



August 8, 2017

Mr. Michael D'Allessandro
Rhode Island Statewide Planning Program
One Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908

Dear Michael,

Please find attached the original and 3 collated copies of Family Service of Rhode Island's complete STIP submittal package.

You should have already received a copy of the complete package at Michael.DAlessandro@doa.ri.gov.

Per my 8/7/2017 email to you, you will see that Central Falls Mayor James Diossa's signature is on one page and Mayor Jorge Elorza's signature is on a copy of this page. I have marked up the page accordingly. Martina L. Haggerty, Associate Director of Special Projects, Providence Department of Planning and Development, was kind enough to get the form to the mayor's office for Mayor Elorza's signature. She can verify his support should a question arise. Her phone is 680-8528 and email is mhaggerty@providenceri.gov. Or please contact me at 331-1350 or hugst@familyserviceri.org.

I have also included a budget page for each year, as well as a budget page that combines all three years. Plus, you should find 11 maps included.

Thank you for all your assistance as we prepared the package for our Walking School Bus application!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SLH', is written over the typed name 'Stephen L. Hug'.

Stephen L. Hug
Director, Grant Strategy

SLH: Attachments

Please complete this form and the project prioritization sheets on the following pages.

CONTACT	Contact Information
	Applicant Name: <u>Family Service of Rhode Island</u>
	Contact Person (if different): <u>Anthony H. Bliss</u> Title: <u>Senior VP/CAO</u>
	Mailing Address: <u>P.O Box 6688</u>
	City: <u>Providence</u> Zip Code: <u>02940-6688</u>
	Phone: <u>401-331-1350</u> Email: <u>blissan@familyserviceri.org</u>

CERTIFICATION	Applicant Certification
	<u></u> <u>8/3/2017</u>
	Contact Person Signature Date

CHECKLIST	Submittal Checklist
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3 collated copies of complete STIP submittal package, including:
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project Prioritization cover sheet
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Project Application Form for each new or updated project
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2-page narrative on evaluation criteria
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8.5" x 11" PDF map of project location
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email a copy of complete STIP submittal package to Michael.DAlessandro@doa.ri.gov or provide on a CD
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Submit complete STIP submittal package to:
	Rhode Island Statewide Planning Program ATTN: Michael D'Alessandro One Capitol Hill Providence, RI 02908

ALL APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY 3:00PM ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 2017

FFY 18-27 STIP Application/Project Priority Form



Newly Proposed Projects <i>(Please use an additional sheet if necessary)</i>			
PROJECT PRIORITIZATION	Priority	Project Name	STIP ID
	1	Walking School Bus	

FFY 18-27 Project Application Form



State Transportation Improvement Program

CONTACT	Contact Information
	Applicant Name <u>Family Service of Rhode Island</u>
	Contact Person (if different) <u>Anthony H. Bliss</u> Title <u>Senior VP/CAO</u>
	Mailing Address <u>P.O. Box 6688</u>
	City <u>Providence</u> Zip Code <u>02940-6688</u>
	Phone <u>401-331-1350</u> Email <u>blissan@familyserviceri.org</u>

PROJECT INFORMATION	Type of Project <i>select all that apply</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> Bridge <input type="checkbox"/> Pavement <input type="checkbox"/> Drainage <input type="checkbox"/> Planning
	<input type="checkbox"/> Traffic <input type="checkbox"/> Transit <input type="checkbox"/> Bicycle <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pedestrian
	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation Enhancement <input type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Enter Other Project Type</u>
	Project Description
	Was this project previously submitted during the FFY17-25 STIP development process? <input type="radio"/> Yes / <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
	<i>If you selected no, please continue to the "Current Project Title" Section</i>
	<i>If you selected yes, please answer the following:</i>
	What was the Project Title? _____
	What was the TIP ID# assigned to the project at that time (4-digit number)? _____
Current Project Title <u>The Walking School Bus</u>	
Location by Street Name <u>Please see attached maps for the 7 schools involved in project</u>	
Project Limits - From <u>Please see attached maps</u> To _____	
<i>Please include an 8.5" x 11" map of the site, indicating project limits.</i>	
Provide a brief description of the proposed project:	
<p>Family Service of RI (FSRI) respectfully requests 3 years of support for the Walking School Bus (WSB). The WSB program provides designated routes to school staffed by volunteers and FSRI personnel.</p> <p>Much like a bus, the WSB stops at designated points, including student homes, along each route and the children "climb aboard." This ensures the children arrive at school safely and on-time. The WSB has been an effective tool in reducing chronic absenteeism, and has been recognized by national and local media; in 2016 the City of Providence created and named a park in its honor. The WSB reflects a model promoted by the National Center for Safe Routes to School (www.walkingschoolbus.org), an initiative funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation.</p> <p>This proposal asks for 3 years of funding to support WSB routes at 7 elementary schools: in Providence, Fogarty, Feinstein at Broad Street, Young/Woods, and Kizirian; in Central Falls, Risk, Robertson, Veterans.</p>	

Describe need for proposed project:

Family Service of RI (FSRI) launched the Walking School Bus (WSB) after research confirmed 1) many chronically absent students lived within a mile of school (and were ineligible for the bus) and 2) parental factors contributed to absenteeism e.g. no car, health issues, job conflicts. (Note: in Providence, students living under a mile from school are ineligible for bus service; in Central Falls, only students in grades K-3 and living more than a half mile from school receive bus service. Special needs students may have service.) These factors have had a devastating effect. For example, during last school year, 1 out of 4 students at Kizirian Elementary in Providence's Smith Hill neighborhood was chronically absent (missing at least 18 days in a school year). However, chronically absent students served by WSB INCREASED ATTENDANCE an average of 10 school days. At this writing, WSB serves 4 elementary schools in 3 low-income Providence neighborhoods: Washington Park, Smith Hill and Lower South Providence. The schools: Fogarty, Feinstein at Broad Street, Young/Woods, and Kizirian. Under this proposal, routes for these schools plus routes for 3 Central Falls elementary schools--Risk, Robertson and Veterans--would be funded. Providence and Central Falls, at about 40%, have the highest rates of child poverty in Rhode Island (Source: 2017 Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Fact Book). Chronic absenteeism across the 7 schools ranges from 15% to 31% (Source: InfoWorks, RI Dept. of Education, 2015-2016 school year).

FSRI receives no external funding for WSB and is concerned it cannot continue the program in Providence. Central Falls may provide some funding this fall; in that case STIP funds may be directed to cover unfunded areas, or to continue the program beyond local funding.

Describe anticipated municipal or state transportation network or economic development benefits:

Municipal benefits can be directly related to goals and objectives in the City of Providence's Comprehensive Plan. Specifically:

Goal 1, Objective SE5, Strategy B (page 35): "Encourage and....provide incentives to...use...alternative modes of transportation." The WSB is available for ALL students. Thus, any child near a WSB route may "climb aboard," a step which could preclude the use of the family car.

Goal 5 discussion (page 63): "...local governments must focus on alternative solutions such as...more options for...walking." Also, "...supporting the quality and safety of the pedestrian environment is essential." Objective M1, Strategy D (page 68): "Provide for the special transportation needs of people without cars...school-age children...low-income persons..." The WSB--a safe, alternative solution--specifically assists with the transportation needs of "people without cars," "school-age children," and "low-income persons."

Goal 8. Objective CS1. Strategy B #3 (page 96): "Develop physical and social environments that are conducive to learning by...Improving pedestrian...access to schools from the surrounding neighborhoods." The WSB improves pedestrian access by making it safer for young students to get to school on foot despite their family's lack of a car or the inability of their parents to walk them to school due to work schedules, illnesses or other issues.

Central Falls' Comprehensive Plan is currently being updated; however, in the earlier plan, pedestrian concerns are identified.

Is the project consistent with the local Comprehensive Plan? Yes No

Has the project been the subject of a properly conducted municipal public hearing? Yes No

Is the project on the Federal Aid System? Yes No

Is the project on the National Highway System? Yes No

Not
Applicable

CRITERIA

Evaluation Criteria

Please address the following topics as they relate to the project. Refer to "An Overview of TIP Guiding Principles" for more information. Submission **must not exceed 2 pages**, single-spaced, 12-point font.

- 1. Mobility Benefits
- 2. Cost Effectiveness
- 3. Economic Development
- 4. Environmental Impact
- 5. Supports Local and State Goals
- 6. Safety and Security
- 7. Equity

PROJECT ESTIMATES

Project Estimates

	ROW	Study	Design	Construction	Total
Estimated Project Costs	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$ 0.00

3 year budget total. Please see attachments. Amount Requested through TIP Process \$784,809

Is there funding from other sources committed to this project? Yes No

Source	Amount
Total	\$ 0.00

Estimated date of construction N/A

CERTIFICATION

Municipal Applications

I attest that the information provided on this application is true and accurate.

Not Applicable

Not Applicable

Chief Executive or Elected Municipal Official Signature _____ Date _____

Non-Municipal Applications

I attest that the municipality in which the project is located has been notified of the proposed project.

SEE ATTACHED COPY FOR SIGNATURE

Chief Executive or Elected Municipal Official Signature _____ Date _____
Mayor of Providence, Rhode Island


Mayor of Central Falls, Rhode Island

Date July 25, 2017

ALL APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY 3:00PM ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 2017

Mayor Jorge ELORZA
Signature Page

Evaluation Criteria

CRITERIA

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Not Applicable

Not Applicable

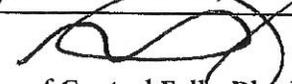
Chief Executive or Elected Municipal Official Signature _____ Date _____

Non-Municipal Applications

I attest that the municipality in which the project is located has been notified of the proposed project.

 _____ Date 8/1/17

Chief Executive or Elected Municipal Official Signature
Mayor of Providence, Rhode Island _____ Date _____


Mayor of Central Falls, Rhode Island

Date

July 25, 2017

ALL APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY 3:00PM ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 2017

Mayor's Original Signature

Mayor's Original Signature

See other page for original

Mayor ELORZA
Signature Page

Evaluation Criteria
Family Service of Rhode Island
Walking School Bus--Providence and Central Falls

The following directly addresses bullet points in "An Overview of TIP Guiding Principles."

1. Mobility Benefits.

--**Number of expected users:** In the vicinity of 200 or higher at the seven schools included in this proposal. --**Increase mobility choices, particularly in areas with low car ownership.** The Walking School Bus (WSB) targets the poorest neighborhoods; thus the likelihood of not owning a car is increased. --**Promotes walkability...of neighborhoods.** The WSB makes it safer for young students to walk to school.--**Improves access to activity centers (...community facilities such as schools...)** The goal is to make schools more accessible for young students, despite family issues.

2. Cost Effectiveness

A key component of the WSB is trained, background-checked volunteers providing informal student mentoring while walking. Paid staff must lead WSB routes and supervise volunteers due to state requirements related to background checks. Staff also recruit and manage volunteers; act as liaisons/troubleshooters between each school and the WSB students/families; and seek donations of food, shoes, coats and other items to give to the students when they show up for the WSB ill-prepared for cold and snow.

Currently there is no funding available for the WSB in Providence or Central Falls. The City of Central Falls may provide some funds in the upcoming school year. In that case, if STIP funds are available, then such funds could be utilized to cover unfunded costs or to maintain the program in years when Central Falls funds are unavailable.

Please see attachments for detailed budget information.

3. Economic Development

--**Leverages local or private investment (including past investment in planning or design).** STIP funds would complement past investments in the WSB, including grants from "Safe Routes to School," the Dexter Donation and the Providence Rotary. In the future, we could use STIP funding in discussions with private funders for matching dollars to maintain or expand the program. --**Is within the Urban Service Boundary.** Both Providence and Central Falls are within the boundary, per the Rhode Island Geographic Information System (RIGIS) information accessed by University of Rhode Island staff, which administers the RIGIS database.

4. Environmental Impact

--**Improves air quality, promotes energy conservation.** The WSB is a safe alternative to an automobile, which, of course, uses energy and releases exhaust fumes. In fact, Family Service of

RI worked with one of our WSB schools to reduce the exhaust from cars idling as the drivers waited to pick up their child or children after school.

5. Supports Local and State Goals

--**State Guide Plan:** The "Safe Routes to School Program" is referenced in the State Guide Plan Element 611 (page 2-11). The WSB, several years ago, received funding from this program, which underscores the WSB's compliance with the State Guide Plan vision.

--**City of Providence Comprehensive Plan:** The WSB reflects the Providence Comprehensive Plan, specifically: *Goal 1, Objective SE5, Strategy B (page 35)*: "Encourage and...provide incentives to...use...alternative modes of transportation." Any child near a WSB route may "climb aboard," precluding use of the family car. *Goal 5 discussion (page 63)*: "...local governments must focus on alternative solutions such as...more options for...walking." Also, "...supporting the quality and safety of the pedestrian environment is essential." *Objective MI, Strategy D (page 68)*: "Provide for the special transportation needs of people without cars...school-age children...low-income persons..." The WSB addresses these transportation needs. *Goal 8, Objective CSI, Strategy B #3 (page 96)*: "Develop physical and social environments that are conducive to learning by...Improving pedestrian...access to schools from the surrounding neighborhoods." The WSB improves pedestrian access by making it safer for young students to get to school on foot.

As noted earlier, the City of Central Falls' Comprehensive Plan is being updated, but the earlier plan had a number of pedestrian concerns.

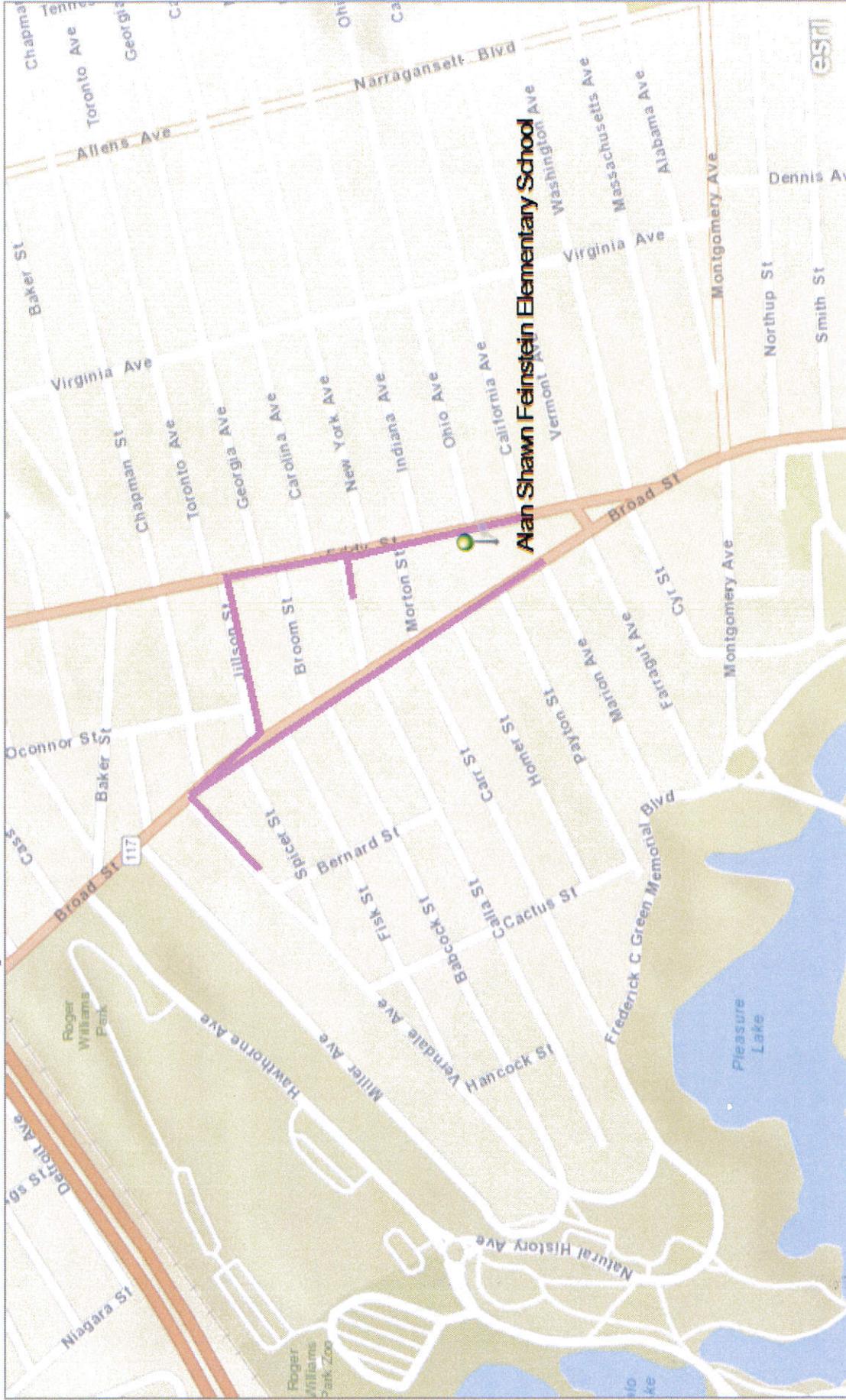
6. Safety and Security

--**Enhances safety, particularly to vulnerable road users.** The WSB provides a safe way for young children to get to school by foot. Their other alternative would be to walk alone and have to cross busy intersections e.g. Providence's Broad Street, through high crime neighborhoods.

7. Equity

--**Enhances or preserves access to the transportation network in a minority neighborhood. Enhances or preserves access to the transportation network in a low income neighborhood.** The WSB is targeted toward minority neighborhoods. For example, last school year, according to infoworks.ride.ri.gov, across schools served by WSB 60 to 70% of the students were Hispanic and 15 to 20% were African-American. Using the federal free and reduced lunch program as a poverty measure, an average of 91% of the students in those schools lived in poverty. (Source: infoworks.ride.ri.gov). --**Enhances or preserves access to the transportation network for those with Limited English Proficiency or a disability.** Last school year, the WSB served schools where about 45% of the students speak English as a second language; about 10% of the students attended Special Education classes. (Source: infoworks.ride.ri.gov).

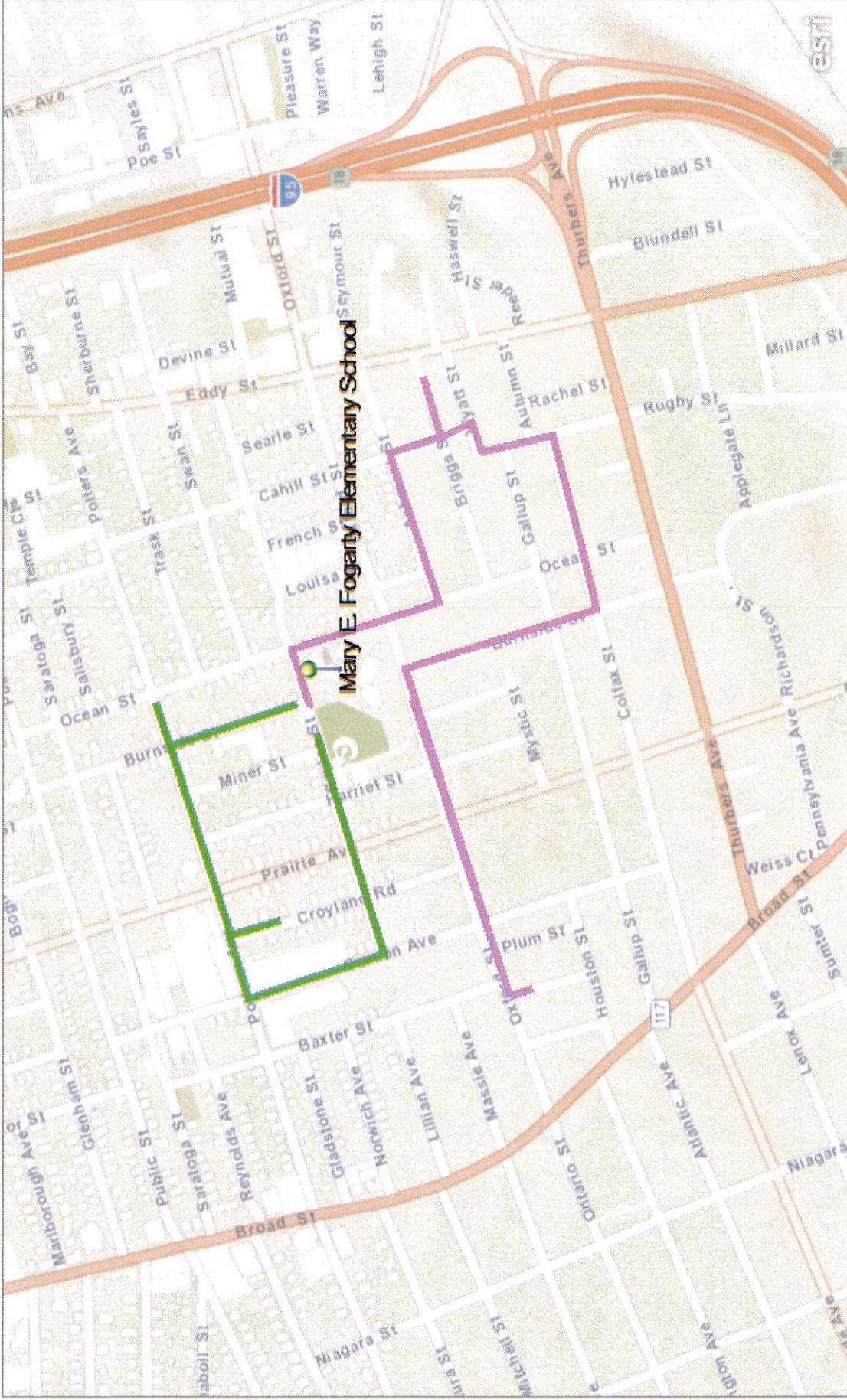
Alan Shawn Feinstein Elementary School



Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, NGA, USGS

Providence
 Alan Shawn Feinstein Elementary School
 1450 Broad Street, 02905
 Existing Route

Mary E. Fogarty Elementary School



Mary E. Fogarty Elementary School

Providence
 Mary E. Fogarty Elementary School
 199 Oxford Street, 02905
 Existing Routes

Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, NGA, USGS

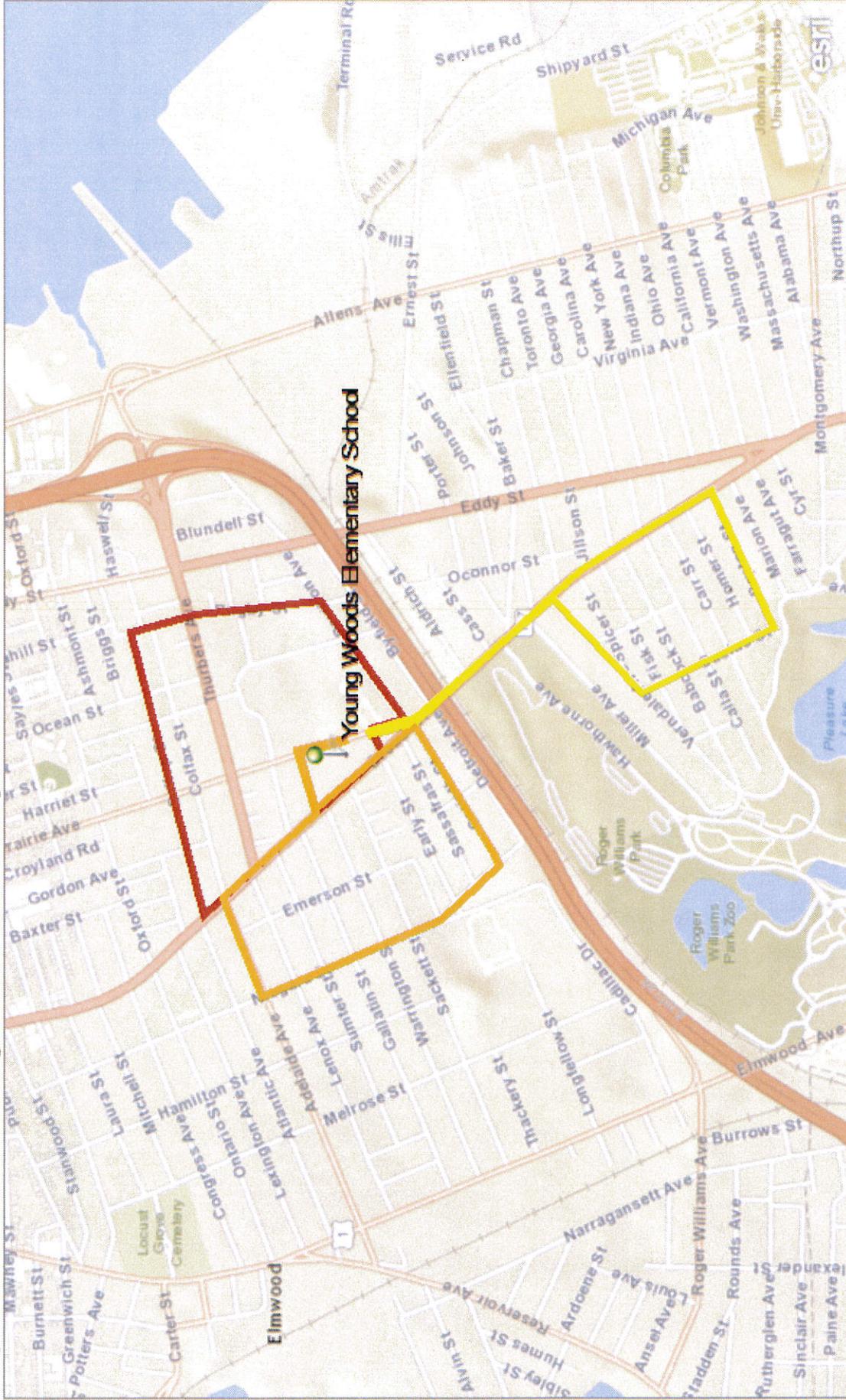
Proposed routes for Harry Kizirian Elementary School



Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, NGA, USGS

Providence
 Harry Kizirian Elementary School
 60 Camden Avenue, 02908
 Proposed Routes

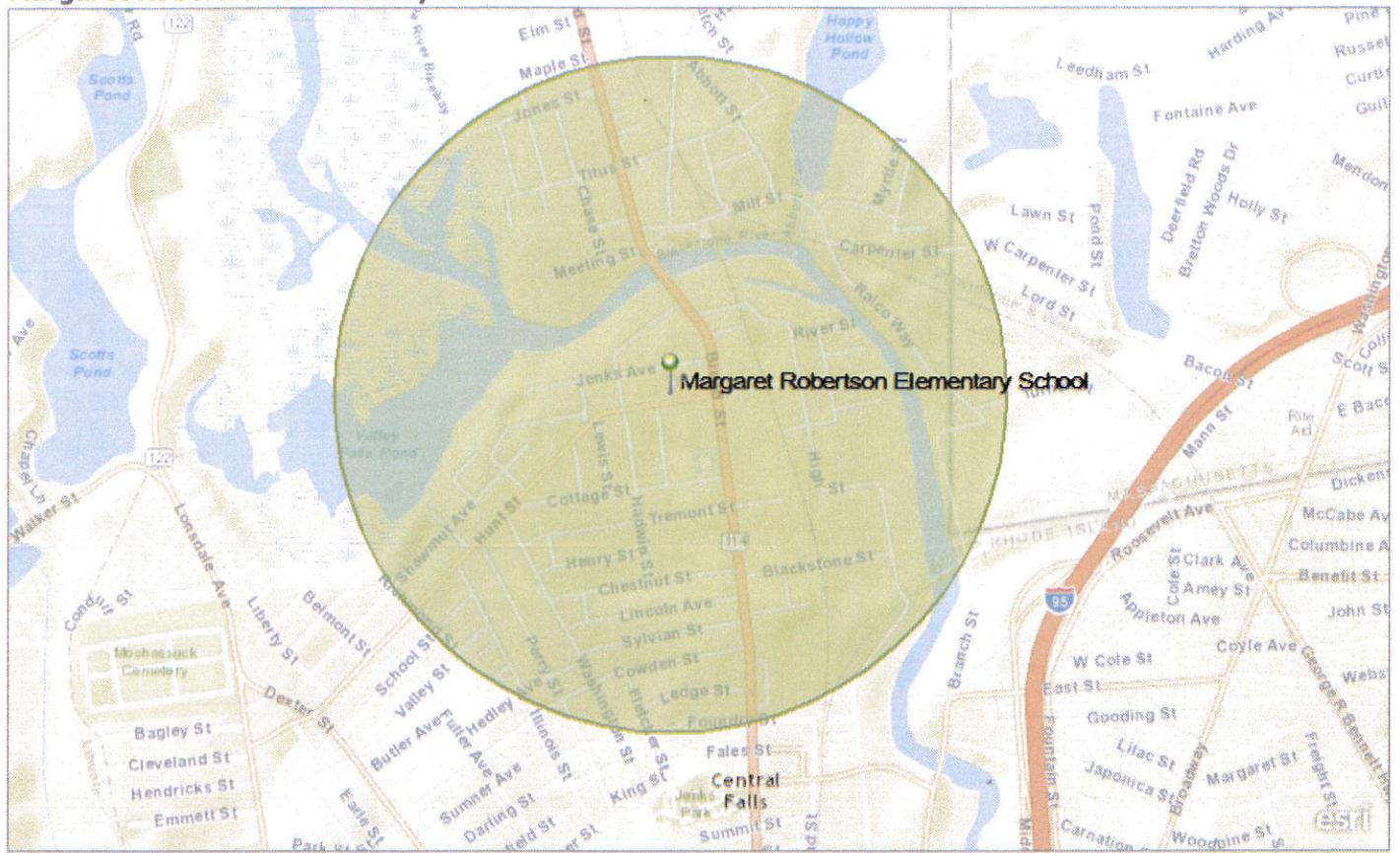
Proposed routes for Young Woods Elementary School



Providence
 Young Woods Elementary School
 674 Prairie Avenue, 02905
 Proposed Routes

Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, NGA, USGS

Margaret Robertson Elementary School



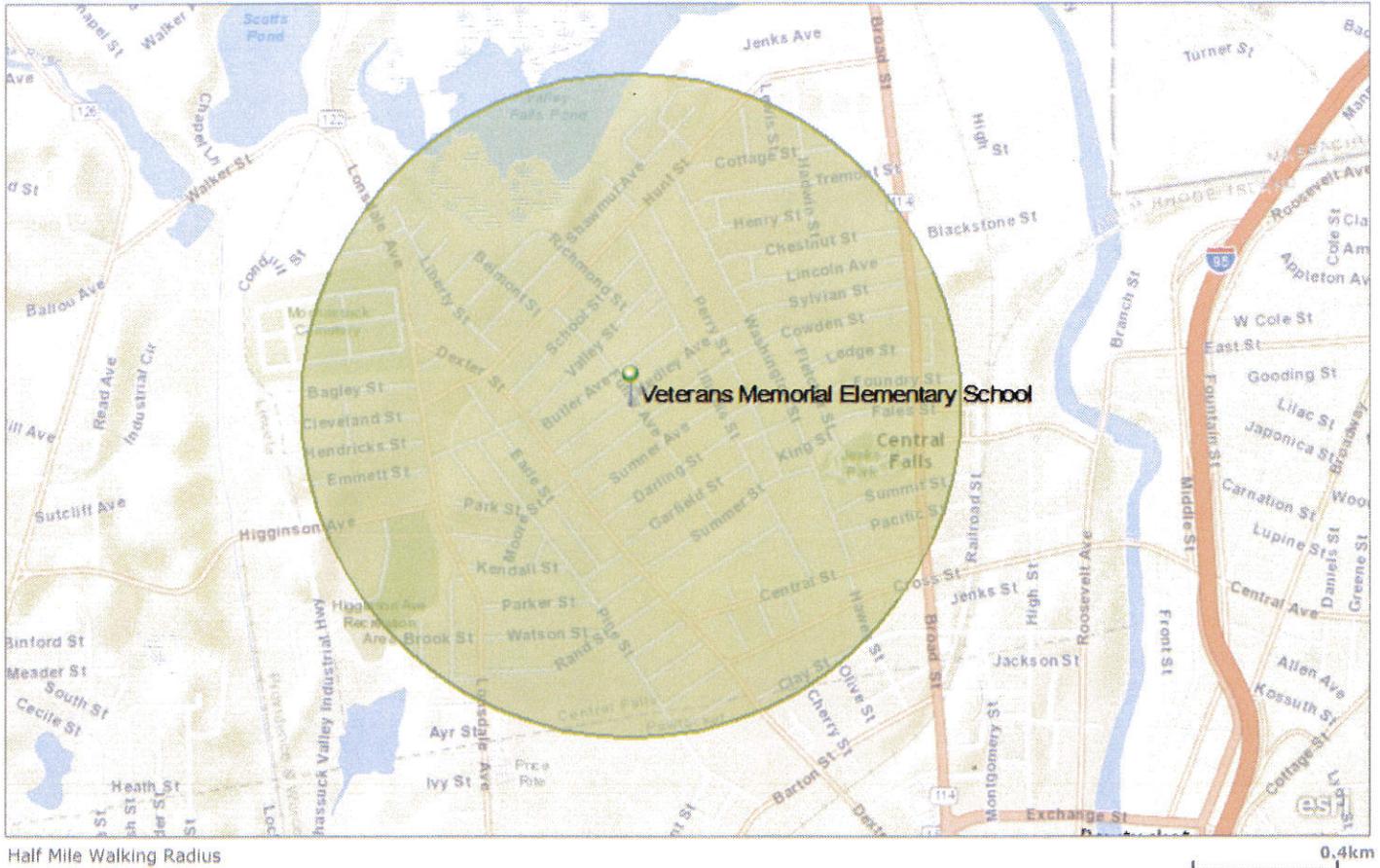
Half Mile Walking Radius

0.4km

Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, NGA, USGS

Central Falls
Margaret Robertson Elementary School
135 Hunt Street
Area for Possible Routes

Veterans Memorial Elementary School



Central Falls
Veterans Memorial Elementary School
150 Fuller Avenue
Area for Possible Routes



Proposal for Providence & Cental Falls

Walking School Bus

Year 1

Personnel Costs

WSB Manager	Full Time	\$	44,616
WSB School Liasons	5 staff @ 15 hours a week	\$	58,500
WSB Route Leaders	10 staff @ 15 hours a week	\$	83,655
Total Personnel Costs		\$	186,771

Program Costs

Mileage	\$	2,445
Occupancy	\$	17,264
Supplies	\$	450
Program Equipment	\$	2,500
Incentives	\$	1,500
Employee Training	\$	1,025
Operating Costs	\$	4,460

Total Non-Personnel Costs	\$	29,644
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Total Personnel Costs	\$	186,771
Total Non-Personnel Costs	\$	29,644

Direct Program Costs	\$	216,415
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Management Support	\$	38,522
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Total Program Costs	\$	254,937
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Proposal for Providence & Cental Falls

**Walking School Bus
Year 2**

Personnel Costs	
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WSB Manager	Full Time	\$	45,954
WSB School Liasons	5 staff @ 15 hours a week	\$	60,255
WSB Route Leaders	10 staff @ 15 hours a week	\$	86,165
Total Personnel Costs		\$	192,374

Program Costs	
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Mileage	\$	2,445
Occupancy	\$	17,264
Supplies	\$	450
Program Equipment	\$	2,500
Incentives	\$	1,500
Employee Training	\$	1,025
Operating Costs	\$	4,460

Total Non-Personnel Costs	\$	29,644
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Total Personnel Costs	\$	192,374
Total Non-Personnel Costs	\$	29,644

Direct Program Costs	\$	222,018
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Management Support	\$	39,519
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Total Program Costs	\$	261,537
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Proposal for Providence & Cental Falls

Walking School Bus
 Year 3

Personnel Costs

WSB Manager	Full Time	\$	47,333
WSB School Liasons	5 staff @ 15 hours a week	\$	62,063
WSB Route Leaders	10 staff @ 15 hours a week	\$	88,750
Total Personnel Costs		\$	198,145

Program Costs

Mileage	\$	2,445
Occupancy	\$	17,264
Supplies	\$	450
Program Equipment	\$	2,500
Incentives	\$	1,500
Employee Training	\$	1,025
Operating Costs	\$	4,460

Total Non-Personnel Costs	\$	29,644
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Total Personnel Costs	\$	198,145
Total Non-Personnel Costs	\$	29,644

Direct Program Costs	\$	227,789
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Management Support	\$	40,546
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Total Program Costs	\$	268,336
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Proposal for Providence & Cental Falls

Walking School Bus
 Three (3) Year Proposal

Personnel Costs			
WSB Manager	Full Time	\$	137,904
WSB School Liasons	5 staff @ 15 hours a week	\$	180,818
WSB Route Leaders	10 staff @ 15 hours a week	\$	258,569
Total Personnel Costs		\$	577,290
Program Costs			
Mileage		\$	7,335
Occupancy		\$	51,792
Supplies		\$	1,350
Program Equipment		\$	7,500
Incentives		\$	4,500
Employee Training		\$	3,075
Operating Costs		\$	13,379
Total Non-Personnel Costs		\$	88,931
Total Personnel Costs		\$	577,290
Total Non-Personnel Costs		\$	88,931
Direct Program Costs		\$	666,222
Management Support		\$	118,587
Total Program Costs		\$	784,809