

Campus View Elementary: Active Transportation Challenges and Opportunities

Final – August 2018

Campus View Elementary is participating in the District of Saanich's Active and Safe Routes to School 2017-18 program. During the initial portion of the program, transportation behaviour and attitude data was collected through a parent survey. A neighbourhood walkabout was then completed to gain more insight into active transportation safety concerns on surrounding streets and to brainstorm improvement strategies with school district and municipal staff, local law enforcement and health professionals. A consultation summary was released in December 2017 providing the results of the data collection process.

Based on the survey and walkabout data collected, this **Active Transportation Barriers and Opportunities** document informs active transportation street improvements. Priorities are based on safety, proximity to school and role in enabling active transportation.

This draft document is shared with the school PAC for feedback before being finalized. The document can be used for ongoing monitoring, grant applications, consideration in future budget and work plan processes and stakeholder communication.

Scope

The mandate of the Active and Safe Routes to School program is to encourage and enable active transportation to and from school. During the consultation process parents and stakeholders raised many concerns that are outside the scope of the program. With limited drop-off and pick-up times, most schools experience peak traffic congestion and vehicle parking challenges. All of the feedback has been passed on to the municipality and school district for consideration in their other infrastructure projects. This document only highlights the concerns that are causing safety or access issues for children walking or cycling to school.

Education and Enforcement

From the consultation there are a number of education and engagements issues that will be raised with the Saanich police. These issues include:

- Drivers not stopping at crosswalks and stop signs near school;
- Vehicle speed and volumes around schools, with many requests for speed reader boards;
- Parking- concerns about parking in no stopping/parking areas and on sidewalk/pathways; and
- Drivers driving through red lights.

Throughout the consultation process, the driving behaviour of other parents was identified as a concern.



General policy

There are general policy issues raised at many schools that can be dealt with systematically. These include:

- Crossing guards – request for crossing guards at additional locations (Campus View specific requests for Gordon Head and Midgard; McKenzie and Larchwood);
- School zone – opinions on locations and request for additional markings/signs to provide clear identification of beginning and end of the zone; and
- Bus stops – ensure the locations are agreed to and clearly defined (School district, BC Transit); opportunity for additional amenities based on number of students using the bus stops.

Infrastructure

The following section identifies infrastructure improvements categorized into:

- General improvements,
- crosswalk requests,
- Sidewalk and bike lane requests, and
- Trail and pathways.

Infrastructure improvements are identified as the geographic location of concerns, challenges as identified during the consultation process, potential improvements based on active transportation best practices and engineering guidelines, and the organization's review and action. All infrastructure is the responsibility of the District of Saanich, unless otherwise noted.

The following infrastructure items have been assigned review/action completion timeframes. As noted, a number of items have been submitted to engineering@saanich.ca. This process will be assigned a call for service file number and assigned to a technical staff member for review and response. Technical staff in the transportation division of the engineering department will perform an investigation of the area with the concerns raised in mind. Once an analysis has been completed, a written response will be provided and included in annual updates to the school each September.

Please be advised that completion of the review does not necessarily warrant construction of the item. Participating municipalities and organizations have many competing infrastructure projects. Where noted, the below mentioned infrastructure improvements will be integrated into the appropriate priority lists and ranked utilizing technical criteria; this allows us to prioritize the areas with the most need throughout the District.

The times frames mentioned are approximate and may vary year to year, as priorities are guided by Council. Timeframes are grouped into the following:

- Immediate – Review and or action will be completed under 12 months
- Short – Review and/or action will be completed between 1 year and 5 years
- Medium – Review and/or action will be completed between 5 years and 10 years
- Long – Review and/or action will be completed after 10 years

General Infrastructure

Location	Challenge (consultation feedback)	Potential Improvement	Review/ Action	Timeframe
McKenzie Ave/Ansell	Awkward bike access to Ansell (especially for those with trailers)	Include curb letdown and paved formal bike access to Ansell with re-design of intersection	To be completed as part of the McKenzie Larchwood project 2018	Immediate
	Informal pedestrian access to Ansell on east side of intersection	Install formal paved pedestrian access from McKenzie Ave to Ansell		Immediate
McKenzie/ Larchwood	Add bike left turn sensor at Larchwood	Consider as part of intersection upgrade	To be completed as part of the McKenzie Larchwood project 2018	Immediate
	Add additional time to crossing time across McKenzie	Consider as part of intersection upgrade	This item will be reviewed and/or completed as part of the McKenzie Larchwood project 2018	Immediate
	Controlled crossing is only triggered by pedestrian button on the opposite side of the street	Consider as part of intersection upgrade	This item will be reviewed and/or completed as part of the McKenzie Larchwood project 2018	Immediate
Gordon Head and McKenzie	Many concerns about the traffic volume and turning movements. Bike lanes end; lack of awareness for cyclists in the area	Intersection was recently upgraded. Continuous monitoring for safety concerns. Consider extending bike lanes south of McKenzie along Gordon Head.	Review intersection for improvements to pedestrian and cycling infrastructure improvements through the intersection in relation to associated projects	Long
Cedar Hill Cross Rd and Henderson/University Dr (responsibility of the District of Oak Bay)	Poor visibility of pedestrians, driver speed and faded paint; lack of bike lanes on Cedar Hill Cross near the intersection (pinch point)	Re-painting of intersection markings. Extend bike lanes to the intersection.	Re-painting of intersection markings in Summer 2018.	Immediate

In addition, concerns were shared with School District #61 regarding the drop-off area. Specifically that the formal walking entrance requires crossing driveways and that there is no direct bike racks access from Gordon Head Rd.

Crosswalk Requests

From the consultation process, new or improved crosswalks were requested for:

Location	Challenge (consultation feedback)	Potential Improvement	Review/ Action	Timeframe
Ansell and Mortimer	Request for enhanced crosswalk with bump outs and flashing lights	A review of the proposed crosswalk improvements have been completed during the planning and detail design phase of the sidewalk project.	This location does not warrant flashing beacons, a signed and marked crosswalk will be installed as part of the Ansell Road Sidewalk Project construction 2018	Immediate
Larchwood and Teakwood	Angle of Larchwood makes it difficult to see cars to the left when crossing Teakwood	This item has been sent to engineering@saanich.ca for sightline reviews	Parking will be restricted along the curve to improve sight lines.	Immediate
Milgard Ave and Kremlin	Visibility of crosswalk with fading paint and location; doesn't connect sidewalk; slope of raised crosswalk makes it difficult to use with a stroller	Installation of a zebra crosswalk	Install zebra crossing to increase visibility to the crosswalk.	Immediate
Gordon Head and McCoy	Visibility of flashing light	Addition of side mounted flashers	Review of crosswalk treatments along Gordon Head as a whole and based on upcoming Transportation Association of Canada guidance.	Medium

Sidewalk and Bike Lane Requests

A lack of connected walking or biking facilities was identified as a barrier for walking or cycling to/from school. Specific requests were made for walking and biking facilities on:

Location	Challenge (consultation feedback)	Review/ Action	Timeframe
Ansell	Request for sidewalk	Sidewalk under construction – April 2018	Immediate
	Request for bike lanes	Identified as a bicycle network spine in the Active Transportation Plan Bicycle Network; bicycle friendly street.	Short
Mortimer	Request for sidewalk	Under construction – April 2018	Immediate
Gordon Head Rd	Wider sidewalks on both side, separated bike lanes Lack of curb letdowns on some intersections south of McKenzie at Gordon Head and Emery Pl; Gordon Head and Campus Cres; Gordon Head and Varsity; and improve letdown at Gordon Head and Midgard	Curb letdowns and sidewalk improvement on the north side will be included as part of the Gordon Head Road Sidewalk project anticipated to be completed in 2019.	Short
McKenzie (Shelbourne to Gordon Head)	Request for separated bike lanes	Identified for protected bike lanes as part of the Active Transportation Plan.	Short
Larchwood	Request for bike lanes	Identified on the Active Transportation Plan Bicycle Network	Short
Kremlin	Request for sidewalk	This item has been added to the Districts sidewalk priority list to improve connectivity and will be reviewed as budget and priorities permit	Medium

Trail and Pathways Requests

From the consultation, there were requests for maintenance for the following trails and pathways:

Location	Challenge (consultation feedback)	Review/ Action	Timeframe
South pathway entrance from Ansell	Request to remove the cattle gates	This item has been sent to maintenance and will be completed 2018	Completed
	Install bump outs to provide an area for children entering and exiting the pathway and restrict parking/stopping in front of entrance	Install bump outs.	Completed
South pathway	Concern about oak trees dropping leaves and branches, lack of vegetation maintenance, request for snow clearing and salting in the winter, and drainage issues. Path is too narrow for the volume of people walking and biking.	This piece is undeveloped right of way. Email has been sent to parksadmin@saanich.ca to request a call for service to review limb failure and undertake a risk assessment as required. Currently underway.	Immediate
Connection to UVic Chip Trail	Explore direct connection between Campus View and chip trail. Crosswalk would be required.	Recommend use of current crossing at Midgard, which is being considered for enhancement as part of the University of Victoria Campus Cycling Plan.	N/A

For more information on the Active and Safe Routes to School program visit www.saanich.ca or contact your school.