

## *Activate Chattanooga*

*An active living coalition to increase physical activity through better community design and education*

### **Meeting Summary February 16, 2006**

Attendees: Melissa Taylor – Regional Planning Agency, Ignatius Fomunung – Civil Engineering UTC, Phil Pugliese – Outdoor Chattanooga Bicycle Coordinator and Kim Harpe – Southeast Tennessee Development District.

### **Safe Routes to Schools Hamilton County Working Meeting II & Follow-up Meetings**

Wayne Hendrix provided an overview of the Hamilton County Board of Education Transportation Department. He indicated a Safe Routes to Schools program would be beneficial for a variety of reasons including safety at drop-off and pick-up times, traffic congestion, and bus budgets. The group asked him to introduce the idea to the Superintendent and asked about the possibility of the group giving a presentation at the next principals' meeting. Since then, Wayne has indicated that the principals' meeting may not be the most effective way of initializing the program and that the Superintendent mentioned organizing with the principal of each of the top schools the group chose and if those schools get excited more than likely the other schools will want to participate as well.

Program strategy was discussed and the group felt it would be important to introduce the program to the law enforcement arm of local and state government by presenting the topic at their regional meeting in April this would also include the school resource officers. Also since this meeting, Phil and Melissa met with the Health Department's Health Promotion & Wellness division to discuss ways in which they would best be involved in the program. Two important outcomes of this meeting were the connection with Kristin X – coordinator of the Highway Safety programs/projects and Cheryl Shouse – coordinator of Injury Prevent programs/projects. Both coordinators organize educational programs and events which will be essential to full implementation Safe Routes to Schools in Hamilton County. Others folks attending the Health Department meeting were Kim Harpe, Kath X – Director of Health Promotion & Wellness, and Russell Cliche. It will be important for Activate Chattanooga to formulate a rough outline for the Hamilton SR2S program at the next meeting which should be before the middle of April.

Next steps include meeting with each principal, PTO, after school program coordinators, and creating the survey for the pre-program assessment which will be the most time consuming part on the front end of this effort. All of the Activate Chattanooga principal members will need to attend this next meeting to ensure the program is ready to implement for the 2006-2007 school year.

Next Activate Chattanooga Meeting TBA ASAP. Please be looking for the email.

Questions/comments call Melissa Taylor 757-0077.