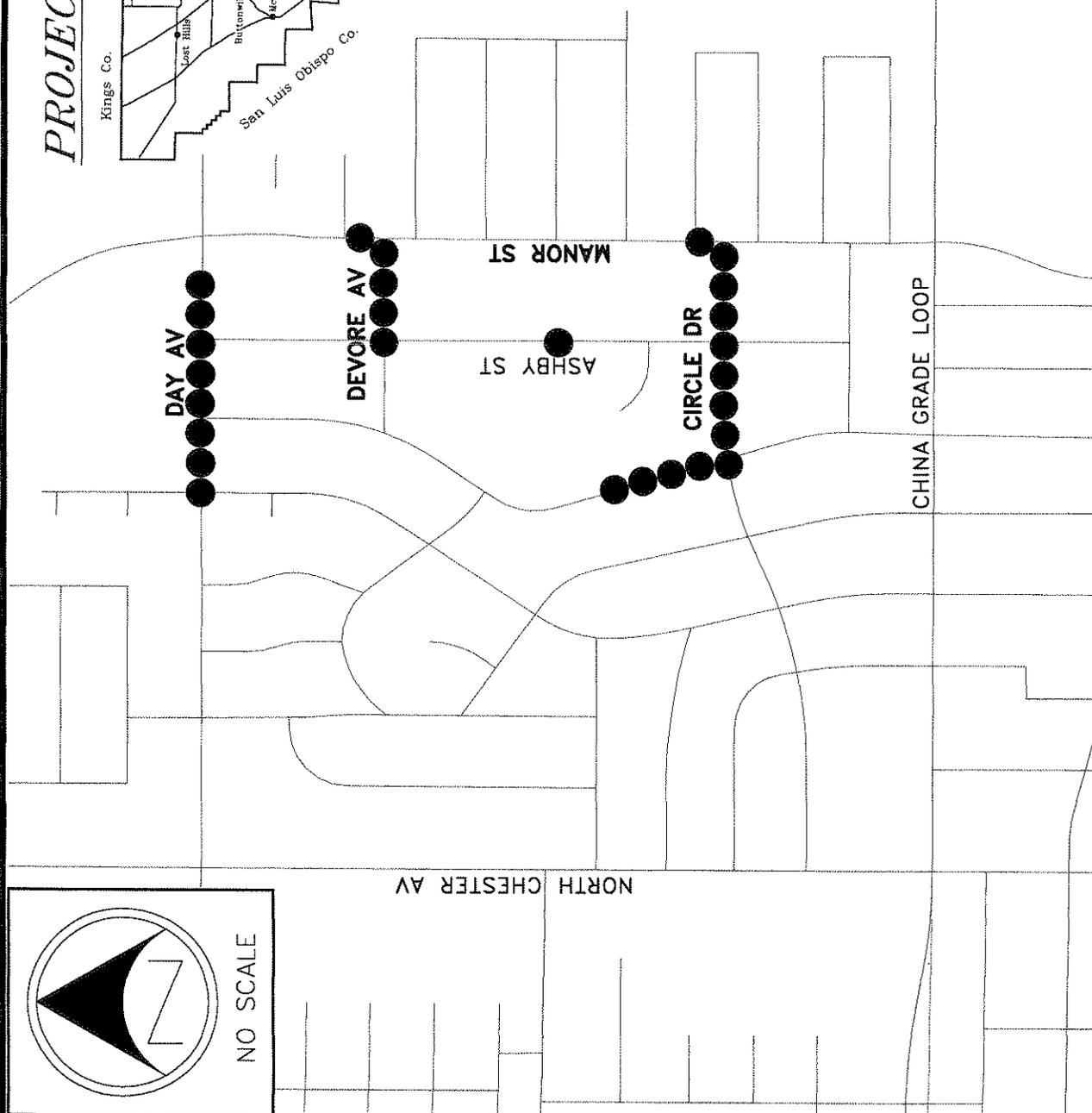
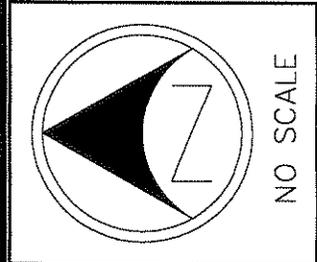
Project name:  
County of Kern - Highland Elementary Pedestrian Improvements

### VIII. ADDITIONAL APPLICATION ATTACHMENTS

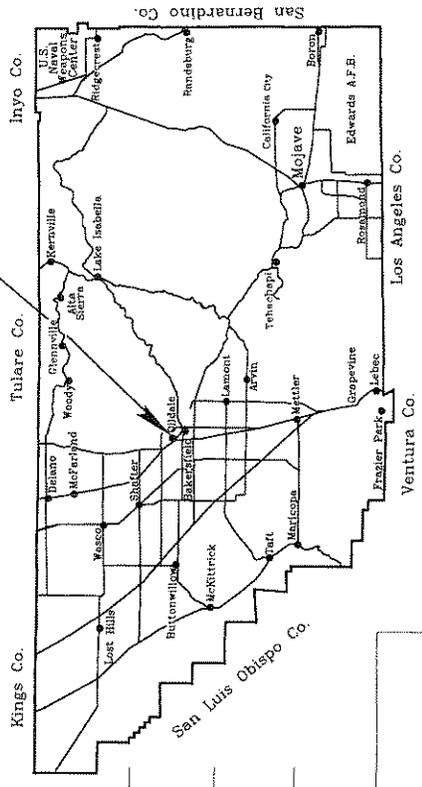
Check all attachments included with this application.

- Vicinity/Location Map- **REQUIRED for all IF Projects**
  - North Arrow
  - Label street names and highway route numbers
  - Scale
  
- Photos and/or Video of Existing Location- **REQUIRED for all IF Projects**
  - Minimum of one labeled color photo of the existing project location
  - Minimum photo size 3 x 5 inches
  - Optional video and/or time-lapse
  
- Preliminary Plans- **REQUIRED for Construction phase only**
  - Must include a north arrow
  - Label the scale of the drawing
  - Typical Cross sections where applicable with property or right-of-way lines
  - Label street names, highway route numbers and easements
  
- Detailed Engineer's Estimate- **REQUIRED for Construction phase only**
  - Estimate must be true and accurate. Applicant is responsible for verifying costs prior to submittal
  - Must show a breakdown of all bid items by unit and cost. Lump Sum may only be used per industry standards
  - Must identify all items that ATP will be funding
  - Contingency is limited to 10% of funds being requested
  - Evaluation required under the ATP guidelines is not a reimbursable item
  
- Documentation of the partnering maintenance agreement- Required with the application if an entity, other than the applicant, is going to assume responsibility for the operation and maintenance of the facility
  
- Documentation of the partnering implementation agreement-Required with the application if an entity, other than the applicant, is going to implement the project.
  
- Letters of Support from Caltrans (Required for projects on the State Highway System(SHS))
  
- Digital copy of or an online link to an approved plan (bicycle, pedestrian, safe routes to school, active transportation, general, recreation, trails, city/county or regional master plan(s), technical studies, and/or environmental studies (with environmental commitment record or list of mitigation measures), if applicable. Include/highlight portions that are applicable to the proposed project.
  
- Documentation of the public participation process (required)
  
- Letter of Support from impacted school- when the school isn't the applicant or partner on the application (required)
  
- Additional documentation, letters of support, etc (optional)

# **Location Map**



**PROJECT LOCATION**



**COUNTY OF KERN**

● PROJECT LOCATION

Designed By  
JH  
Drawn By  
SR  
Checked By  
JH

COUNTY OF KERN  
ROADS DEPARTMENT  
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA

LOCATION MAP  
HIGHLAND  
ELEMENTARY

# Photographs

Ashby Street at Highland Elementary School



Circle Drive at Barnett Street – looking east



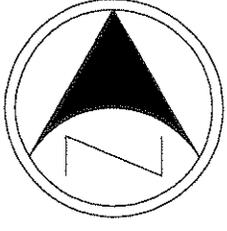
Day Avenue – looking east



Devore Avenue – looking east



# **Preliminary Plans**



NO SCALE

Designed By <i>JH</i>	COUNTY OF KERN <b>ROADS DEPARTMENT</b> BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA	<b>PRELIMINARY PLAN</b>  <b>HIGHLAND ELEMENTARY</b>
Drawn By <i>SR</i>		
Checked By <i>JH</i>		

# **Detailed Engineer's Estimate**



# **2014 Regional Transportation Plan / Sustainable Communities Strategy**

**<http://www.kerncog.org/regional-transportation-plan>**

# Kern Council of Governments



## **Draft 2014 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy**

March 12, 2014



Kern Council  
of Governments

[www.kerncog.org](http://www.kerncog.org)

**DRAFT CHAPTER 5 STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS**

**PROJECT LISTING - TABLE 5-1: CONSTRAINED PROGRAM OF PROJECTS CONTINUED**

2014 through 2040 - Non-motorized (Continued)	
Taft	Asher Avenue from Supply Row to South Street - 0.5 miles - Class II
Taft	Ash Street from Emmons Park to Harrison Street - 0.2 miles - Class II
Taft	A Street from Arroyo Drive to Hillard Street - 0.3 miles - Class II
Taft	Taft Path from Kern River Parkway to Gardner Field Road - 10.6 miles - Other
Taft	Gardner Field Road from County to Aqueduct - 1.5 miles - Other
Tehachapi	White Pine Drive from Tehachapi Blvd to Mariposa Road - 0.4 miles - Class II
Tupman	Tule Elk Reserve Path from Tupman Path to Tule Elk Reserve State Park - 1.3 miles - Other
County	Garlock Road from Redrock-Randsburg Road to US 395 - 18 miles - Class III
Wasco	Hwy 46 from Gun Club Road to Magnolia Ave - 8 miles - Caltrans Shoulder
Various locations	Countywide Construct Pedestrian Enhancement Improvements 77,500,000
Various locations	Countywide Construct Complete Streets Improvements 261,000,000
	<b>Sub-total \$424,000,000</b>

**2014 through 2040 - Freight Rail**

Project	Location	Scope	YOE Cost	Project ID	Start
Freight Rail	Tehachapi	Double-track sections from Bakersfield to Mojave	\$111,700,000		In Progress
Freight Rail	Shafter	Shafter Intermodal Rail Facility	30,000,000		In Progress
		<b>(Information only) Sub-total</b>	<b>\$141,700,000</b>		

**Public Participation  
and  
Letters of Support**

BERFORE THE KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF KERN

RESOLUTION NO. 14-14

In the matter of:

Kern COG support of Fiscal Year 2014 Active Transportation Program (ATP) Planning, Infrastructure and Non-Infrastructure Applications.

WHEREAS, Kern Council of Governments (Kern COG) is the designated Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) pursuant to state law and the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) pursuant to federal law for Kern County; and

WHEREAS, Kern COG is the MPO responsible for maintaining a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process; and

WHEREAS, the Active Transportation Program was created by Senate Bill 99 (Chapter 359, Statutes of 2013) and Assembly Bill 101 (Chapter 354, Statutes of 2013) to encourage increased use of active modes of transportation, such as biking and walking, and

WHEREAS, Kern COG has adopted a Kern COG Project Delivery Policy and Procedures Update to implement Active Transportation Program projects; and

WHEREAS, the goals of the Active Transportation Program are incorporated in Kern COG's Draft 2014 Regional Transportation Plan as follows:

Kern COG's Draft 2014 Regional Transportation Plan sets the near-term goals (2014-2020) as:  
Encourage COG member jurisdictions to implement their adopted local bicycle plans and to incorporate bicycle facilities into local transportation projects. Continue to seek funding for bicycle and pedestrian projects for local, state, and federal sources. Continue to seek funding to maintain existing bikeway and pedestrian facilities. Promote the purchase and construction of bicycle racks and lockers for Kern County multimodal stations. Promote the inclusion of bike tie-down and racks on commuter trains and buses. Fund updated bicycle plans for incorporated cities. Fund a Pedestrian Facilities Plan for County of Kern as well as incorporated cities; and

WHEREAS, a Kern Region Active Transportation Program Plan would assist Kern COG member agencies in the preparation of future Active Transportation Program infrastructure grant applications;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Kern COG supports its staff's efforts to apply for Active Transportation Program funds to fund a countywide Active Transportation Program Plan that will inventory existing bicycle and pedestrian modes and facilities, identify gaps in the existing infrastructure and recommend cost-effective solutions, and prioritize/rank projects to implement the recommended solutions. Kern COG also supports its member agencies' efforts to apply for Active Transportation Program funds for infrastructure and non-infrastructure projects countywide.

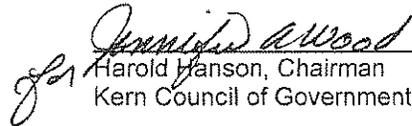
AUTHORIZED AND SIGNED THIS 15<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MAY 2014.

AYES: Flores, Wood, Pascual, Holloway, Florez, Linder, Smith, Wegman,  
Couch, Scrivner, Marquez, Silver

NOES: None

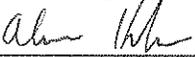
ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Hanson, Wilke, Cantu

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Harold Hanson, Chairman  
Kern Council of Governments

ATTEST:

I hereby certify the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution of the Kern Council of Governments duly adopted at a regular meeting thereof held on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of May 2014.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ahron Hakimi, Executive Director  
Kern Council of Governments

5/15/14  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date:

**KERN COUNTY  
ROADS DEPARTMENT  
CRAIG M. POPE, P.E., DIRECTOR**

2700 "M" STREET, SUITE 400, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301-2370  
Phone: (661) 862-8850  
FAX: (661) 862-8851  
Toll Free: (800) 552-5376 Option 5  
TTY Relay: (800) 735-2929  
*email: [roads@co.kern.ca.us](mailto:roads@co.kern.ca.us)*  
*website: [www.co.kern.ca.us/roads](http://www.co.kern.ca.us/roads)*

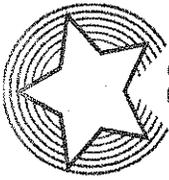


The letters of support written by the Standard School District Superintendent, the Grant Coordinator, the PTA, and the Highland Elementary School Principal, express support for the infrastructure improvements included in our application "County of Kern – Highland Elementary Pedestrian Improvements" and the non-infrastructure educational program included in our application "County of Kern – Kern River Parkway Bike Trail Extension."

The original letters can be found in the "Kern River Parkway" application package. Copies of the letters were placed in the "Highland Elementary" application package.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Neath".

Bob Neath, P.E.  
Engineering Manager



**Standard School District**  
Setting the STANDARD for Excellence in Public Education

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
Pamela J. Jacobsen  
Vanessa Mazer  
Steven Napier  
Pam Neal  
Steven Ruettgers

Paul Meyers, Superintendent  
Karen K. Cox, Assistant Superintendent

Glynda Martin, Director, Educational Services  
Denita Maughan, Ph.D., Director, Student Support Services

May 13, 2014

Robert W. Neath, P.E.  
Engineering Manager  
County of Kern Roads Department  
2700 M Street, Ste 400  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Dear Mr. Neath,

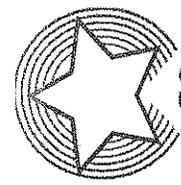
On behalf of the Standard School District, I would like to express our enthusiastic support for the proposed Active Transportation Program Grant. Through the combined efforts of the partners, the proposed program will enable Highland Elementary student and parent walkers safer routes to school. It will also enable the Standard School District students to receive pedestrian and bike safety education that will make our community a safer place.

Our role in the grant will include providing student data and support for the proposed sidewalks and wheelchair ramps. We will also eagerly work with Bike Bakersfield to provide classroom space and time for safety classes.

We are committed to partnering with Kern County Roads Department and other stakeholders to ensure the success of this proposal. Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Paul Meyers  
District Superintendent



# Standard School District

Setting the STANDARD for Excellence in Public Education

BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Pamela J. Jacobsen  
Vanessa Mazer  
Steven Napier  
Pam Neal  
Steven Ruetters

Paul Meyers, Superintendent  
Karen K. Cox, Assistant Superintendent

Glynda Martin, Director, Educational Services  
Denita Maughan, Ph.D., Director, Student Support Services

May 7, 2014

Robert Neath, P.E.  
Engineering Manager  
County of Kern Roads Department  
2700 M Street, Suite 400  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Dear Mr. Neath:

Oildale Community Partnership (OCP) is a collaborative that meets every other month during the school year. It is comprised of many different agencies and faith-based organizations throughout the community who desire to meet the needs of the Beardsley and Standard School District students and families. OCP is extremely pleased to support your proposal to create safer routes to school for Highland Elementary and to bring pedestrian and bike safety education to the four schools in our district. We look forward to any way in which we can enhance our working relationship with the district.

Collaboration across schools and agencies to assist the students and their families will increase the effectiveness of all of our work. The proposal to add sidewalks and wheelchair ramps in the surrounding school neighborhoods as well as safety classes for our students will increase the safety of our entire community.

OCP enthusiastically supports the proposal for the Active Transportation Grant submitted by the Kern County Roads Department. This proposal works hand-in-hand with what we are already attempting to do as we network together with each other.

Please see the reverse side of this letter for some of the agencies involved in our collaborative. We look forward to collaborating with you in this work!

Yours truly,

Jan Unfried  
Standard School District  
Coordinator, Grant & Special Programs/Chair of OCP

Kern County District Attorney's Office  
Covenant Community Services  
Clinica Sierra Vista, Differential Response  
GET Bus  
Kern Family Health Care  
CASA  
Oildale Leadership Alliance  
Kern County Sheriff's Office  
Bakersfield Jam (Local Pro Basketball team)  
Kern County Public Health Department  
Child Protective Services  
Henrietta Weill Memorial Child Guidance Clinic  
Garden Pathways  
First 5 Kern  
Kern County Department of Human Services (Safely Surrender Baby)  
Kern County Probation Department  
San Joaquin Community Hospital  
The Oildale Foundation  
Toys for Tots  
Flood  
Kern County Library  
North of the River Chamber of Commerce  
Kern County Superintendent of Schools  
North of the River Recreation Department  
Kern County Animal Services  
Kern County Fire Department  
The HOPE Center  
Standard School District  
Beardsley School District  
Every Neighborhood Partnership, Bakersfield  
Supervisor Maggard's Office  
NOR Neighborhood Place  
American Lung Association  
University of California Cooperative Extension  
Fresno Pacific University  
Kern Fencing Foundation  
Assistance League  
Citizens of Oildale  
Health Net



# Highland

## Elementary School

---

*Tonny Gisbertz, Principal*

*Michelle Reed, Program Coordinator*

May 12, 2014

Robert W. Neath, P.E.  
Engineering Manager  
County of Kern Roads Department  
2700 M Street, Ste 400  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Dear Mr. Neath,

As I am sure you know, Oildale is a community where many of the residents walk to go to the grocery store, to school, or to recreation activities. As principal of Highland Elementary School, I see many of our students coming to and leaving from school everyday utilizing our local road system. In both the mornings and afternoons this means many of our students are walking in the streets or on residents' lawns while school traffic is maneuvering through the neighborhood. I believe this situation creates safety hazards for the students and the local residents. I am happy that your department is considering safe routes for Oildale as I believe this create a much safer environment.

On behalf of Highland Elementary School, I would like to express our support for the proposed Active Transportation Program Grant. Through the combined efforts of the partners, the proposed program will enable Highland Elementary student and parent walkers safer routes to school. It will also enable the Standard School District students to receive pedestrian and bike safety education that will make our community a safer place.

Our role in the grant will include providing student data and support for the proposed sidewalks and wheelchair ramps. We will also work with Bike Bakersfield to provide classroom space and time for safety classes.

We are committed to partnering with Kern County Roads Department and other stakeholders to ensure the success of this proposal. Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Tonny Gisbertz

May 7, 2014

Robert W. Neath, P.E.  
Engineering Manager  
County of Kern Roads Department  
2700 M Street, Ste 400  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Dear Mr. Neath,

On behalf of PTA, I would like to express our support for the proposed Active Transportation Program Grant. Through the combined efforts of the partners, the proposed program will enable Highland Elementary student and parent walkers safer routes to school. It will also enable the Standard School District students to receive pedestrian and bike safety education that will make our community a safer place.

Our role in the grant will include providing student data and support for the proposed sidewalks and wheelchair ramps. We will also work with Bike Bakersfield to provide classroom space and time for safety classes.

We are committed to partnering with Kern County Roads Department and other stakeholders to ensure the success of this proposal. Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,



DELANO OFFICE  
455 LEXINGTON STREET  
DELANO, CA 93215

LAKE ISABELLA OFFICE  
7050 LAKE ISABELLA BLVD.  
P.O. Box 3073  
LAKE ISABELLA, CA 93240  
PHONE (760) 549-2068



RIDGECREST OFFICE  
400 N. CHINA LAKE BLVD.  
RIDGECREST, CA 93555  
PHONE (760) 384-5829

SHAFTER OFFICE  
329 CENTRAL VALLEY HWY.  
SHAFTER, CA 93263  
PHONE (661) 746-7561

# MICK GLEASON

SUPERVISOR - FIRST DISTRICT

Thursday, May 16, 2014

CALTRANS  
Division of Local Assistance  
P.O. Box 942874  
Sacramento, CA 94274-0001

Dear CALTRANS,

During the last decade, the County of Kern has been working endlessly to implement beneficial pedestrian improvements in underserved communities throughout the Southern San Joaquin Valley. The Kern County Roads Department, led by Director Craig Pope and Engineering Manager Bob Neath, have advocated for highly needed improvement projects that will guarantee safe and reliable pedestrian transportation for school children. The need for proper sidewalks and wheelchair accessible ramps has never been higher than it is today, and the possibility of reaching a desirable and pedestrian friendly intersection has never been as close to reality as it is today.

As the First District Supervisor, I write in support of the **2014 ATP Project Application** for the **Highland Elementary Pedestrian Improvements** project. If the County of Kern's application is selected for funding, the construction of this project will begin in June 2016 and will be completed in August 2016; in time for the new incoming students at the local elementary school. Your support and dedication to providing a safe, reliable and pedestrian friendly intersection will enhance many lives in the County of Kern.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mick Gleason".

Mick Gleason, Supervisor  
Kern County, First District

Dear Mr. Neath,

I think it would be a great idea to put in all these  
paths. However side walks are needed most of all because  
kids can get severely injured without them. Typo practically a  
major of kids go walking around near the school. They cross the  
street only to find behind them a kid gets ran over. If that  
happens you cannot prove that it is safe. Also, we need handi-  
capped people to go to and from  
school. It would be nice to see all these improvements!

Sincerely,

A Highland Elementary  
Student

Dear Mr. Neath,

I imagine your kids go to Highland Elementary. Now, would you want your kids riding their bike in the street or walking in the street, or maybe your niece is handicapped and needs a safe way to get to school just like mine. I personally know that there are first and second graders that walk to school and back by themselves. I know you can not change the world so there are. I not any car accidents, but you can try by putting in more sidewalks, handicapped ramps and safe bike zones. Thank you for taking the time to read my article and that it will encourage you to make the right choice.

Sincerely, Darci Shingart

Dear Mr. Neath

I agree with the construction of sidewalks, some buildings  
did need handicapped access for our school, the first reason we should do  
this is because sometimes I walk to school, and the route  
from my school to my house has few sidewalks. In addition, the  
sidewalk my bike I almost got hit by a car while I was  
in Highland, I've seen about five handicapped access. The second reason  
I think we need more sidewalks, hand ramp access, and safe  
bikes for us.

Sincerely

Scay

Dear Mr. Neath,

My teacher has informed me that people have to walk and ride their bikes and scooters to school in the middle of a street buzzing with cars. Because there is no sidewalk! There is not even any handicap access at the school. I want every one to feel welcome even though it's my last year here at Highland Elementary. So every one in the class and in the neighborhood ask for money to build a sidewalk, safe bike zones and handicap access so that every one can feel welcome at Highland Elementary.

Highland. I am still glad you are giving Flyhead all

of these upgrades. I know all of Highland is

grate full.

Sincerely  
Riley Davis

Dear Mr. Needy,

May 18, 2011 5/18/11

Imagine your children going to Highland Elementary just in  
having to walk or ride their bikes to school and home in the street! Dangerous, right?  
That's why we need your help placing sidewalks, handicap access, and safe bike riding  
zones. We need the sidewalks, so children walking to school or walking home do not  
have to risk their lives walking in the street. We need handicap access, because  
some children have parents or grandparents that are handicapped when those parents  
don't go to school event. They will have an easier time accessing the school. Finally, please create  
bike zones, so the children who ride their bikes to school and home have a safe  
area to ride.

Sincerely,

Michael

Dear Mr. Neashy

I think that these should be handicap access because when you did come to the school he can not go on the steps or to his pain. I also think there should be bike lanes because there are many sidewalks for them to ride on. When after school things go on there is not any where for them to park, so they have to park on the streets. We need parking lots!!! That is what we need at our school.

Sincerely,

Hannah Williams

Dear Mr. North,

5/9/14

I think there should be some changes around the school. First there should be more sidewalks for handicapped people and bike riders. Second, handicapped people cannot roll in their wheelchairs. Third, there should be more handrails ramps instead of stairs because, it is harder for a handicapped person to get up stairs. These are the reasons that there should be changes around the school.

Sincerely,

Student from

Highland Elementary

Dear Mr. North,

CO. paid for the new York City to get

the new one was a minimum deposit on after a

the new one was a minimum deposit on after a

no many people like and all

the same. Also, I think it is a

to have a hard copy of the

Thank You!

Dear Mr. Neath,

The improvements are great and are needed.  
First, the bike walks will help people who are disabled.  
Also, handicap access will help handicapped people get to school events.  
Finally, safe bike zones will help kids that ride bikes (with a little  
get to school easier.

Sincerely,  
Carson

Dear Mr. Neath:

I really should love the to let more sidewalk better help people and safe bike zone. I want this idea to take place. More sidewalks.

Would make a safer route for kids who walk to school. Better handicap access would make it easier for handicap people who want to visit their

children. Finally, safe bike zones would be useful because a lot of kids ride their bikes to school, including me. I hope this idea takes place.

Sincerely,

AMM

Dear Mr. Neath:

I have heard of your proposal/idea for road/sidewalk safety,

and I agree that it should go into action. At the end of the day kids

and I get to their front porch without having to walk in the street,

I have had to walk through the street, through a man's lawn just to get

to my car. I have also seen kids having to ride their bikes through

the street or grass. This may result in a car crash or falling off

We  
your bike, | and i cap kids + that are crossing do not have any ramps or

lanes, | so they might get hurt, | hope + his plan goes into action ASAP

for the safety of our school.

Sincerely,  
Malachi,

Dear Mr North,

I think it would be a great idea to make sidewalks, handicap access, and safe bike lanes. I think it would be a great idea because disabled people in wheelchairs need more ramps at Highland because there are not that many. We also need more sidewalks because during events or when kids are coming to school they have to park on the side of the road, and it is very dangerous. We also need bike lanes because most kids ride their bikes or scooters home, and they walk in the streets, and it is also very dangerous. I hope you can make all these things happen.

Sincerely,  
A. Madison Reed

Dear Mr. Neath,

I think it is great you are adding sidewalks, handicap ramps, & safe bike zones. This is

my opinion because we do not have many of these things. Some kids that

live across the street and coming to school for practice have to walk through

traffic. These kids could get injuries, but now you are putting sidewalks and

safe bike zones they will not get hurt. If you put handicap ramps and safe bike

zones they will have an easier time of getting to school.

Sincerely,

Samara

Dear Mr. Neath,

I think you should fix my school sidewalks and bike racks. I want you to improve

and side walks so I can walk safely to school.

I want you to improve our bike racks so people at our school can have a safe place to put

their bikes so I hope you can fix our school. Thank you.

Fred, Tyson  
~~Wesley~~

Dear Mr Math

I think you should put in some demands for a school district because I work in school and I don't like to make the school think you still wish some of the bikes because I have a friend that works in school and he has a book like that. I like it. The reason another thing you should put in are lunch boxes. A person you could get a book because my grandpa is handicapped. I think you should also provide a bike racks because they are custom.

Sincerely

Karen Noble

Dear Mr. Neethy,

I think that it is a very good idea that we should do more things for the handicapped. And I think there should be a lot of new things put in the school, like more stamps and sidewalks. We should put a ramp in such places as the back of the cafeteria and some of the classrooms. We also need more sidewalks. I don't think we should have a lot of grass and bushes that are in the smooth, air tight sidewalks. We should have a ramp in the Joe Dipe like the one we have. We should make them wider in some of the sidewalks. We should have a ramp in the hallway. This is why I think we should do more things.

Very truly,  
Emily

Dear Mr. Keath,

I didn't keep our suit because by taking in the suit by handcup.

and the bike comes I want side walk because I want to go with it to be

And I don't have a bicycle and I don't have a bicycle I don't have a bicycle

I want the bike and I don't have a bicycle I don't have a bicycle I don't have a bicycle

And I don't have a bicycle I don't have a bicycle I don't have a bicycle I don't have a bicycle

And I don't have a bicycle I don't have a bicycle I don't have a bicycle I don't have a bicycle

I don't have a bicycle



Deo Ar Mecho

1. Form of os

2. Form of os

bitelone

3. Form of os

UP

rd

4. Form of os

UP





Dear Mr. Math,

I think we need improvements to help High and Elementary community. We need sidewalks

and when some people walk to school they do not want to walk on people's lawns. If people did not want to  
walk on lawns in the middle of the road because there are cars parked by the curb. There

is a school in High and Elementary since there is a sidewalk and it is hard to get to the curb with  
a push for them to go by. People walk their bikes in the road because cars park by the curb and

people do not like walking on other people's lawns.

Sincerely,  
Shirley

100 M. Wash

I think it is a good idea to have more sidewalk, like bike lanes. I walk home every day and have to walk a yard of other people's cars passing by. One of my friends' parents have to come pick me up, they will have car lanes. I know some people who like bikes and will be happy to have sidewalks on the street.

Amoroly

Logan A. Washburn



Dear Mr. Walsh

I think it was your idea to put the liberal and keyboard courses in the same class. I think that is a good idea because we do not have enough students to take the liberal studies course. I think the liberal studies and keyboard courses should be put in the same class. I think the keyboard course is going to be hard and I think it is a good idea to put the liberal studies and keyboard courses in the same class. I think we do not need a liberal studies course because there are a lot of liberal studies courses in the school and I think it is a good idea to put the liberal studies and keyboard courses in the same class.

Sincerely,

John Doe

# **Additional Supporting Documentation**

**Benefit / Cost Calculation Result**

**1. Project Information**

Application ID County of Kern - Highland Elementary

Version 1

**2. Countermeasures and Crash Data**

Crash Data Time Period 01/01/2006 to 12/31/2011 Years 6

- Install sidewalk / pathway (to avoid walking along roadway)

CM Number	Project Type	Crash Type	CRF	Life
R37	Ped and Bike	Ped & Bike	80	20

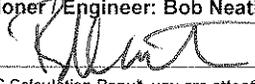
Crash Type	Fatality (Death)	Severe Injury	Injury - Other Visible	Injury - Complaint of Pain	Property Damage Only	Total
Ped & Bike	0	0	2	3	0	5

Annual Benefit	\$ 39,027	Cost	\$ 275,000
Life Benefit	\$ 780,533	B/C Ratio	2.84

**3. Benefit Cost Result**

Total Benefit	\$ 780,533
Total Cost	\$ 275,000
B/C Ratio	2.84

Safety Practitioner/Engineer: Bob Neath

Signature: 

By signing this B/C Calculation Result, you are attesting to your authority / responsibility at your local agency for this work and you are attesting to the accuracy of the values on this page and that they have been entered into the HSIP Application Form correctly, **DO NOT SIGN** if any of this is not the case.

**Benefit / Cost Calculation Result**

**1. Project Information**

Application ID	County of Kern - Highland Elementary	Version	1
----------------	--------------------------------------	---------	---

**2. Countermeasures and Crash Data**

Crash Data Time Period	01/01/2006	to	12/31/2011	Years	6
------------------------	------------	----	------------	-------	---

- Install sidewalk / pathway (to avoid walking along roadway)

CM Number	Project Type	Crash Type	CRF	Life
R37	Ped and Bike	Ped & Bike	80	20

Crash Type	Fatality (Death)	Severe Injury	Injury - Other Visible	Injury - Complaint of Pain	Property Damage Only	Total
Ped & Bike	0	0	2	3	0	5

Annual Benefit	\$ 39,027	Cost	\$ 330,000
Life Benefit	\$ 780,533	B/C Ratio	2.37

**3. Benefit Cost Result**

Total Benefit	\$ 780,533
Total Cost	\$ 330,000
B/C Ratio	2.37

Safety Practitioner / Engineer: Bob Neath

Signature: 

By signing this B/C Calculation Result, you are attesting to your authority / responsibility at your local agency for this work and you are attesting to the accuracy of the values on this page and that they have been entered into the HSIP Application Form correctly, **DO NOT SIGN** if any of this is not the case.

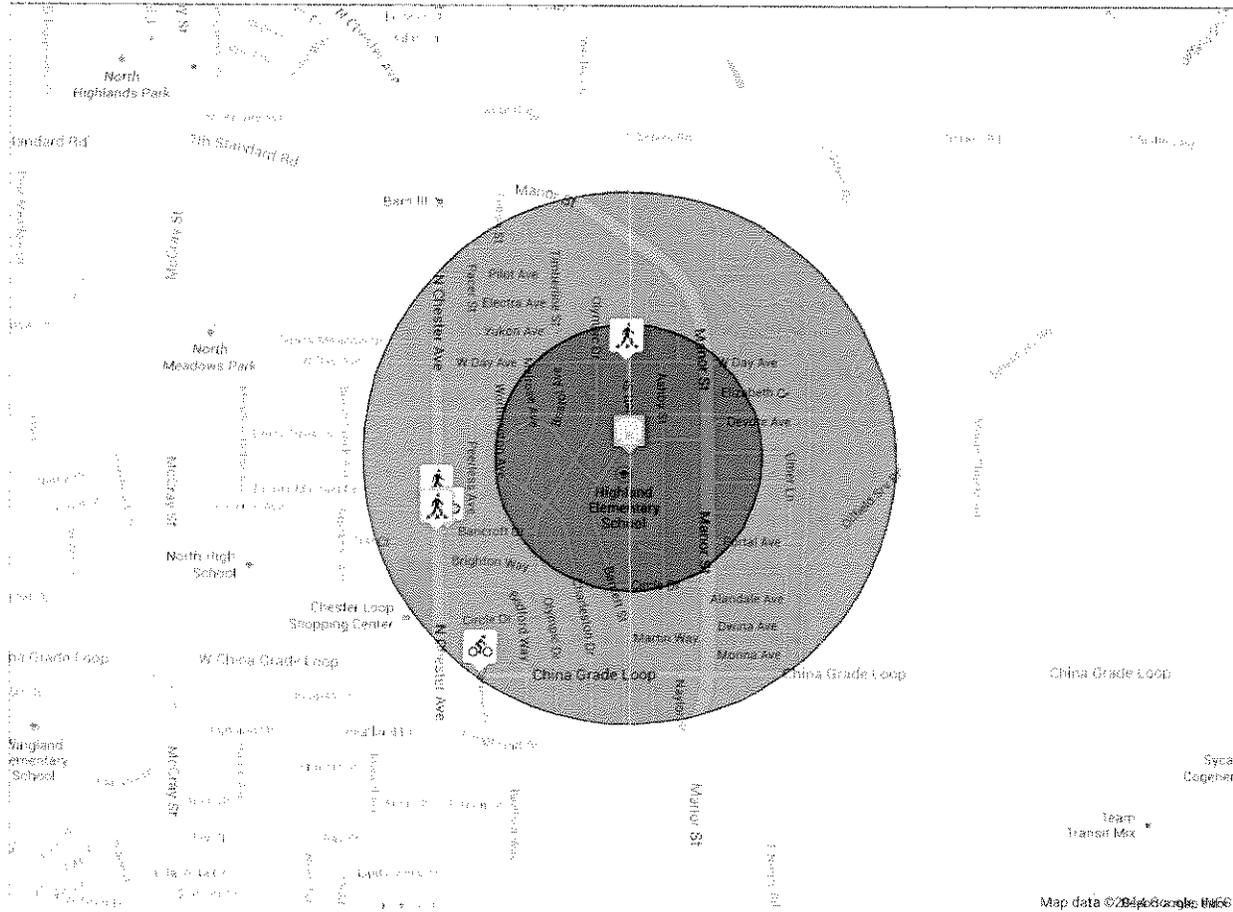
SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL COLLISION MAP VIEWER

Interactive map and data summaries of bicycle and/or pedestrian collisions around school.

**Highland Elementary**

2900 Barnett St. | Bakersfield | Kern County | CDS: 15637926010078

Types of Collisions:	Bicycle	Pedestrian			
Collision Severity:	Fatal	Severe Injury	Other Visible Injury	Complaint of Pain	
Years :	2006 - 2011				



**Summary Statistics**

Radius	Fatal	Severe Injury	Visible Injury	Complaint of Pain	Pedestrian	Bicycle	Total
< ¼ mi.	0	0	0	1	1	0	1
¼ - ½ mi.	0	0	2	2	2	2	4
<b>Total</b>	0	0	2	3	3	2	5



*Building a Foundation for a*  
***Healthy Kern County***

# **Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan**

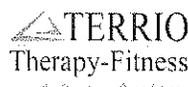
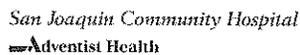


# Kern County Call to Action: Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan

was developed in partnership with the following organizations:



*Revised November 9, 2010*



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF KERN

November 9, 2010

Dear Friends,

Kern County suffers an obesity and chronic disease problem of epidemic proportions. Our youth are affected at unprecedented levels. A recent California Health Interview Survey found 53% of the population of adults and teens are overweight or obese. Poor nutrition and lack of physical activity increase risks and acuity of diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure and cancers. Kern County ranks highest of 58 California Counties in death from heart disease and second highest in death from diabetes.

Jon McQuiston  
District 1

Don Maben  
District 2

Mike Maggard  
District 3

Raymond A. Watson  
District 4

Michael Rubio  
District 5

1115 Truxtun Avenue  
Bakersfield, CA 93301  
(661) 868-3585

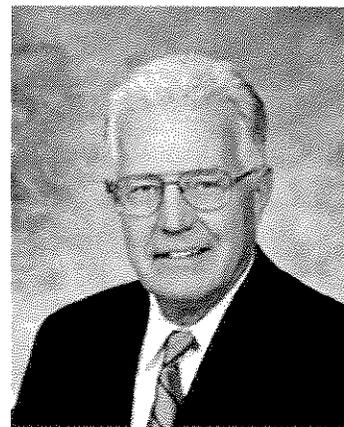
Kathleen Krause  
Clerk of the Board

I urgently support Kern County's Call to Action: Obesity Action Plan. With the permission of the San Diego County Childhood Obesity Initiative model, Kern County will work towards building a healthy community. The task will require long term commitment from a wide base of support to make a positive impact for the well being of our community. We need to inspire agencies, institutions, families and individuals to place priority on nutrition and physical activity by implement the proven strategies. As we all know, when Kern County pulls together we can accomplish many things. Once again we will bring together our resources, talent, enthusiasm and commitment to ensure a healthy future for Kern County children.

Sincerely,



Supervisor Ray Watson, Chairman  
Kern County Board of Supervisors



## BACKGROUND

When faced with the reality that obesity and chronic disease have reached epidemic proportions in Kern County, it was evident that this situation warranted community action. During the Fall 2008, Public Health began researching the various approaches that communities across America have undertaken as a response to this situation. It was important that any effort implemented in Kern required taking into account the needs, behaviors, and thoughts of all the residents of our county, of what could work with them to make and sustain the lifestyle changes necessary to be healthy. Consideration was given to the Consortium to Lower Obesity in Chicago Children (CLOCC), the "Fun, Fit, & Free!" program and "76 Tons of Fun" campaign that was enacted in Philadelphia in the early 2000s, and many other worthy endeavors. In the end, San Diego's Call to Action: Childhood Obesity Action Plan stood out as a model that would fit the needs of our county.

Upon receiving permission by the San Diego County Childhood Obesity Initiative to use their model, individuals representing the various areas of healthcare, education, early childcare, communication, business, community/faith-based organizations and government were invited to direct this effort. With input from their peers, community residents and others, the Kern County Call to Action: Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan was developed.

## KERN COUNTY'S CHALLENGE

As previously stated, chronic diseases, along with overweight and obesity, have reached epidemic proportions in Kern County. There is a high prevalence of overweight/obesity amongst our residents. According to the California Health Interview Survey, 60.3% of the population (teens and adults) responded as having a Body Mass Index that made them overweight or obese. Further compounding the situation, poor nutrition and physical inactivity not only reinforces overweight and obesity but also has increased the risk of many chronic conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure, and many types of cancers. According to the California Department of Public Health's County Health Status Profiles 2010 Report, of the eight health indicators related to causes of death, Kern County ranks in the bottom 25% of all counties in six out of the eight indicators. To highlight the severity of our situation, as ranked in comparison with the other 57 California counties, we were the worst – 58 out of 58 – when it comes to heart disease as a cause of death and we are 47 out of 58 when it comes to diabetes as cause of death.

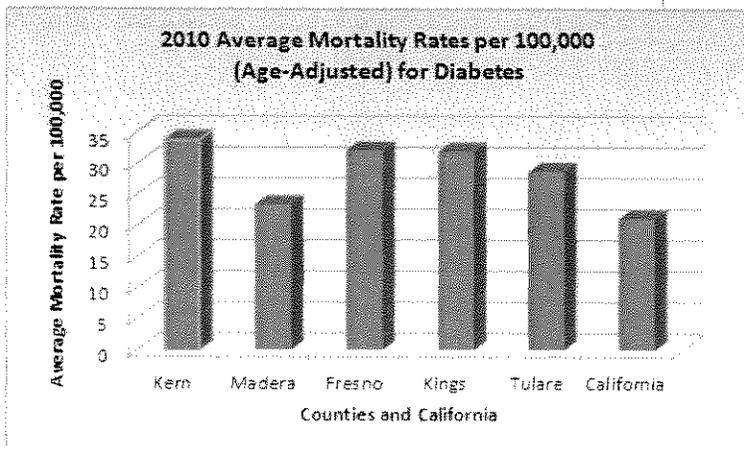
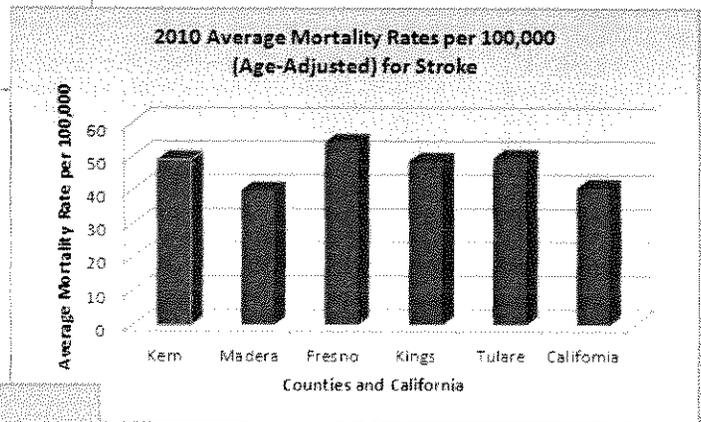
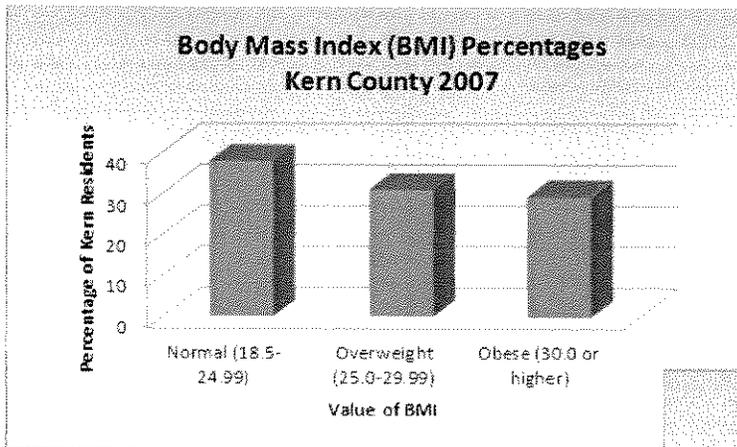
This situation increases the burden on the county's economy due to growing costs for medical care, loss of productivity and human resources. Unfortunately, this is a burden that Kern can ill afford. The U.S. Census American Community Survey ranked Kern County 20th out of approximately 800 counties across the United States in overall poverty levels over a 12-month period.



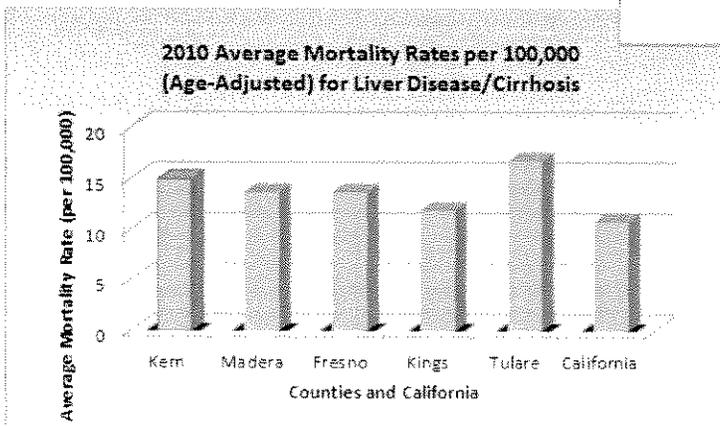
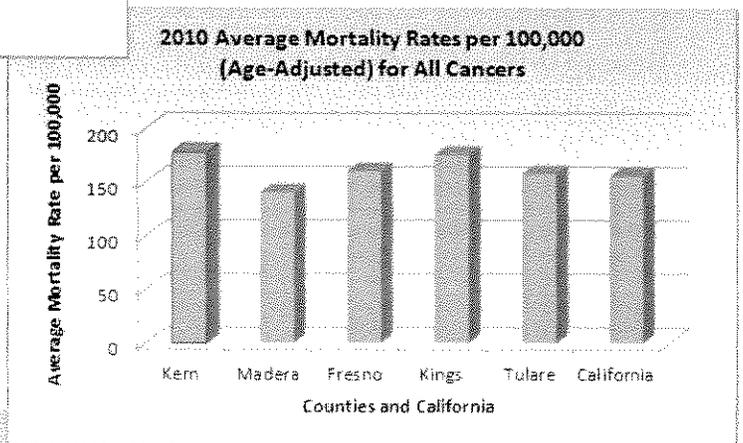
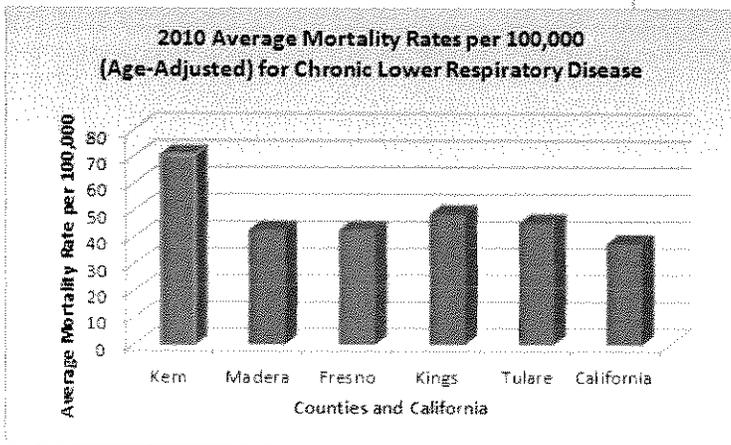
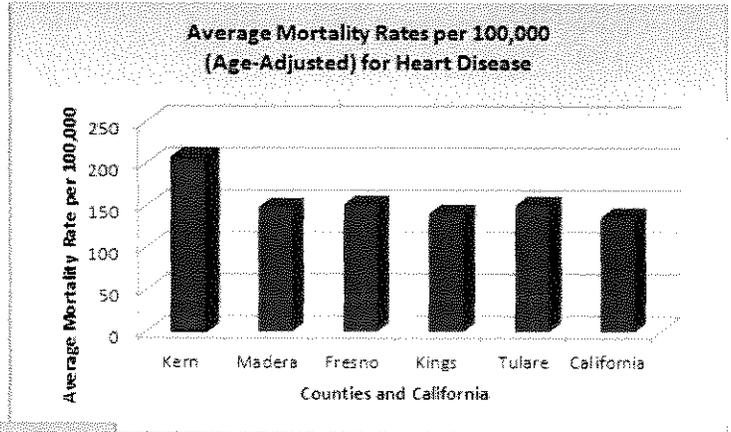
# Kern County Call to Action: Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan

With its traditional ability to collaborate, find common points of linkage, leverage resources and enhance capacities, Kern has the ability to work towards building this county into a healthy community. The work ahead will not be easy and will take time, but through hard work, true focus and community-wide support and dedication, a change can be made to positively impact the well being of our community.

## Health Status Profile for Kern County compared to other Counties of the South San Joaquin Valley



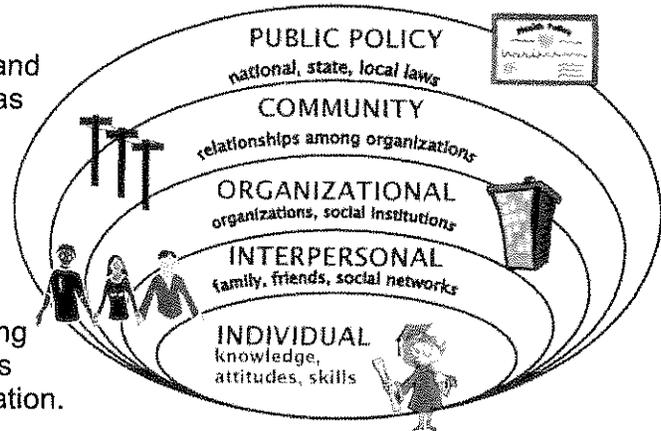
# Kern County Call to Action: Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan



# Kern County Call to Action: Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan

## APPROACHING THE CHALLENGE

The Kern County Call to Action: Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan Domain Leader Committee was comprised of representatives in the areas of healthcare, education, early childhood educators, media, business, community/faith-based organizations and government (please see acknowledgements). Supported by Kern County Public Health Services staff, the Domain Leader Committee directed the process for adapting the San Diego model and recommended strategies and action steps that would address our local situation.



### Ecological Model

An important aspect of San Diego's model is that it did not focus only on the individuals but on the environment surrounding them. The Ecological Model that is the basis of this Call to Action centers around the concept that the individual does not exist in a vacuum and that a supportive environment is necessary for individuals to make healthy choices in the course of their daily lives. It is comprehensive in how it looks at the issue of obesity, looking at the physical and social environments and how they interact with people at the individual, interpersonal, organizational and community levels. It provides a framework for change that focuses on individuals, families, neighborhoods, businesses, and regulations. For example, reducing crime rates at local parks and improving neighborhood lighting will increase the likelihood of families becoming more physically active.

### Planning Process

The planning process included a comprehensive literature review of existing models being used throughout the United States. As previously mentioned, serious consideration was made with regards to Consortium to Lower Obesity in Chicago Children (CLOCC), the "Fun, Fit, & Free!" program and "76 Tons of Fun" campaign that was enacted in Philadelphia in the early 2000s, and many other worthy endeavors. Ultimately, the San Diego Call to Action was determined to be well-suited, after adaptation, to address Kern County's chronic disease and obesity issues.

An important component of this model was the recognition of a multi-disciplinary, comprehensive approach to the problem. Therefore, identification of seven key domain areas that have the most influence on both the individual and their environment and whether or not healthy choices and behavior change are encouraged and maintained. These seven domains are:

1. County and City Governments
2. Healthcare Systems and Providers
3. Schools
4. Early Childhood Programs and Before- and After-School Providers
5. Community-Based Organizations, Faith-Based Organizations and Youth Organizations
6. Media Outlets and Marketing Industry
7. Business

The Domain Leader Committee was comprised of representatives in each of these areas. They conducted an exhaustive review of local data and focused on engaging their peers, both those who were already working on addressing the issue and engaging those who were not, with the goal of adapting San Diego's model for local implementation in 2010. Input was sought not only from multi-disciplinary partners but from the community as well. Community conversations with residents from different areas of the county, races/ethnicities, cultures, and backgrounds were held to obtain their perspective.

# Kern County Call to Action: Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan

## Goals & Objectives

The fundamental goal of this endeavor is to improve the health of all Kern County residents. The objectives of the Kern County Call to Action: Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan intend to meet this target include the following:

- Building awareness about the risks and consequences of uncontrolled high blood pressure, diabetes, arthritis, and risk factors of physical inactivity and obesity.
- Serving as a guide for all those in Kern County who are interested in addressing obesity, including agencies, institutions and neighborhoods.
- Planting a seed and building momentum for action without being prescriptive (using multiple strategies to build momentum and begin taking action to improve the health of Kern County residents).
- Strengthening existing partnerships by creating relationships with new organizations and new sectors.
- Recognizing that policy and environmental change should support the adoption of individual lifestyle changes.
- Creating a plan that measures and supports community partners in their efforts.

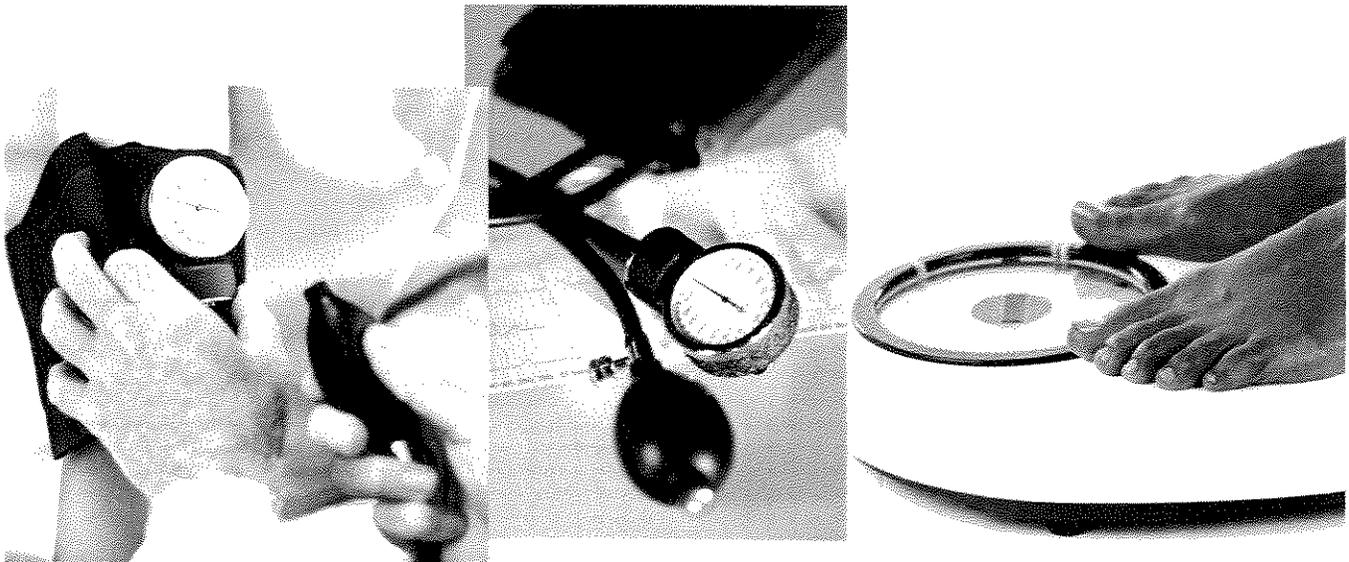
## A CALL TO ACTION

This plan calls for every person in Kern County to be part of the solution in this effort but this is not an all-inclusive plan. Community partners are highly encouraged to develop additional strategies for the prevention of chronic conditions and obesity based on their experience, abilities and the communities they work with.

Promising local programs that address chronic diseases and/or obesity are highlighted on the following pages. These programs successfully implement recommended Kern County Call to Action: Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan strategies and strive to create an environment that supports healthy choices for all county residents.

For more information about these programs, please contact:

**Marisel Mehdipour, MPH at 661-868-0326 or [mehdipourm@co.kern.ca.us](mailto:mehdipourm@co.kern.ca.us)**



# Kern County Call to Action: Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan

## CALL TO ACTION 1:

**Engage COUNTY AND CITY GOVERNMENTS to advance the following strategies to prevent chronic disease:**

- A. Modify current city and county general plans so that walking and cycling paths are incorporated into existing communities to create controlled intersections and/or paths to safely accommodate pedestrians, cyclists and others using non-motorized transportation. Priorities should be paths that lead to food outlets that serve healthy foods as well as to parks and other venues that provide opportunities for physical activity.
- B. Design plans for new communities, capital improvement projects and large construction projects so that schools, parks, stores, park and rides, and other facilities are within easy walking and bicycling distance to residential areas and so that there are walking/cycling paths that encourage physical activity.
- C. Establish "safety corridors" and routes to school including "complete streets" design for children to encourage walking and bicycling. This includes wider sidewalks, barriers between the streets and walkways, increased security during hours that children are traveling to and from school, and strictly enforced speed zones.
  - Develop consistent signage to identify safe walking areas (point-of-decision prompts).
- D. Increase quantity, quality and accessibility of parks and natural and existing open spaces in order to encourage physical activity among youth.
- E. Revise and disseminate maps for public access of walking, hiking and bicycling routes throughout the county (including information on mileage, sidewalk routes, bike paths, hiking trails, etc.) on local government agency websites and other outlets.
  - Increase access to walking, hiking, and bicycling routes using point-of-decision prompts.
- F. Sponsor and promote opportunities for children, youth and their families to engage in physical activities, with focus on the following:
  - A large and varied selection of activities (i.e., competitive and non-competitive; individual and team; separated genders and mixed) that attract persons of various cultures so that any individual is likely to regard one or more as "fun."
  - Activities that are likely to meet needs of people with various abilities and body types.
  - Activities that lend themselves to lifelong participation.
  - Activities that are located in low-income areas and areas with high rates of obesity-related conditions.
  - Identify funding opportunities to develop and sustain the above-mentioned activities.
- G. Develop breastfeeding accommodations in public facilities, as breastfeeding helps prevent childhood obesity.
- H. Ensure that vending machines on all county- and city-owned and/or leased land, space and facilities have healthy choices and encourage community partners to do the same.
- I. Coordinate efforts to address and prevent chronic diseases and obesity across government departments and jurisdictions.
  - Develop and/or augment worksite wellness programs (e.g., health screenings, brown bag series, on-site physical activity programs, etc.).
  - Emphasize and embed chronic disease self-management program participation in the worksite either by referring to community-based organizations or modifying HR policies to provide flex time for participation in 6-week course.
- J. The Kern County Public Health Services Department will coordinate with other County government agencies and incorporated cities to help implement the Kern County Call to Action: Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan and will work collaboratively with private and public sectors to increase resources that address childhood obesity.

# Kern County Call to Action: Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan

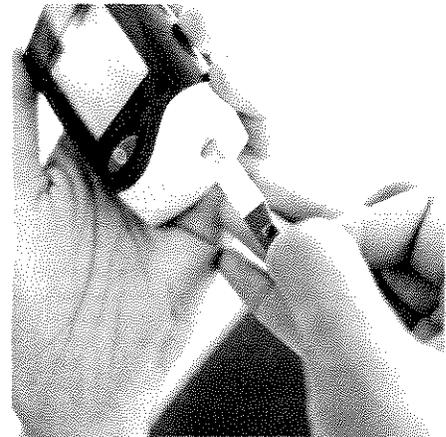
## CALL TO ACTION 2:

### Engage HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS AND PROVIDERS to advance the following strategies to prevent chronic disease:

- A. Include obesity prevention, screening and referrals in routine clinical practice.
- B. Include obesity prevention and screening in quality assessment measures for health insurers, health plans, and quality improvement and accrediting organizations.
- C. Train healthcare providers and health profession students in effective obesity prevention and treatment techniques.
- D. Provide resources and information for healthcare providers on prevention and treatment of overweight and obesity. Referral to evidence-based self management programs available in the community should be a recommended strategy for patients who need to take action to achieve a healthy weight and maintain control of high blood pressure or diabetes.
- E. Routinely track body mass index (BMI) and provide patients with relevant evidence-based weight management counseling and/or referrals in a culturally competent manner. Providers should be knowledgeable about patients' cultures, traditions and languages.
- F. Develop a family-centered, multidisciplinary curriculum based on best practices for teaching patients about obesity prevention and treatment.
- G. Expand and implement culturally appropriate health education classes on exercise (e.g., Walk with Ease), nutrition, food shopping, meal planning, cooking, and other areas that would increase patients' knowledge and skills to make healthy changes.
  - Evidence based self-management programs (e.g., CDSMP) enhance self efficacy to improve a patient's ability to take action and to make the behavior change. Consider participation in type of course first and then transition to other workshops.
- H. Promote breastfeeding, 30 to 60 minutes of physical activity and consumption of a minimum of five fruits and vegetables a day collaboration with ethnically specific organizations that target nutrition education outreach.
- I. Partner with businesses, government, faith communities and other organizations to assist with financing school activities including wellness policies and nutrition and physical education.

Provide advocacy to:

- J. Classify obesity as a disease category for reimbursement coding.
- K. Assure that food assistance programs such as Women, Infants and Children (WIC) provide adequate vouchers for fruits and vegetables and other healthy foods that can be used at farmer's markets and other venues.
- L. Reform food labeling so that information can be easily understood by the public.
- M. Increase government resources to support healthcare and treatment of obesity.
- N. Increase availability of affordable, nutritious and safe foods to decrease hunger and reduce the tendency to fend off hunger with readily available, inexpensive, high-calorie foods that have little or no nutritional value.



### Kern Health Systems

Kern Health Systems, the locally run health maintenance organization providing health care to low income and medically vulnerable people in Kern County, recognized the need for better access to medical providers for diabetics in our community. In order to address this need, Kern Health Systems partnered with Kern Medical Center to provide a comprehensive "one stop shop" for medical care for diabetics. This clinic provides access to pharmacists, podiatrists, physicians and (soon to come) optometry services on the same day during the same appointment. This approach has provided better management of the disease and better education for the patients regarding their disease, resulting in dramatic reductions in emergency room visits, hospitalizations, and use of medication in the 100 patients enrolled in the study. The demonstrated success of the clinic has resulted in interest to replicate this clinic model in other cities in Kern County.

# Kern County Call to Action: Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan

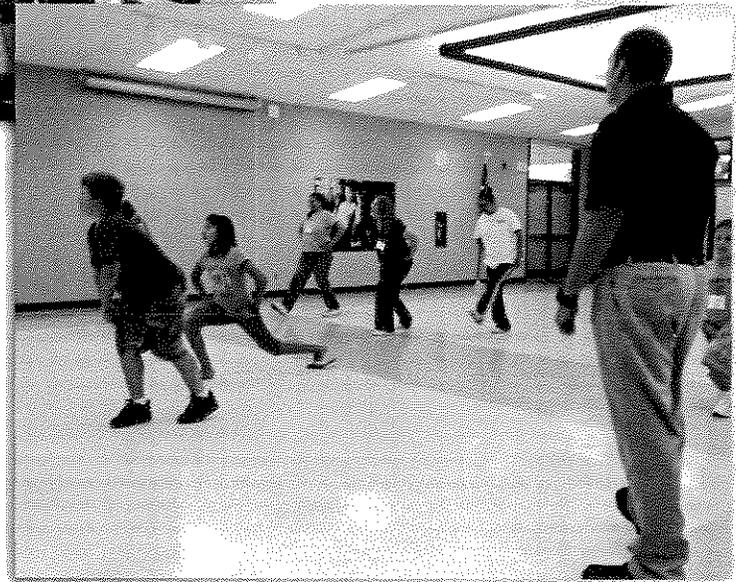
## CALL TO ACTION 3:

### Engage **SCHOOLS AND BEFORE- and AFTER-SCHOOL PROVIDERS** to advance the following strategies to prevent chronic disease:

- A. Encourage and/or recognize the adoption and implementation by schools of a “Gold Standard” wellness guideline where they can receive a seal for incorporating one or more of the following provisions:
- Provide students with health education that addresses nutrition, physical activity and adoption of other obesity preventive lifestyle choices. Use sequential, skills-based and evidence-based curricula that include family involvement.
  - Integrate obesity prevention content into the general education curriculum.
  - Expand physical activity opportunities beyond state physical education requirements.
  - Ban use of food as a reward/punishment.
  - Adopt standards for cafeteria, other food outlets, vending machines, school stores and before- and after-school programs that meet USDA Dietary Guidelines and state mandates.
  - Expand participation in the Breakfast/Lunch Program.
  - Develop guidelines connecting School Food Programs to students facing food insufficiency issues outside of normal school sessions, in particular during winter and/or summer breaks.
  - Develop guidelines for healthy fundraising.
  - Eliminate on-campus advertising of high-sugar and high-fat foods and beverages.
  - Increase access to evidence-based programs by promoting joint use of school facilities for community organizations providing evidence-based health promotion programs.
  - Increase community access to physical activity opportunities at school facilities by using point-of-decision prompts to map walking paths around parking lots, multi-purpose rooms, grass fields, etc.
- B. Provide culturally and linguistically appropriate education on nutrition and physical activity to students, teachers, food service staff, coaches, nurses, before- and after-school providers and parents at low or no cost.
- C. Provide all students with physical education classes and other opportunities for physical activity during the school day or after school to help children engage in vigorous physical activity each day.
- D. Partner with businesses, government, associations of schools, faith communities and other organizations to assist with financing school athletic activities including the purchase of athletic uniforms and equipment.
- E. Encourage schools to establish school gardens and/or Farmer's Markets to increase student's accessibility to fresh produce.
- F. Improve access to and affordability of fresh fruits and vegetables in all schools.
- G. Partner with community agencies and healthcare providers to provide onsite counseling programs that address the emotional needs of overweight children and their parents, eliminate related bullying at school, and direct children and families to resources where they can set and meet nutrition and fitness goals.
- H. Use school facilities outside of school hours for physical activity programs offered by schools and/or community-based organizations.
- I. Reduce advertising, selling and distribution of unhealthy foods and beverages at before- and after-school programs.
- J. Encourage schools and before- and after-school providers using school space to collaborate to develop healthy policies and facilities for their mutual use.
- K. Partner with businesses, government, faith communities and other organizations to assist in financing school activities including wellness policies and nutrition and physical education.



## Kern County Call to Action: Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan



### **School Gardens Make A Comeback**

The students at Buena Vista Elementary, a K-6 school in the Panama-Buena Vista Union School District, will soon be stepping outside the boundaries of the traditional educational setting. With support from local Grimmway Farms, district students will cultivate, plant, harvest, cook, and eat in a teaching garden adjacent to the school. Students will take part in hands-on garden classes which connect the food in the garden with broader concepts of the history and geography of food origins, the science of plant life cycles, proper nutrition and good health. Planting, growing, and harvesting will go hand-in-hand with math, science, and social studies. Their classroom reading and writing experiences will connect to activities in the garden. With healthy eating being the focus of the kitchen adjacent to the garden, carrots, turnips, corn, and beans will become classroom resources and be prepared into meals by the students, who will gain a sense of achievement and an understanding of healthy food choices. Students' experiences in the garden and kitchen will result in an appreciation of the local farming environment, a broader educational experience, and a greater understanding of the keys to lifelong wellness.

# Kern County Call to Action: Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan

## CALL TO ACTION 4:

**Engage EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS to advance the following strategies to prevent chronic disease:**

- A. Train early childhood educators to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate education and resources to parents on child and family nutrition and physical activity.
- B. Assist early childhood educators to utilize innovative methods and provide fun activities to promote healthy nutrition and physical activity with children.
- C. Educate parents on how to assess and select early childhood programs for their healthy nutrition and physical activity opportunities for children, as well as for their ability to involve families in physical activity and nutritional programming.
- D. Encourage early childhood educators to model behaviors that demonstrate healthy eating and physically active lifestyles for parents and children.
- E. Encourage the adoption and implementation by early childhood programs, both center- and home-based, of a "Gold Standard" wellness guideline where they can receive a seal for incorporating one or more of the following provisions:
  - Provide children with age-appropriate health education that addresses nutrition, physical activity and adoption of other obesity preventive lifestyle choices. Use sequential, skills-based and evidence-based curricula that include family involvement.
  - Integrate obesity prevention content into the general education curriculum.
  - Expand physical activity opportunities beyond state physical education requirements.
  - Ban use of food as a reward/punishment.
  - Institute healthy food and beverage standards that are consistent with USDA Dietary Guidelines for all food items available at early childhood programs, both center- and home-based.
  - Develop guidelines for healthy fundraising.
- F. Partner with businesses, government, associations of schools, faith communities and other organizations to assist with financing activities including nutrition and physical education.



### **Gardens – Enjoyment and Learning**

Both the Mercy Child Care Center and the Kern County Superintendent of Schools Office have received grants to expand the vegetable gardens at their child development sites. The children use the garden for a variety of activities from learning about how plants grow to what vegetables grow in the garden. With the assistance of teachers and parents, children plant seeds, water and nurture the plants and eventually harvest what they have sowed and are able to prepare and taste the fresh vegetables from their own garden.

#### **In addition, gardening:**

- Provides hands-on learning opportunities for children
- Promotes the scientific process
- Encourages greater appreciation for the food that is on the table
- Can promote food safety
- Will encourage nutritional education
- When young can provide skills that are lifelong



# Kern County Call to Action: Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan

## CALL TO ACTION 5:

Engage COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS, FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS and YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS to advance the following strategies to prevent chronic disease:

- A. Improving upon and/or opening channels of communication between community-based organizations, faith congregations and youth organizations and existing systems to improve coordination and/or increase access to health and physical activity resources.
- B. Enlist and empower community-based organizations, faith congregations and youth organizations to reach their members to organize family physical activities and to increase awareness of healthy lifestyles.
- C. Enlist and empower community-based organizations, faith congregations and youth organizations to increase their capacity and involvement in working with existing systems to create environments that promote health and physical activity in their communities.
  - To include leadership building opportunities for resident and youth members.
  - To take the lead in defining their community's priorities and to begin creating an advocacy strategy.
  - To develop ongoing ways to sustain their initiatives to maintain momentum.
  - To improve access to evidence-based self management and physical activity programs in the community.
- D. Working with community-based organizations, faith congregations and youth organizations to develop resident-led wellness initiatives.
  - Take the lead to promote with parents limiting children's and families' screen time (television, computer, etc.) to a maximum of two hours per day.
  - Eliminate advertising and selling of unhealthy foods and beverages in close proximity to children and youth at community-based, faith-based and youth organizations.
  - Limit the advertising and selling of unhealthy foods and beverages in connection with fundraising efforts.
- E. Partner with community facilities for health and wellness, nutrition and physical activity programs offered by schools and other community partners.
  - Increase the number of community-based organizations with certified leaders of evidence-based self management and physical activity programs.
- F. Partner with businesses, government, associations of schools, faith communities and other organizations to assist in financing healthy activities including nutrition education and physical fitness.
- G. Develop various means of communication to highlight health and/or environmental issues faced by communities and to report progress on community initiatives.
  - To include training and support for various communication tools like photo voice and video voice mapping, walk ability surveys and CX3 surveys.
  - Use community-wide campaigns to deliver health promotion messages about the importance of regular monitoring of high blood pressure, taking medication as prescribed, participation in self management to improve control of high blood pressure or diabetes, and increasing awareness of the risks and consequences of uncontrolled high blood pressure,
- H. Develop a common means of communication such as weekly e-messages or mailers so that involved organizations can stay informed about what each entity is doing about obesity, physical activity and chronic disease prevention.

### Local Greenfield Residents Lead the Charge for a Healthy Neighborhood

In Bakersfield, California, a small group of local mothers – many of them Spanish-speaking farm workers – formed a local walking group to improve their fitness levels and connect with friends and neighbors. They met at nearby Stiern Park, which was poorly lit and littered with used hypodermic needles and broken bottles. The group organized, inviting police, parks officials, and other community leaders to walk the park with them. Ultimately, the local Chamber of Commerce agreed to support park improvements, and more than 100 volunteers installed a new walking path in a single day. The Greenfield Walking Group is now a community institution. Several members have experienced significant weight loss (up to 80 pounds) and report meaningful improvements in their and their families' personal health and quality of life.

# Kern County Call to Action: Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan

## CALL TO ACTION 6:

### Engage MEDIA OUTLETS and the MARKETING INDUSTRY to advance the following strategies to prevent chronic disease:

- A. Partner with other domains (i.e., government; healthcare; schools; childcare, preschools and before- and after-school providers; community-based, faith-based and youth organizations; and businesses) to create a culturally sensitive, locally driven media campaign that addresses healthy lifestyles and portrays diverse individuals in a way that portrays healthy eating and physical activity in an acceptable manner.
- B. Partner with other domains to conduct a countywide campaign to foster public awareness of the long-term health consequences of practicing unhealthy nutrition choices and physical inactivity. Incorporate risks and consequences of chronic conditions – high blood pressure, diabetes, and arthritis.
- C. Partner with other domains to conduct a countywide campaign to foster public awareness of the health benefits of regular physical activity, healthy nutrition choices, maintaining a healthy weight and local resources.
  - Community wide media should influence individual, interpersonal, institutional, and community level in large scale, multi-component campaigns that deliver messages.
  - Community wide media should link with evidenced-based self management and physical activity programs available in the community and risk factor screening linked with health promotion programs.
- D. Partner with other domains to increase awareness of programs that provide low/no-cost physical opportunities for residents.
- E. Partner with schools to promote the appeal of healthy foods at primary and secondary schools in the same way fast foods are marketed.
- F. Partner with businesses to limit advertising and promotion of unhealthy foods and beverages aimed directly at young children.
- G. Partner with businesses, government, associations of schools, faith communities and other organizations to assist in financing marketing activities that promote nutritional education and physical activity.
- H. Partner with media to promote worksite wellness that include physical activity breaks, reduced exposure to tobacco products and use, increase healthy food choices, low sodium foods and healthy meeting guidelines.

### Wellness and Healthy Activities Festival 2010

Discovering new, interesting and non-traditional ways to convey health messages and/or the availability of resources to our community is an interesting challenge for many organizations. However, this task is made much easier when partnering with a local health entity whose focus is community health and local media who enjoy both a loyal audience and enormous reach with your target population.

American General Media, Mercy and Memorial Hospitals and the Kern County Public Health Services Department (KCPHSD) took up this challenge. During the Spring of 2010, in a collaborative effort, they, in conjunction with the Amgen Tour, presented the 1st Annual Wellness & Healthy Activities Festival 2010 held at Mill Creek in Bakersfield's Central Park.

At the Annual Wellness & Healthy Activities Festival, members of the public were able to participate in a wide range of health-based activities. They were able to shop at a Farmer's Market, visit information booths, receive free health screenings and flu shots, listen to a wide variety of interesting health lectures, enjoy live music and even have their bicycles tuned at no cost. Moreover, they were able to enjoy a behind-the-scenes view of the taping of the locally produced "To Your Health" program, which is a joint effort between KGET and KCPHSD. With an attendance of 3,000, this successful event reached out to the community in an entertaining and educational way.

# Kern County Call to Action: Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan

## CALL TO ACTION 7:

**Engage BUSINESSES to advance the following strategies to prevent chronic disease:**

- A. Include healthier food and beverage choices consistent with USDA Dietary Guidelines at fast food and full-service restaurants.
- B. Encourage the adoption and implementation by businesses of a “Gold Standard” wellness guideline where they can receive a seal for incorporating one or more of the following provisions:
  - Institute healthy food and beverage standards for onsite vending machines.
  - Institute a breastfeeding/lactation policy.
  - Link employer-based health screenings with lifestyle behavior change programs available in the community (CDSMP, Smokers' Helpline, or Walk with Ease)
  - Institute point-of-decision prompts at or near worksites to increase knowledge of the availability of walking paths, raise awareness of and participation in walking opportunities.
  - Incorporate “Walk with Ease” into Wellness Programs with management support for employee participation in the program or with flex time for engaging in physical activity.
- C. Participate in efforts to publicly acknowledge businesses that support and promote the prevention of obesity through window logos, certificates, media releases, etc.
- D. Increase access to certified farmer's markets, food cooperatives, and community gardens to expand healthy and affordable food options, particularly in low-income and underserved neighborhoods.
- E. Partner with government, associations of schools, faith communities and other organizations to organize and assist with financing community physical clubs and healthy lifestyle projects.

## **“5 Ton Challenge” Competition**

The 5 Ton Challenge powered by TERRIO Therapy-Fitness has been a huge success in Bakersfield and Fresno. Many of the contestants have had a great success in losing weight during and improving overall health. Partnering with Memorial and Mercy Hospitals, contestants were tested for overall health risks and blood glucose, cholesterol and blood pressure. After the 10-week challenge, retests showed an overall improved coronary risk. Most importantly, clients have realized a lifestyle change that now focuses on eating proportionally and exercising regularly.

Many businesses have joined on with the 5 Ton Challenge and have watched their employees lose weight and decrease their bad habits. As a result, they have seen increased productivity, less sick days, and more energy. It is a great way to help businesses decrease their financial constraints from high medical bills from workers' compensation and insurance. Overall, the 5 Ton Challenge has created a network of people that have changed their lives for the better!

# Kern County Call to Action: Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan

## **EVALUATION – HOW CAN WE MEASURE OUR SUCCESS?**

*Recommended efforts to establish countywide evaluation measures include:*

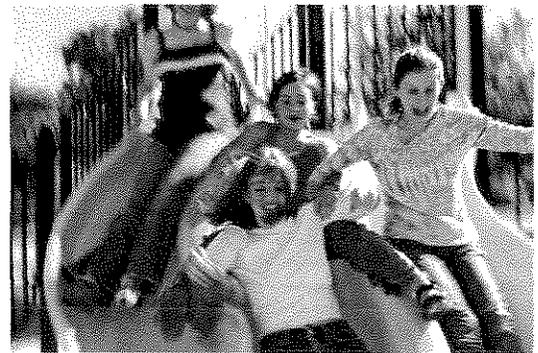
- 1. Design an efficient mechanism to track the body mass index (BMI) of residents in Kern County over time, building on present services and opportunities.*
- 2. Develop mechanisms to track over time the eating and physical activity patterns of the residents in Kern County, building on present opportunities.*
- 3. Identify experts to evaluate the success of the engagement of the seven domain areas.*
- 4. Advocate with all partnering organizations to ensure that a formal evaluation component is incorporated into the design of all projects that are not evidence-based.*

## **NEXT STEPS**

Much effort is needed to assure the successful implementation of the recommended strategies and the sustainability and ongoing support of this plan. Working together with a common purpose, we can make a difference in preventing chronic diseases and obesity and improving the health and well-being of Kern County residents.

### **Sustainability - How Can We Continue Our Efforts?**

The Kern County Call to Action: Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan Domain Leader Committee recognizes the need to make systemic changes in the social and physical environments that contribute to unhealthy behaviors. Engagement of organizations and individuals from all domain areas over time will be necessary to establish a strong foundation and assure the ongoing support of chronic disease and obesity prevention efforts. Specific recommendations include:



1. Raise awareness about the Kern County Call to Action: Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan through a defined communications strategy, public relations and other efforts.
2. Secure commitments from organizations representing all domain areas to implement recommended strategies including identifying “champions” in each domain area to lead the cause.
3. Create an ongoing countywide infrastructure and oversight team to monitor and coordinate chronic disease and obesity prevention efforts by all domain areas.
4. Initial efforts of the oversight team may include the following:
  - Establishment of evaluation and tracking mechanisms to determine the effectiveness of implemented strategies (see narrative box)
  - Communicate the implementation and results of evaluation and tracking mechanisms
  - Development of a website dedicated to chronic disease and obesity prevention
  - Establishment of countywide domain-specific meetings and an annual summit meeting including all domain areas
  - Securing additional funding to assure ongoing efforts
  - Formal recognition of the efforts of partnering organizations
5. Fund staff who will be responsible for providing leadership and coordination among stakeholders to facilitate the implementation of the goals and strategies of this action plan.

# Kern County Call to Action: Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan

## NEXT STEPS (continued)

### Implementation - What Will the County Do?

The County of Kern is committed to the health and well-being of its residents. As such, it is dedicating resources to address the preventable causes of chronic diseases and obesity – lack of physical activity and poor nutrition. County activities will involve most sections of County government and focus on the different levels of the ecological model. Identified staff will work with representatives from the domain areas to secure Commitments of Significance toward implementation of the plan.

The following is a sampling of new County commitments:

1. The Department of Parks and Recreation will open a new gym that will share facilities with a local middle school, providing opportunities for physical activity outside of school hours.
2. The Probation Department will provide health and wellness education to youth in its facilities.
3. Encourage an increase in the number of countywide Farmer's Markets hosted at County building sites.

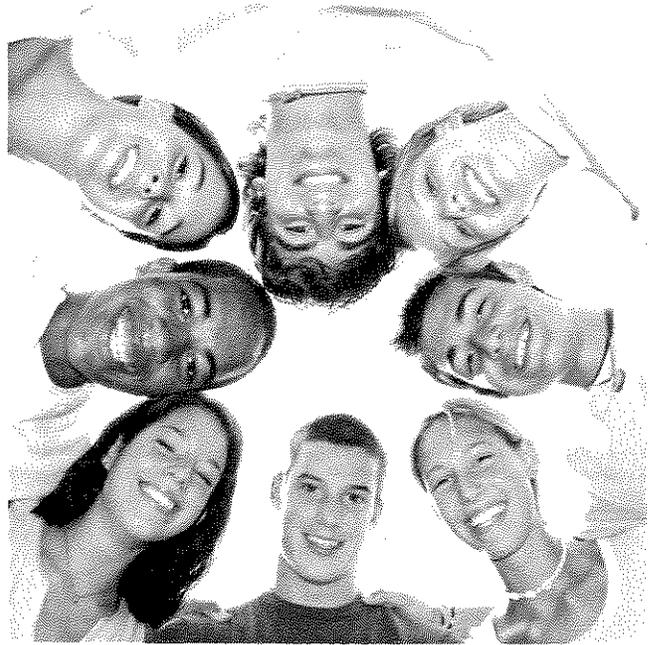


## NEXT STEPS (continued)

Implementation - What Can Your Organization Do?

Partnering organizations are encouraged to:

1. Review the calls to action and recommended strategies presented in this plan across all seven domain areas.
2. Conduct an internal review to:
  - Determine which recommended strategies you are currently implementing; and
  - Identify new strategies your organization can implement.
3. Make a formal commitment to adopt new strategies by completing the "Commitment of Significance" form (see next page).
4. Work with other organizations within and across domain areas to coordinate efforts.
5. Work with the oversight team to document, evaluate and report your efforts on an ongoing basis.





Building a Foundation for a  
**Healthy Kern County**

## Commitment of Significance

Before completing this form, please review the  
Kern County Call to Action:  
Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan

### Contact Information

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Domain Category (please check one):  Business  Schools  
 Early Childhood Educators  City and County Government  Media and Marketing  
 Community-based Organizations (*Youth, Community, or Faith*)  Healthcare Systems and Providers

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Web Page: \_\_\_\_\_

### Strategy Implementation

Is your organization currently implementing strategies for childhood obesity?  Yes  No

If so, what strategies is your organization currently implementing? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What new or recommended strategies will your organization commit to and implement? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

With which other organization within your domain and/or other domains will you coordinate efforts?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Who in your organization will work with Call to Action Chronic Disease and Childhood Obesity Initiative staff to report and evaluate your efforts?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please fax or e-mail your completed form to:

**Sandee Young**

FAX: (661) 868-0263 e-mail: [youngs@co.kern.ca.us](mailto:youngs@co.kern.ca.us)

# Kern County Call to Action: Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan

## Acknowledgments

**We thank the individuals and agencies listed below for their dedication and efforts related to the Kern County Call to Action: Chronic Disease and Obesity Action Plan:**

**Romeo Agbalog**

Government Affairs Manager • Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce  
Trustee • Delano Union School District

**Tammy Burns**

Coordinator • Early Childhood Council of Kern

**Matthew Constantine**

Director • Kern County Public Health Services Department

**Stephanie Campbell**

Program Director • Ebony Counseling Center

**Tom Corson**

Executive Director • Kern County Network for Children

**Dr. Boyce Dulan**

Retired • Kern County Public Health Services Department

**Jennifer Lopez**

CCROP/Kern County Network for Children

**Dr. Avtar Nijjer-Sidhu**

Senior Health Educator • Kern County Public Health Services Department

**Bill Phelps**

Chief of Programs • Clinica Sierra Vista

**Tom Randour**

Vice President/General Manager • KGET-NBC/Telemundo/CW

**Kim Salas**

Special Assistant • Board of Supervisors, District V

**Sheri Seal-Bailey**

Director, Bariatric Solutions • San Joaquin Hospital

**Dr. Kevin Silberberg**

Superintendent • Standard School District

**Carol Sorrell, R.N.**

President/CEO • Kern Health Systems

**Tim Terrio**

Founder/CEO • Terrio Therapy-Fitness, Inc.

