



## Coalition for Safe, Active and Healthy Streets (CASHS) and Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Action Team

The Coalition for Safe, Active and Healthy Streets helps increase awareness of problematic intersections and street crossings in New Ulm while providing evidence-based solutions. It works to improve the safety of New Ulm's streets by incorporating traffic calming measures (slowing traffic) so that more people will feel safe using walking and bicycling as a form of transportation.

The Safe Routes to School Action Team works to make it safer for children to walk and bicycling to school by addressing the six Es – education, encouragement, equity, evaluation, engagement and engineering.

### 2024 Accomplishments

#### Active Story Stroll

- In celebration of I Love to Read Month and Winter Walk to School Day, the Safe Routes to School action team partnered with local schools to host a Story Stroll in January and February. The pages of children's books were displayed for a week on walking routes around the outside at NUACS and on the Jefferson / Middle School campus and teachers took students on walks during school hours to read the book together. Children and families also enjoyed the Story Stroll during non-school hours.



#### Walk, Bike and Roll to School Days

- To encourage walking or bicycling to school, the SRTS team conducted two Walk, Bike and Roll to School Days in May and October for four different schools, with adult volunteers accompanying the kids.



#### Demonstration Project Repeat at 1st North and Garden St.

- Due to the success of a similar demonstration project conducted in Summer 2023, the Heart of New Ulm's Coalition for Active Safe and Healthy Streets and the Safe Routes to School Action Team, in partnership with the City of New Ulm, again installed temporary curb extensions (bump-outs) at the intersection of 1st North St. and Garden St. in July. Curb extensions help slow traffic and make it safer for all who use Harman Park and walk or bike in the area. The goal is for these to become permanent when this location is scheduled for major street work, which will significantly reduce the cost.

#### Grant for Bike Maintenance Classes

- The Safe Routes to School team helped secure a grant from MnDot's Safe Routes to School program for a bike maintenance/ technician curriculum through a competitive application process. The grant for \$24,476 will fund Project Bike Tech classes, to be offered at Ulm Sweet Ulm by Lykke Communities, a local nonprofit organization. Youth in grades 7-12 are encouraged to sign up for 2025 classes, which will empower them to develop the skills needed to maintain bicycles. Classes will also serve as a conduit to teach core academics and STEM elements, enhance lives, create career opportunities and promote active transportation.

