



Powell Township SRTS Team  
101 Deutsch St.  
Big Bay, MI 49808

**Safe Routes To Powell Township Schools Meeting**  
**5:15pm. February 10, 2026**  
**AGENDA**

**Attending: Levi Ellis, Supervisor; Denise Hudson, Trustee; Sven Gonstead, County Planner;  
Mike Springer, BBSC Treasurer**

**The purpose of this ad-hoc committee is to make recommendations to the Powell Township Board on a Safe Route To Powell Township Schools and resubmit our TA 2023088 Application by June 17, 2026.**

**Old Business:**

1. Where we are at with TA 2023088
2. What still needs to be done

**New Business:**

1. Identifying the best route for a Safe Pathway to our Schools
2. Planning Commission recommendation to develop a motorized and non-motorized transportation Plan for Powell Township.
3. When can we meet again?
4. What do we need to do before we meet again?

Adjourn 5:45pm

# PT Board Ad hoc Committee Mtg 2026 02 10 Agenda

[Inbox](#)

## AI Overview

- Michael Springer sent the agenda for the Safe Routes to Schools committee meeting today at 5:15pm.
- The committee is discussing the best route and needs to resubmit the TA application by June 17, 2026.

## Upcoming Rolling Application Deadlines

Latest Recommended Contact with Grant Coordinator for this Review Cycle	7/9/2025	11/26/2025	3/25/2026
At least 12 weeks before Application Due Date			
<b>Application Due Date</b> - <b>Only Complete Applications</b>	<b>10/1/2025</b>	<b>2/18/2026</b>	<b>6/17/2026</b>
9 weeks before ARC			
Any Application Revisions Completed, or <b>Moved to Future Review Cycle</b> - Any Last Remaining Reviews Assigned	11/19/2025	4/10/2026	8/07/2026
2-3 weeks before ARC			
Application Review Committee Meeting (ARC)	12/10/2025	4/29/2026	8/26/2026
All Application Issues Addressed, or <b>Application Move to Future Review Cycle</b>	1/21/2026	6/3/2026	9/30/2026
5-6 weeks after ARC			
<b>Tentative</b> Funding Decision Date	3/11/2026	7/29/2026	11/18/2025
About 12 weeks after ARC			

## Major Grant

**The Major Grant** is a grant to help communities build sidewalks, crosswalks, and any other infrastructure improvements that may be needed to make it possible for students to walk, bike, and roll safely to school. There is up to \$300,000/school available for infrastructure, and an additional \$15,000/school available to build programming around your project. The Major Grant requires communities to undergo an in-depth planning process prior to submitting an application that can take anywhere from six months to a year. Application deadlines are on-going and rolling basis. To learn more about Major Grants or to start an application [click here](#).

**\$600,000 for Powell Township**



### AI Overview

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) initiatives create safer, more accessible, and convenient environments for students to walk, bike, or roll to school. By enhancing infrastructure—like crosswalks and sidewalks—and providing education and encouragement, these programs increase physical activity, reduce traffic congestion, and improve community safety.

Key components and, benefits of Safe Routes to School include:

- **The 6 E's:** Programs are often built on a framework of Education, Encouragement, Engineering, Enforcement, Evaluation, and Equity.
- **Infrastructure Improvements:** Specific measures include building or repairing sidewalks, installing crosswalks, adding bike lanes, and improving school zone safety.
- **Safety Education:** Teaching students, parents, and community members about traffic safety, such as following crossing guards and avoiding distractions like phones.
- **Program Initiatives:** Strategies include organizing walk-to-school days, setting up walking school buses, and implementing "rapid-build" projects.
- **Funding & Implementation:** Federal funding (via the FAST Act) is available, allowing schools to apply for grants to support these initiatives.

### Key Steps to Start a Program:

1. **Form a Team:** Bring together parents, school staff, and community leaders.
2. **Assess the Area:** Conduct, analyze, and map out walking/biking routes to identify safety concerns.
3. **Develop an Action Plan:** Create a strategy that combines infrastructure improvements with educational programs.

For more information, local, state, and national resources are available, such as the National Center for Safe Routes to School and the Safe Routes Partnership.



**Safe Routes to School (SRTS) is a comprehensive international movement and federal program designed to make walking and bicycling to school safer, more appealing, and more frequent for children. The program aims to improve student health through physical activity while reducing traffic congestion and air pollution near schools.**

## **The "Six Es" Framework**

Modern SRTS programs use a multi-disciplinary framework to address safety and participation:

- **Engineering:** Physical improvements to the built environment, such as new sidewalks, crosswalks, bike lanes, and better lighting.
- **Education:** Teaching students and parents essential pedestrian and bicycle safety skills, as well as the health benefits of active transport.
- **Encouragement:** Events like "Walk and Bike to School Day" or "Walking School Buses" to generate excitement and community support.
- **Enforcement:** Partnering with local law enforcement to address unsafe driving behaviors, such as speeding in school zones.
- **Evaluation:** Assessing program effectiveness through data collection, such as student travel tallies and parent surveys.
- **Equity:** Ensuring that program benefits reach all demographic groups, specifically prioritizing low-income communities and students with disabilities.

## **Impact and Benefits**

- **Safety:** Implementation has been linked to a **44% reduction** in crashes involving children and a **23% reduction** in pedestrian/bicyclist injury risk.
- **Participation:** Schools with active programs have seen a **37% increase** in the number of students walking or biking.
- **Economics:** Every \$1 invested in SRTS is estimated to yield **\$4.40** in health and safety benefits.

## **How to Get Involved**

Programs are typically administered by state Departments of Transportation (DOTs) using federal Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funds.

1. **Form a Team:** Gather a group of parents, teachers, and local officials.
2. **Conduct an Audit:** Perform walking and biking safety assessments to identify physical barriers.
3. **Apply for Funding:** Communities can apply for infrastructure grants (up to \$300,000 in some states) for physical repairs or smaller "mini-grants" for educational activities.

For more information or to find your local coordinator, visit the [Safe Routes Partnership](#) or the [National Center for Safe Routes to School](#).

Would you like to find **grant application deadlines** or **state-specific contacts** for your local area?

[Powell Township Schools qualify for up to \\$600,000 as two schools, elementary and Middle Schools.](#)

Required Documentation for TA 2023088 Act 51 Agency MCRC			Mar 28, 2024	Not Applicable
<b>94.7%</b>			Status	NA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	14	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contacts (make sure to include the Chief Elected Official & Chief Administrative Official)	COMPLETE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	15	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Narrative	COMPLETE	
<input type="checkbox"/>	16	<input type="checkbox"/> Budget (Infrastructure & non-infrastructure participating items of work are required) non-infrastructure missing	Needed...	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	17	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Schedule (follow the LAP project planning guide, engineering consultant or road agency can assist)	COMPLETE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	18	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environment/Community	COMPLETE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maintenance (include snow removal policy and efforts)	COMPLETE	

**95% of the work is complete!**

# Safe Routes To Powell Township Schools Meeting

## 4pm. November 7, 2025

### Notes

**Attending: Todd Boynton, Superintendent; Richard Baker, Board President; Bridget Moran, Board Secretary; and Mike Springer**

The Goal was to choose one of two routes as a potential Safe Route To the Powell Township School.

Questions generated:

Liability if the commitment is not fully met?

How long is the school committed to use the infrastructure?

How many times a year, is some type of programming, using the new infrastructure, required?

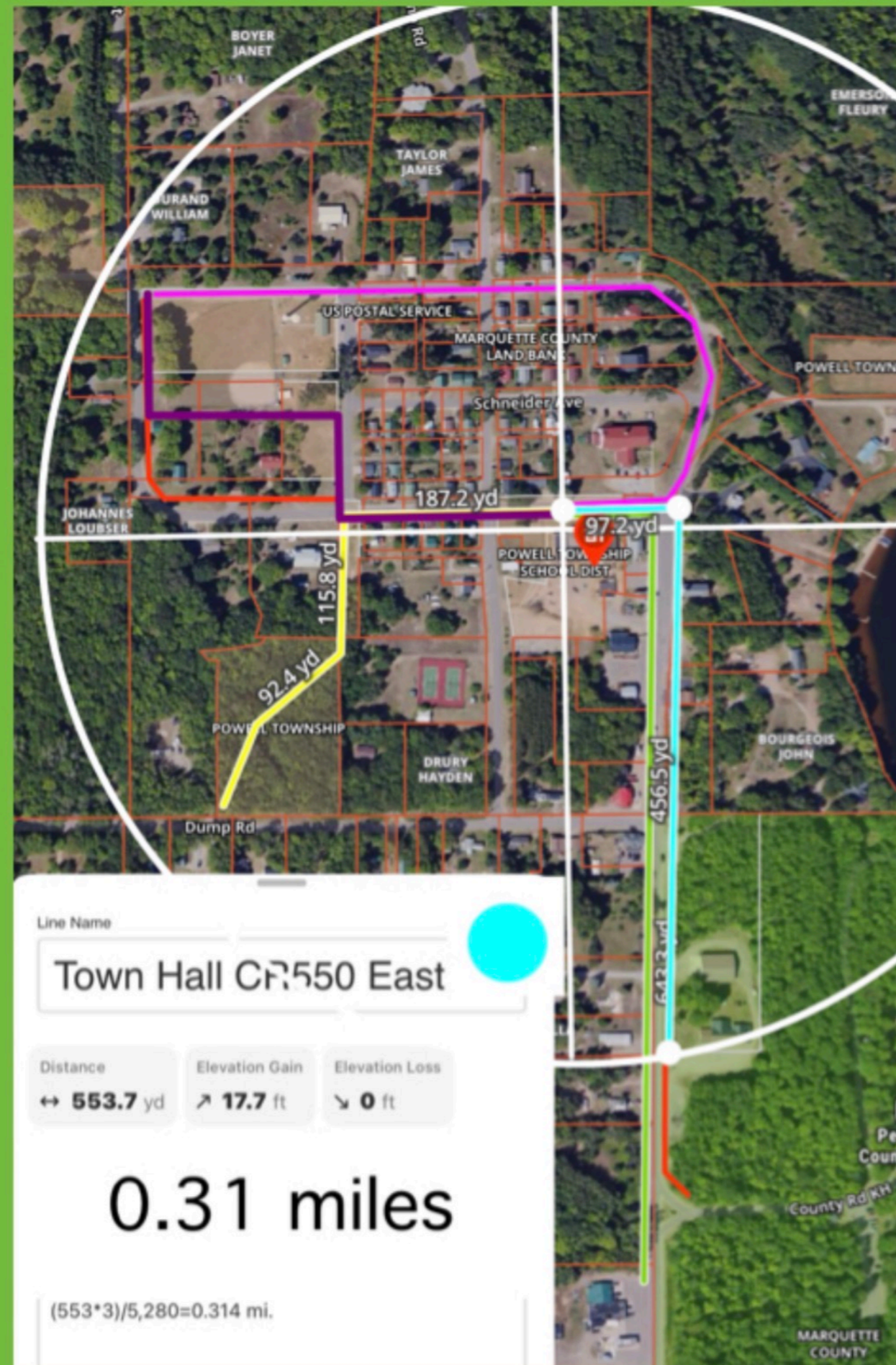
The school spent \$2,000.00 to start the process. Where did that money go and for what?

Who is responsible for hiring and financing a "Project Engineer?"

Would the County conduct a "speed survey" of individual north and south lanes between Cram's and the school?

Will the Township Government collaborate with the School and become a financial partner?

What if a property owner objects to a pathway (SRTS) in front of their house. I.e. Even though it is in the Road ROW?



**The Parks & Recreation Committee meets the second Tuesday of each month – 6:30 P.M. at Powell Township Hall**

**The Powell Township Board meets the third Tuesday of each month – 7:00 P.M. at Powell Township Hall**

**The Planning Commission meets the third Wednesday of each month – 7:00 P.M. at Powell Township Hall**