

**Making Kane County Fit for Kids  
Fit Kids 2020 Plan Implementation Call for Projects  
2019 Application**

**APPLICATION INFORMATION**

---

Project Name: Walking School Bus

Project Location: Batavia, IL

Applicant Name: Batavia MainStreet

Applicant Address: 11 N. Batavia Avenue

City, State, Zip: 60510

Contact Name and Title: Abby Beck, Fifth Ward Alderwoman, Former Batavia Environmental Commission Member, WellBatavia Co-Founder, and Batavia MainStreet Economic Vitality Coordinator

Phone: (702 ) 469 - 2698

Fax: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: [abbybeck1@gmail.com](mailto:abbybeck1@gmail.com)

**Project Period:** June 1, 2019 – May 31, 2020

**PROJECT FUNDING**

---

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 1. Total cost of project identified above:                      | \$6556.80 |
| 2. Total funds available (or to be secured) from other sources: | \$1288    |
| 3. Amount requested from Making Kane County Fit for Kids:       | \$5268.80 |

**Attach a budget for the project.** Include all project expenses and funding sources. Indicate the status of each funding source (i.e. yet to apply, application pending, funding committed, etc.).

**FIT FOR KIDS GRANT PROJECT GOALS GRID AND QUESTIONNAIRE**

---

**Project Summary:** *(Provide a general statement explaining the problem/opportunity the project will address and identify the benefits of implementing the project)*

Over the past few decades, Batavia has seen a decrease in the number of elementary students walking to school. We wish to establish a Walking School Bus for each elementary school for which adult volunteer bus “drivers” assigned to routes will safely escort groups of students to school each morning on foot.

**Target Population of your organization and project:** 2,206 Elementary School Students

**Project Goal(s)**

	Methods or process to reach your goal	How will you know you met your goal? Measures and data collected
Establish a Walking School Bus at each District 101 Elementary School	Hire a program coordinator	The coordinator will be tasked with keeping a database of each school, number of routes established and the number of students walking per route.
	Recruit volunteer bus “drivers” Sign up interested students	Attendance will be monitored throughout the year
	Determine number of routes for each school based on total volunteers, determine placement of routes based on location of interested students	

*(Each goal will have at least one method and measure. Expand the grid and add more boxes to the table if needed)*

**In addition to completing the grid above, please provide short answers to the questions below.**

## Project Questions

1. Provide a detailed description of your project/program, including the target population and geographic area it will serve.

The Walking School Bus will serve each District 101 Elementary School and operate very much like a yellow bus, just on foot. Every morning the yellow bus runs, so will our walking groups. Routes will be determined based on how many volunteer walkers we recruit and the home location of participating students. Our goal is to meet each participant at their home, but when necessary, a nearby corner to gather multiple students will be identified as a bus stop for efficiency. A coordinator will be hired and paid a small stipend to manage volunteer schedules, facilitate availability changes and fill in as a bus driver when necessary. Our bus will only run in the morning.

Physical activity before school has been correlated with greater levels of focus and engagement throughout the day. More students arriving to school on foot will also alleviate congested school drop off zones, reinforcing Sustain Kane's initiative to reduce car idling so close to young, vulnerable lungs. In addition, having a walking group helps foster community, creates inter-generational connections, and is generally a lot of fun!

Below is a table of our six elementary schools and the populations of each. We have also included the number of students from low income homes and those that are homeless. We feel these families may benefit most from having free, safe, active transportation to school each morning.

<b>As of May 14, 2019</b>	<b>Total Enrolled</b>	<b>Low Income</b>	<b>Homeless</b>
Alice Gustafson Elementary School	389	60	2
Grace McWayne Elementary School	314	30	1
H.C. Storm Elementary School	380	105	2
Hoover-Wood Elementary School	346	87	3
J.B. Nelson School	393	66	1
Louise White Elementary School	384	90	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2206</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>19</b>

2. Describe the applicant's experience in the administration of this or similar projects/programs, including the qualifications of personnel that will be directly involved in the management of this project/program.

The WellBatavia Initiative is a subcommittee of Batavia MainStreet and seeks to promote healthy behaviors through partnerships and policy and make health resources and knowledge

accessible to all. A large focus of our work to create a healthy, resilient community is removing obstacles to active lifestyles.

Our work has led to wonderful partnerships with the Batavia Environmental Commission and Batavia Bike Commission, most notably on an AARP funded mini-documentary on walking and biking in downtown Batavia, an advocacy piece used to start conversations about improvements necessary for our downtown to accommodate users of all mobility levels. (Go to <https://www.wellbatavia.com/the-documentary> to see the piece!)

Abby Beck recently completed the America Walks Walking College Fellowship where she learned of a Walking School Bus established in Columbia, MO through her program mentor. With the mentor's help, we wish to replicate this program here. Abby is also the Alderwoman for Batavia's Fifth Ward.

Batavia MainStreet is reliant on volunteers to run their downtown programming. Their network of engaged, service minded community members will be helpful in recruiting bus drivers.

*3. Is this project/program a collaborative effort with other entities? If so, please elaborate.*

We will be collaborating with the school district who will help communicate the program to interested families. The principals at each school have been contacted and are in support of the program so far. Our close working relationship with the Environmental Commission, Bike Commission and MainStreet volunteers, we are certain we will be able to recruit a sufficient number of drivers to help our students get to school!

### **Organization Questions**

*1. Briefly describe your organization and its history. Include website and/or Facebook page if applicable.*

Batavia Mainstreet ([www.downtownbatavia.com](http://www.downtownbatavia.com)) is a not-for-profit community-based organization devoted to enhancing downtown Batavia's identity as the heart of the community through dedicated volunteer efforts. WellBatavia ([www.wellbatavia.com](http://www.wellbatavia.com)) is team subcommittee of Batavia businesses, residents and healthcare providers that serve to improve access to health and wellness resources, increase the quality of life to those living in Batavia and provide the community with opportunities to engage their health through classes, seminars and expos.

## APPLICATION CHECKLISTS

---

In order to be considered for funding, applicants should submit a properly completed application form, the applicable questionnaire, and a variety of supporting documents, depending on the type of project or program proposed. A checklist of the required documents for each type of activity is provided below.


- Completed application, including project goals grid and questionnaire
- Project budget (itemize all project expenses and funding sources)
- Project timeline (attach a schedule for completing the project with key target completion dates listed)

**APPLICANT CERTIFICATION**

---

- Organization has already formally endorsed the Fit Kids 2020 Plan.
- Organization agrees to formally endorse Fit Kids 2020 Plan by October 1, 2019.

Applicant certifies that they have read and fully understand the guidelines that govern the Making Kane County Fit for Kids 2019 grant program. Applicant further certifies that all information furnished in/with this application is true and complete to the best of Applicant's knowledge and belief. If any information provided herein changes following the submission of this application, Applicant agrees to notify Fit for Kids, immediately. Applicant acknowledges that Fit for Kids may verify any information contained in/with this application, and submission of this application shall constitute Applicant's authorization for Fit for Kids to complete such verification as it deems necessary to determine the accuracy of this application and its suitability for funding. Applicant understands and agrees that if false information is provided in/with this application, which has the effect of increasing Applicant's advantage, Fit for Kids may disqualify this application and deem Applicant ineligible to receive any funds in the future. Applicant understands that Fit for Kids retains the right to reject any and all applications, and, in its sole determination, to waive minor irregularities. Applicant acknowledges by execution of this application that Fit for Kids will make such determinations with the fullest discretion allowable by law. Applicant will at all times indemnify and hold harmless Fit for Kids against all losses, costs, damages, expenses and liabilities of any nature directly or indirectly resulting from, arising out of, or relating to the Fit for Kids' acceptance, consideration, approval, or disapproval of this application and the issuance or non-issuance of funds herewith. Applicant further certifies that they do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, age, handicap or national origin; and that they are duly authorized by board resolution to cause this document to be executed.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Abby Beck  
Name (Printed)

May 24, 2019  
Date

Economic Vitality Coordinator  
Title (Printed)

# Walking School Bus Budget

<b>Count</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Unit Price</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Source</b>
100	Background Checks on Bus Drivers via Clear Checks	\$ 29.99	\$ 2,999.00	Fit For Kids
1	Coordinator Stipend	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	Fit For Kids
100	Compact First Aid Kit	\$ 12.88		Hospital Donations
20	5-Pack of rain ponchos for volunteers	\$ 10.99	\$ 219.80	Fit For Kids
1	Training Print Materials	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	Fit For Kids
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 5,268.80</b>	

## Walking School Bus Project Timeline

6/14/19 Hire Project Coordinator

June/July Recruit volunteer bus drivers

June/July Enroll student participants

7/26/19 Set routes

8/1/19 Host driver training

8/15/19 First day of school! Buses run every day the yellow bus runs

mid October Volunteer meeting - check in on how program is running

Winter break Regroup and make necessary changes based on participation levels