

# CITY OF JERSEY CITY

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MAYOR



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***Mayor Healy Announced Jersey City to Receive  
\$250,000 New Jersey DOT Safe Routes to School Grant  
Grant to fund improvements for crosswalks near schools,  
vehicular signage, and pavement markings***

**Jersey City – Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy, the Municipal Council, and the Department of Housing, Economic Development and Commerce/Division of Planning announced this week that the City of Jersey City has been selected to receive a grant in the amount of \$250,000.00 from the New Jersey Department of Transportation’s Safe Routes to School Program.**

The grant will be used to make improvements in the vicinity of several elementary schools in Jersey City, including new crosswalks, vehicular signage, and pavement markings, thereby creating a safer pedestrian environment for children who walk to school. While the number one goal of the grant is to make the morning and afternoon walk a little safer, another goal is to increase the percentage of young walkers.

“Community leaders, parents, and schools across the United States are using **Safe Routes to School** programs to enable and encourage more children to safely walk and bike to school,” said **Mayor Healy**. “This award can change the lifestyle habits of an entire generation of children and reintroduce opportunities for regular exercise, as well as help ensure the safety of our children as they go to and from school.”

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), there are plenty of great reasons to walk to school – less traffic, safer streets, cleaner air – but one of the best is that children and parents will be healthier. With obesity rates among children skyrocketing and only one-quarter of the adult population getting the Surgeon General’s recommended 30 minutes of exercise a day, now is an ideal time to encourage children to walk to school for their own health and well-being.

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“This award will assist us in developing and implementing projects that will encourage walking and biking to school, while at the same time enhancing the safety of the trips,” added **Mayor Healy**. “That makes parents feel better. That makes kids feel better. That makes Jersey City a better and safer place to live.”

The National Center for Safe Routes to School assists communities in enabling and encouraging children to safely walk and bike to school. Established in May 2006, the Center strives to equip Safe Routes to School programs with the knowledge and technical information to implement safe and successful strategies.

**All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.///**