

R 353-2019

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MADISON ENDORSING  
THE NEW JERSEY SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Madison recognizes there is a need to promote the health and safety of our children; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly one out of three children (31%) ages 10-17 are overweight or obese in New Jersey, and New Jersey has the second highest rate of obesity (17.9%) for low-income children ages 2-5; and

**WHEREAS**, lack of physical activity has had significant impact on children's health and well-being, resulting in higher rate of obesity, diabetes, heart disease, and other related health concerns compared to 30 years ago. Driving children to school by private vehicle and idling in the school vicinity contributes to traffic congestion and air pollution near the school, and air pollution near schools can have adverse effects on student health as well as on the local environment; and

**WHEREAS**, bicycling and walking to school can have a positive mental and physical impact on the health of children and youth and helps them arrive at school ready to learn; and

**WHEREAS**, providing safer routes to and from school aims to decrease pedestrian and bicycling related injuries, not just for students but for the entire community; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Safe Routes to School program uses education, encouragement, infrastructure and enforcement strategies to help make walking and bicycling to school safer and more attractive to children: and

**WHEREAS**, a successful Safe Routes to School program involves schools, school boards, citizens and local government to collaborate to enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school safely.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Madison that we hereby support the New Jersey Safe Routes to School program which enables and encourages students to walk and bicycle to school and the development and maintenance of safe ways to walk and bicycle to school.



ADOPTED AND APPROVED  
December 19, 2019

ROBERT H. CONLEY, Mayor

Attest:

ELIZABETH OSBORNE, Borough Clerk

I, Elizabeth Osborne, Clerk of the Borough of Madison, hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Council at a duly convened meeting

held

December 19, 2019

Elizabeth Osborne, Borough Clerk