

Plainfield Public Schools: Gloria Montealegre Awarded Champion Award by EZ Ride

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PLAINFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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PLAINFIELD, NJ – Gloria Montealegre received the “Champion for



Change Award” by the EZ Ride/Meadowlink, an organization whose mission is to implement transportation programs and services that enhance the quality of life, regional mobility and economic opportunity for people in New Jersey.

Ms. Montealegre worked closely with EZ Ride/Meadowlink to promote the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) initiative in the Plainfield Public School District starting in June 2014.

The SRTS team conducted presentations on Pedestrian Safety to students at several Plainfield Public Schools including Cedarbrook K-8 Center, Stillman Elementary School, Barlow School and Hubbard Middle School.

The presentations were part of a larger initiative where the Plainfield Public Schools also partnered with the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning’s Vorhees Transportation Center to conduct a district wide school travel plan that will become the model for other school systems in New Jersey.

The joint goal was to implement a Complete Streets policy in Plainfield to improve the infrastructure of streets surrounding the

schools and to encourage the children to exercise and live healthier lives.

Through this collaboration the Plainfield Public Schools is now part of a grant application with the City of Plainfield that could bring modifications to the streets around the Plainfield Public Schools so children can travel safer and will be inspired to walk and bike to school.

Gloria Montealegre received the Champion for Change Award from EZ Ride for her individual contributions facilitating the gathering of the data necessary to document and establish the walkability assessments and the Safety presentations at Plainfield Public Schools. The award was presented recently at an event at the Meadowlands Environment Center in Lyndhurst, N.J. where other champions and volunteers with EZ Ride/Meadowlings programs were recognized including, William Nierstedt, Director of Planning for the City of Plainfield.

“Her dedication, sense of responsibility and deep commitment to the safety of the students in the Plainfield Public School mirrored the mission statement of EZ Ride. She is a champion,” said Lisa Lee, Coordinating Safe Routes To School Coordinator & Manager, Bike & Pedestrian Programs.



