



**Prospect Lake
Elementary**

321 Prospect Lake
Road Grades: K-5
Number of students:
235

Principal: Anita Ko

Survey and Walkabout Summary

Prospect Lake Elementary participated in the District of Saanich's Active and Safe Routes to School 2017-2018 program. The program provides tools for students to walk, cycle, or otherwise use active transportation for the school journey wherever possible. Additionally, a neighbourhood walkabout was conducted to further support the survey information.

This report provides the results from the surveys and walkabouts. Together the survey and walkabout information gathered will help identify desired active transportation improvements and preferred routes.

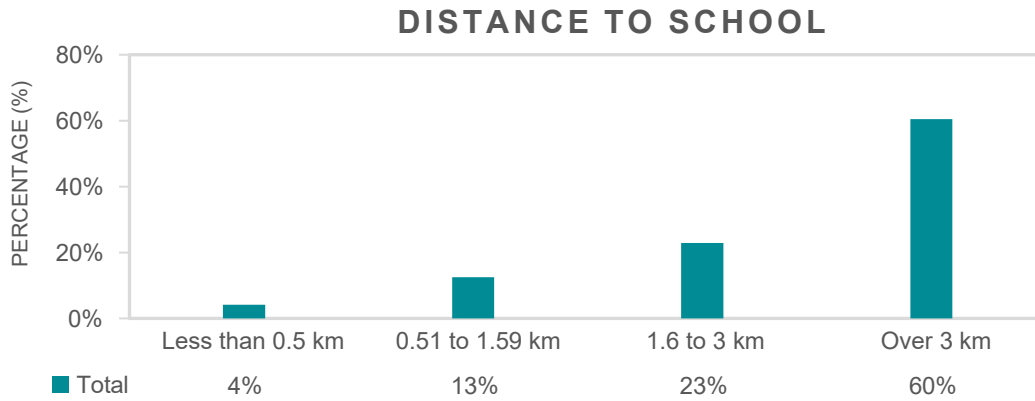
Survey Results

An on-line school travel survey was distributed to parents between October 16- 27, 2017. 48 families completed the survey representing 63 children which is approximately 27% of Prospect Lake school's population. The purpose of the survey was to gain information about the schools travel choices. Below is a summary of the results from the completed surveys.

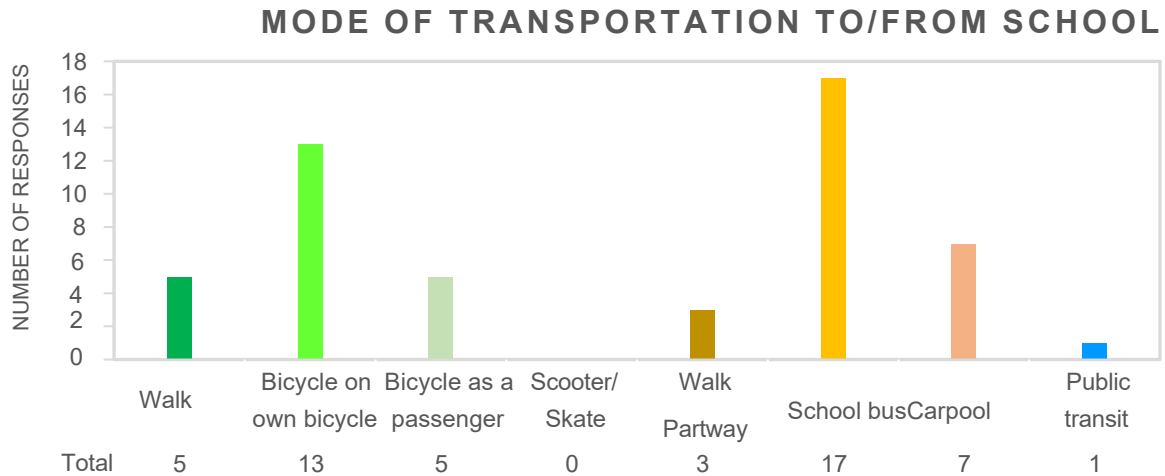
Active and Safe Routes to School Survey Summary 2017-2018 Program

Distance

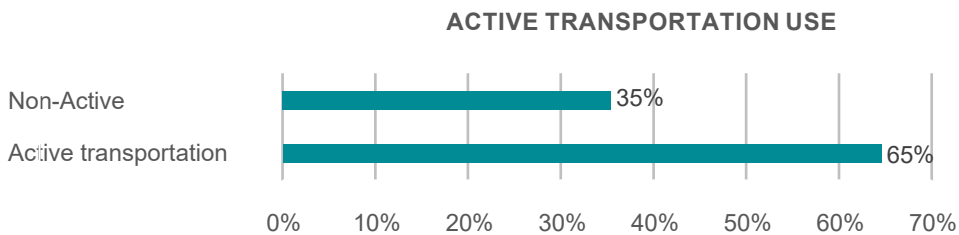
How far away from the school do you live?



During the 2016/2017 school year, did your eldest child travel to/from school at least once by: (select all that apply)



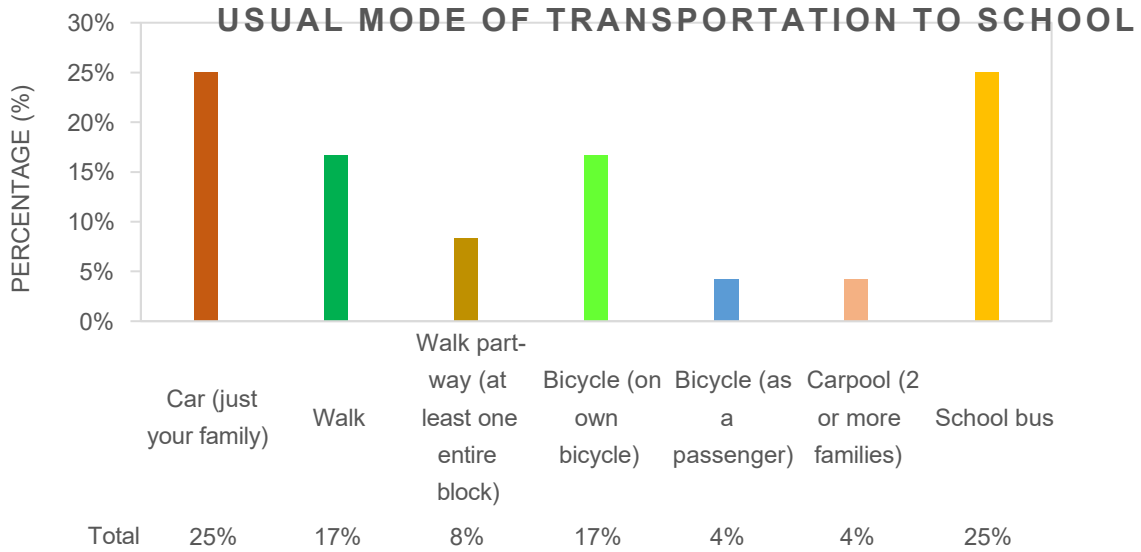
Students that used at least one form of active transportation to travel to/from school in the last year



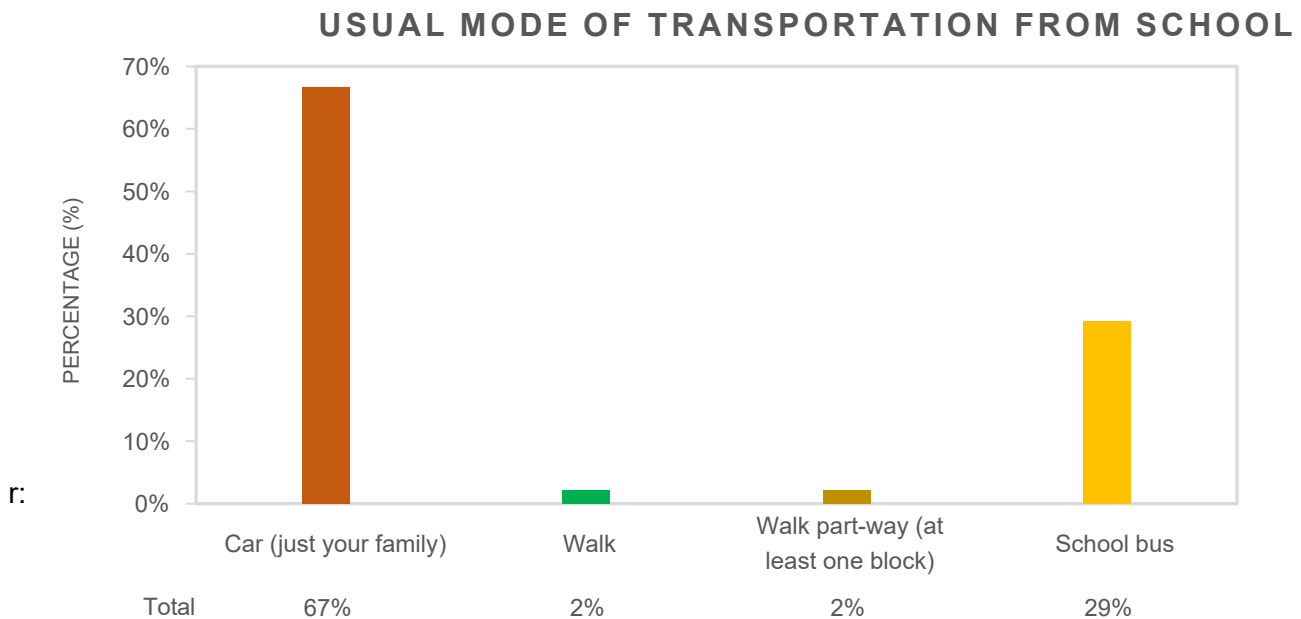
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Mode

How does your eldest child usually get to school throughout the school year?



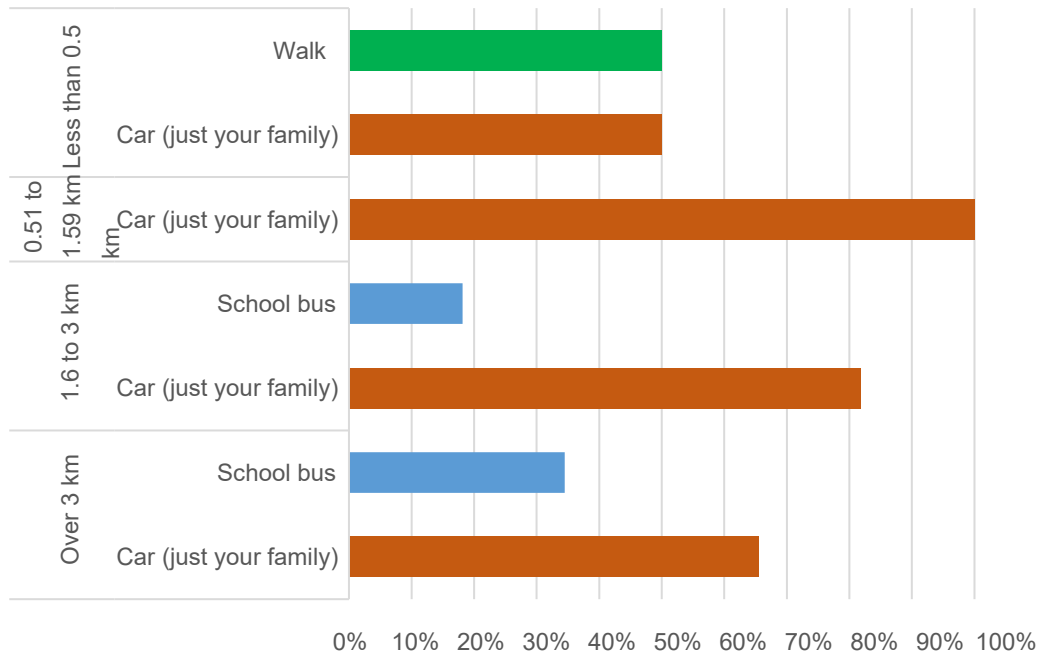
How does your eldest child usually get home from school throughout the year?



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Comparison of travel mode by trip distance:

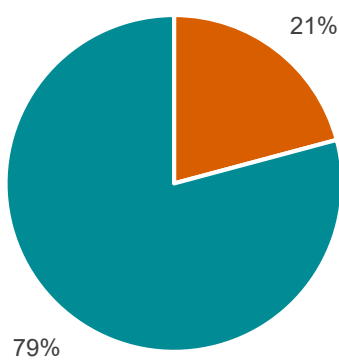
MODE OF TRANSPORTATION BASED ON DISTANCE



Travel companion

Is your eldest accompanied to school by an adult?

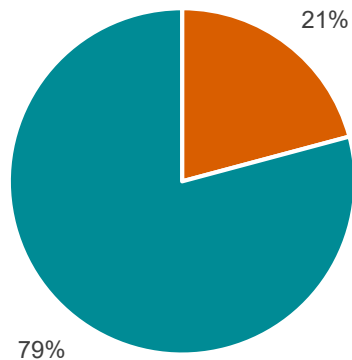
PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN ACCOMPANIED TO SCHOOL



■ No ■ Yes

Is your eldest accompanied from school by an adult?

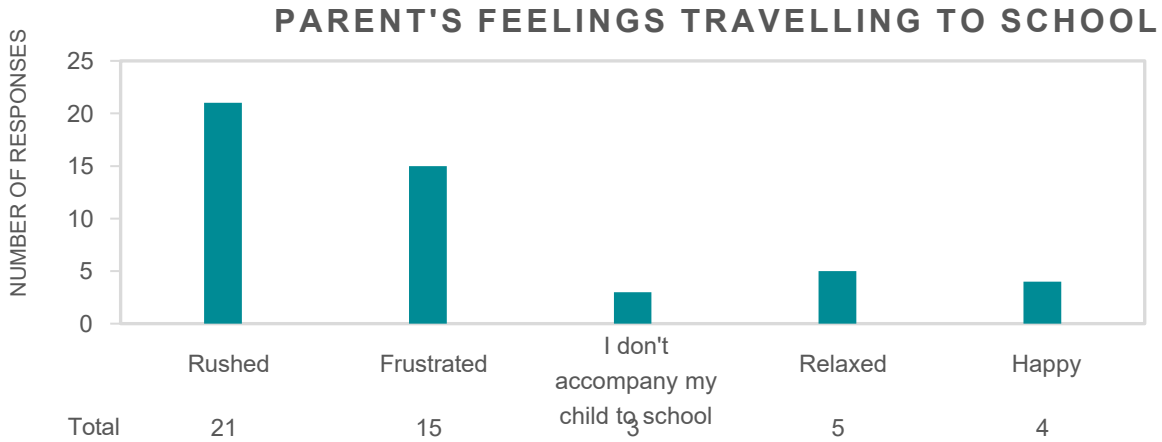
PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN ACCOMPANIED FROM SCHOOL



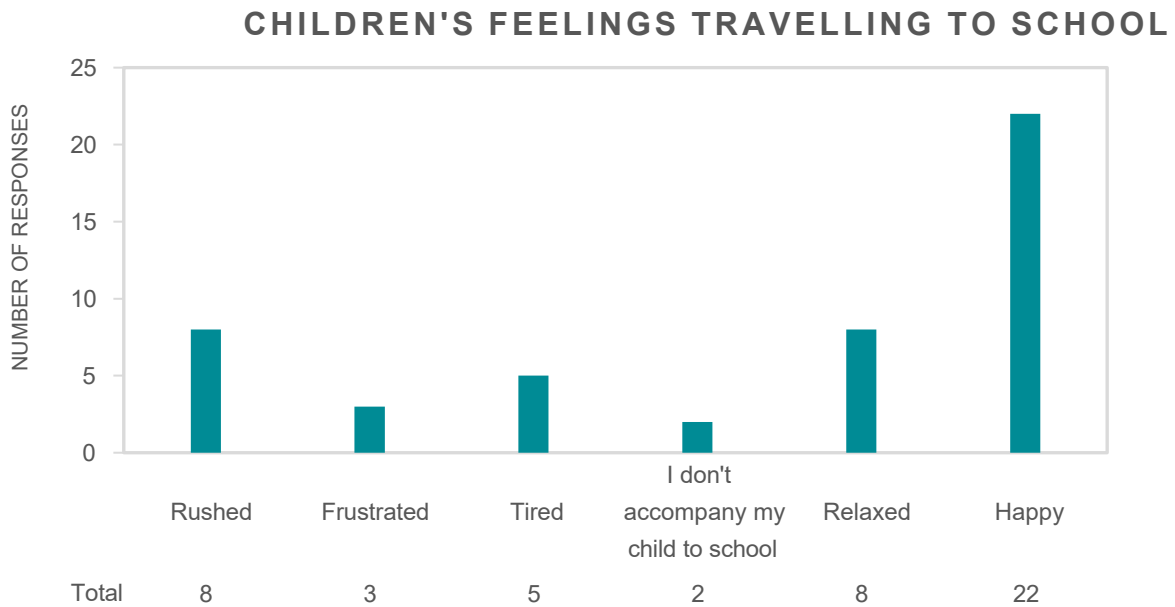
■ No ■ Yes

Feelings

As a parent/caregiver, what feeling do you have most of the time when taking your child(ren) to school?



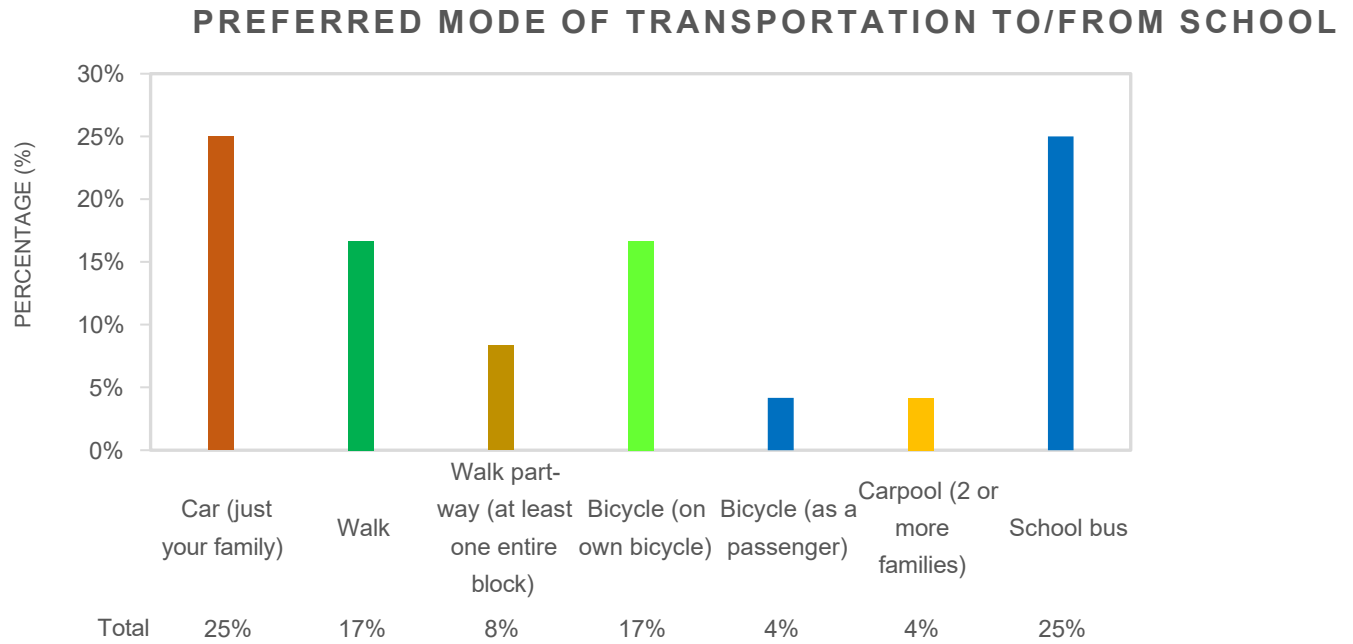
What feeling do you think your eldest child has most of the time when travelling to school?



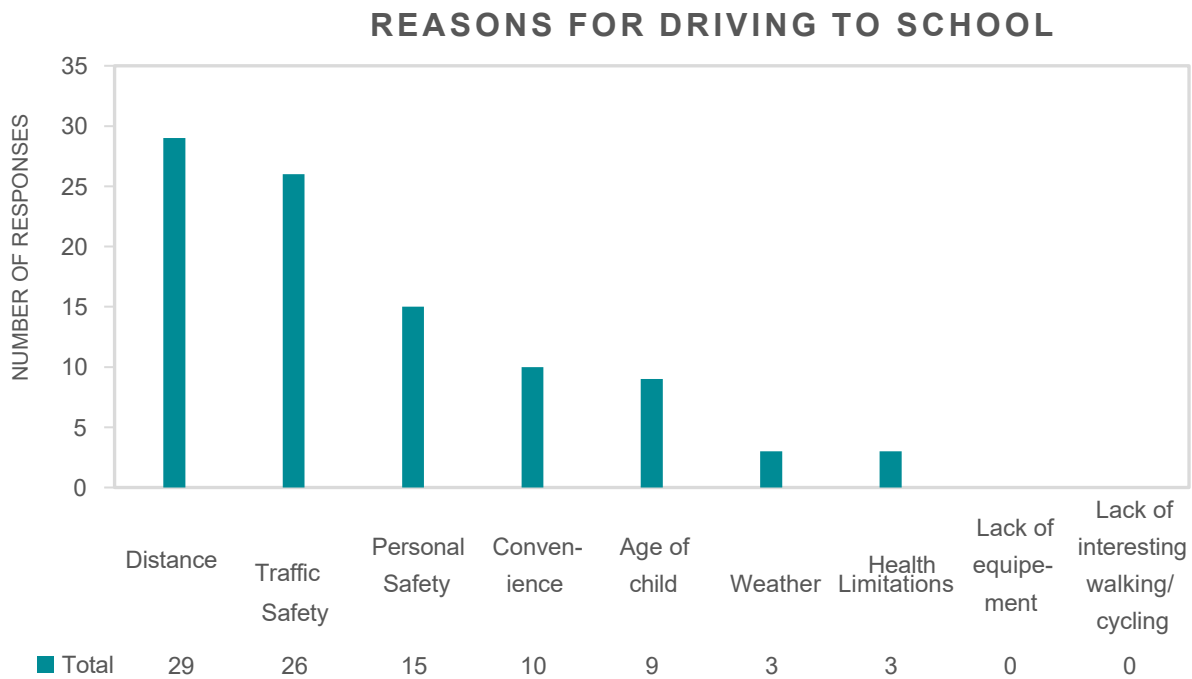
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Preferred Mode

How would you prefer your eldest child travels to and from school?



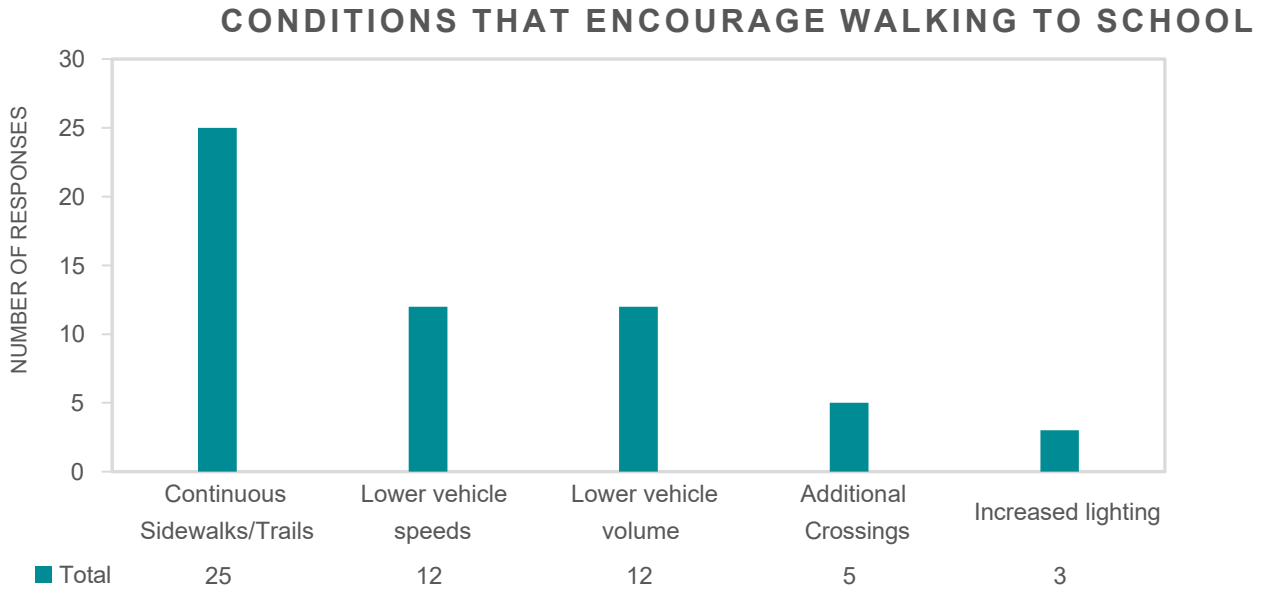
What are the main reasons your eldest child is usually driven to/from school?(Choose up to three)



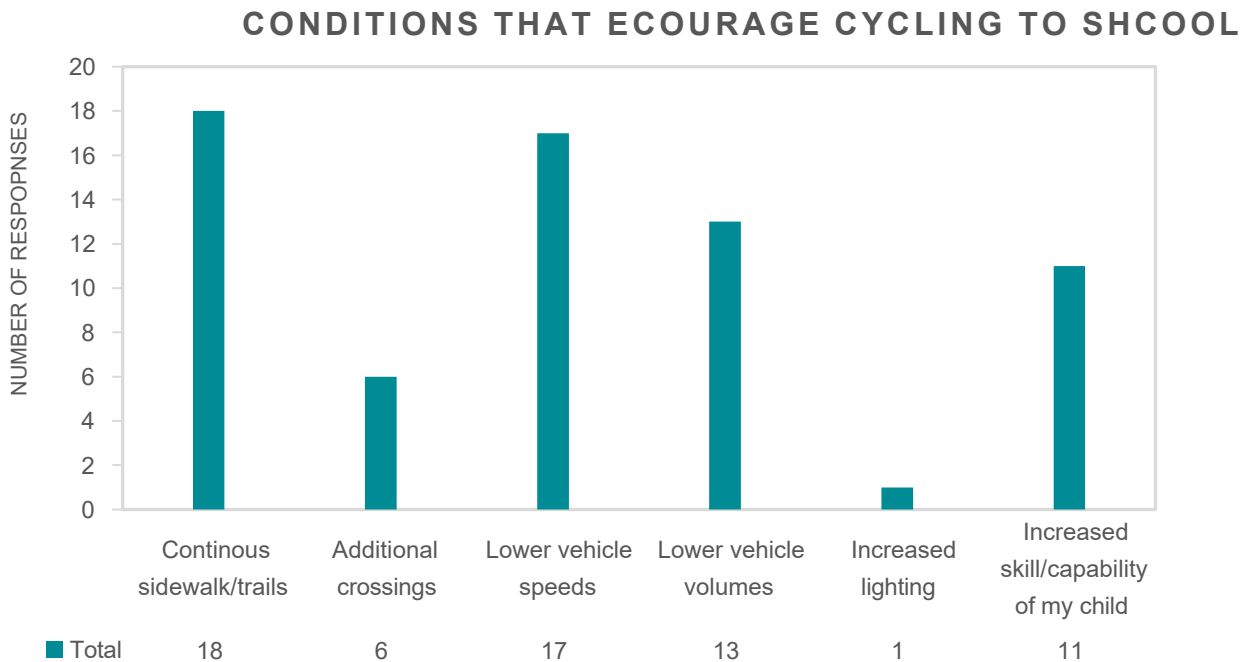
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Preferred Mode

I would encourage my eldest child to walk to school
if...(Choose up to two)



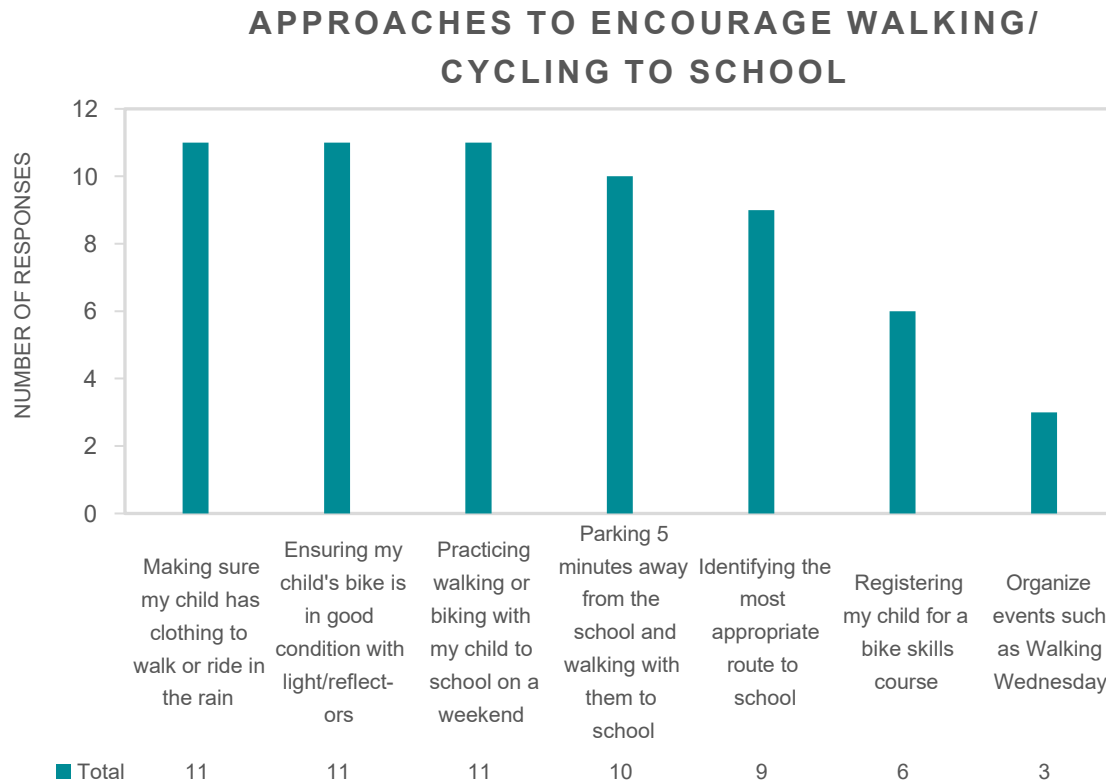
I would encourage my eldest child to cycle to school
if...(Choose up to two)



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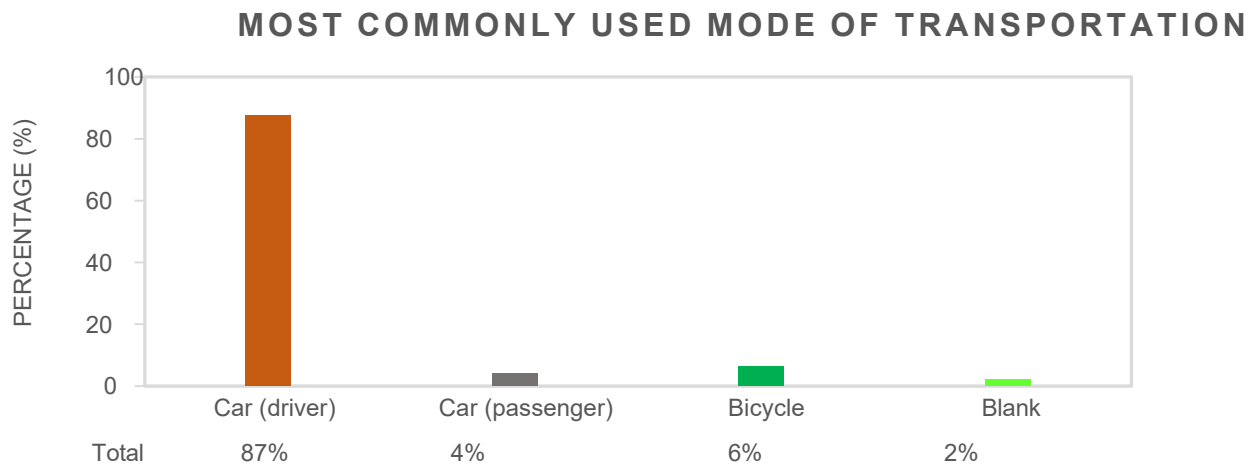
Preferred Mode

I am willing to encourage my eldest child to walk or bike to/from school by...(Check all that apply)



Other Destinations

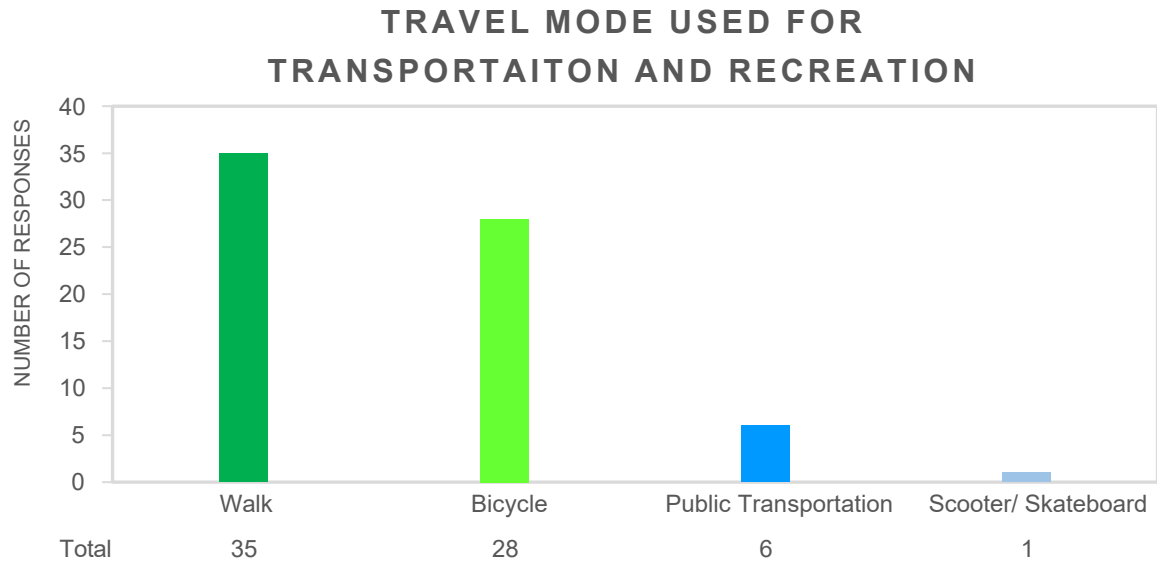
As a parent/caregiver how do you usually travel to your most frequent destination?



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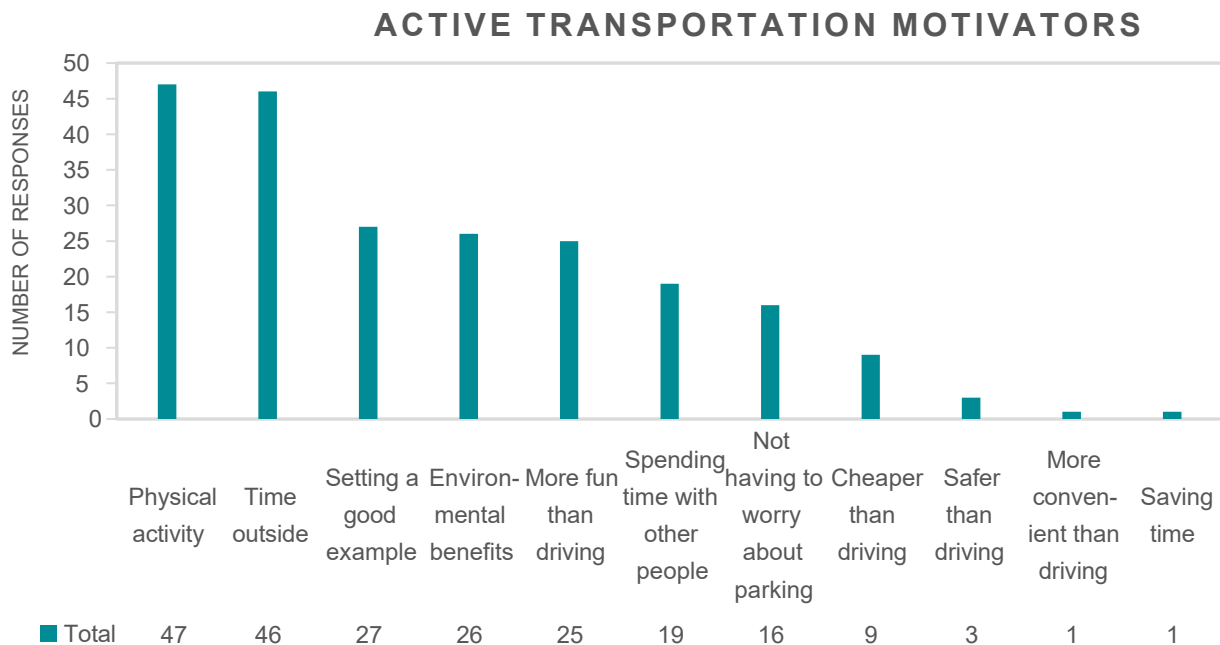
Other Destinations

As a parent/caregiver, do you ever travel for transportation or recreation by: (Check all that apply)



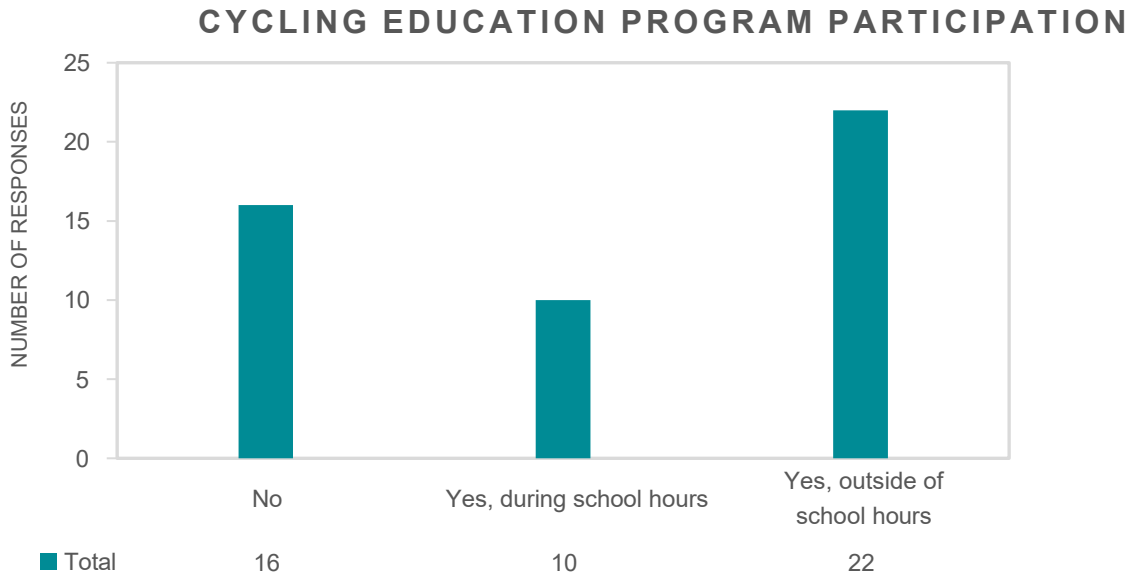
Motivation & Cycling Education

If/when you walk or cycle as a family, what motivates you? (check all that apply)



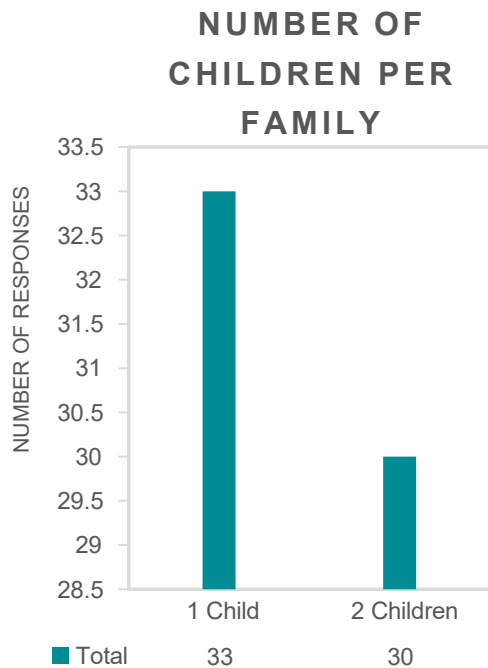
Active and Safe Routes to School Survey Summary 2017-2018 Program

Has your child ever participated in a cycling education program?

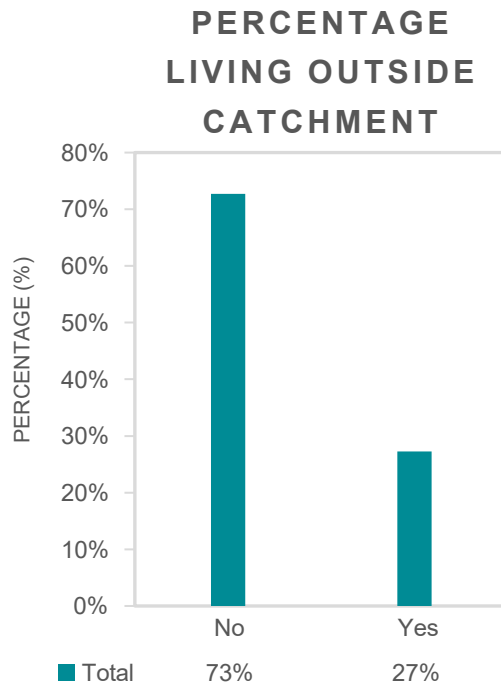


Final Questions

How many of your children attend this school?



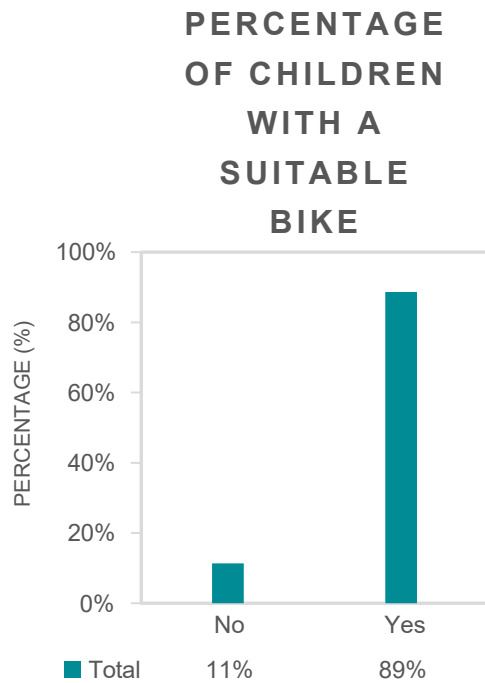
Do you live outside the catchment area?



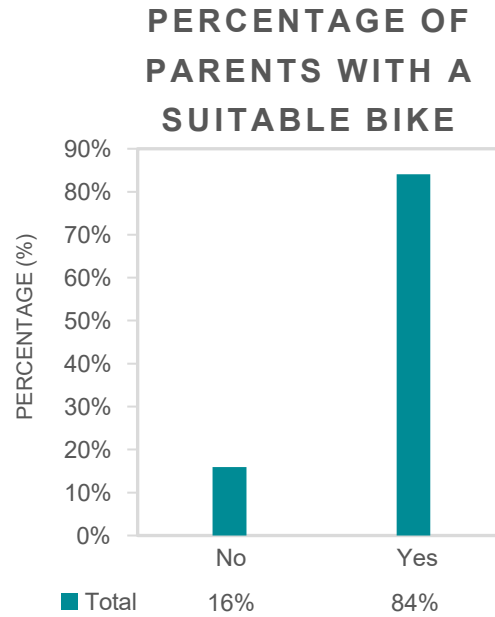
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Final Questions

Does your child have a suitable bike?



Does one or both parents have a suitable bike?

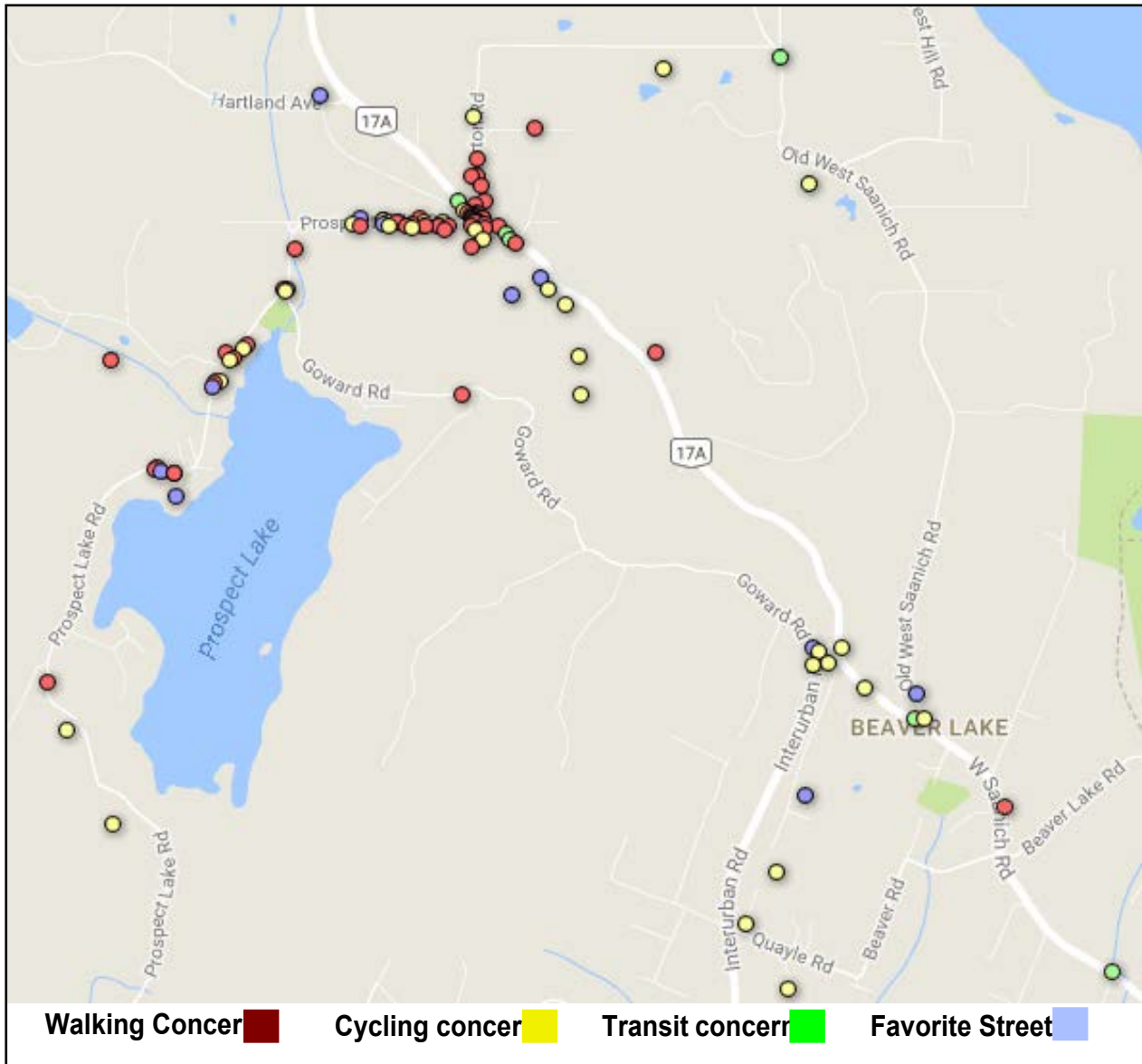


Do you have any further comments on the challenges and opportunities for active travel at your school?

— Analysis of the 37 comments are ongoing —

Respondents were asked to identify any obstacles, barriers, or challenges to walking and biking to school. They identified up to 10 challenges as their top priorities for themselves and their families. Also, they identified which streets they preferred to walk or bike on when travelling to/from school.

Prospect Lake Elementary Obstacle Map



Active and Safe Routes to School Neighborhood Walkabout

The neighborhood walkabout was used to look at locations of concern that were identified in the on-line survey. The walk was followed by a debrief discussion. Specifically the walkabout involved:

- Identifying active transportation safety concerns on our streets
- Brainstorming strategies with school district and municipal staff, local law enforcement and health professionals

The **Prospect Lake Elementary** Neighborhood Walkabout was held on **Friday, November 17 at 7:45-10am.**

Map of Prospect Lake Elementary Catchment and Walkabout Route



Active and Safe Routes to School Neighborhood Walkabout

Attendees:

Anita Ko – Principal
Sandra Liddell – Saanich
David Williams - Saanich
Stuart White – Saanich Engineering
Andrew Burger – Saanich Parks
Rick Hatch – Saanich Parks
Ryley Swanson – Saanich Police
Kate Berniaz – Capital Regional District
Bryce Devereaux – Capital Regional District
Sheri Ramsay – Parent
Jude Coates – Parent
Deborah Tubman – Parent
Tynke Landsmeer – PAC President
Christine - Parent
Rich Adam - Parent

Walkabout Summary of Observations, Concerns and Potential Solutions:

School parking lot:

- People not following proper flow of the drop off and creating confusion
- Principal is moving people down through the drop loop
- Lot becomes very congested, backing up onto Prospect Rd.
- No sidewalks entering into main entrance of the school; request for a walking route
- New program has Grade 5 volunteers helping kindergarten students walk from the drop off area
- Congestion in the parking lot continues after the bell because of the number of late students and there is no Grade 5 volunteers to walk the little ones
- School has provided newsletter content to remind parents to drive to the right hand side and have children get out of that side of the car
- Students are asked to use the crosswalk at the end of the parking lot
- Request for additional parking lot
 - Discussion about what is school property? (Bramble bush on other side of cabin)
 - Principal indicated that the School is seeking funding from the School District to build a parking lot on school property

Prospect Lake Road:

- Narrow road
- Concern about vehicle type, speed and volume
 - Complaint about large, illegal truck traffic driving at high speed
 - Complaint about big trucks and cube vans using the road
- Paved path:
 - Could provide bike and walking (Drive to 5) access to school
 - Cars drive over the path and park on it (parallel and angle parking)

- Need to clear the path of debris (leaves)
- Roots pushing it up
- Narrow width
- Suggestion to make the path a wider multi-use path
- Suggestion to add curbs to stop people parking on the path
- No safe space to bike
- Cars park along a lot of the road – very busy, especially in the afternoon
- Speed – one mom stands on the road to remind people to slow down
- No lines in gravel parking areas so people parking in all directions
- Concern about commuter traffic (from Westshore) using Prospect Lake Road
- Discussion about the low school visibility and the opportunity to improve school and school zone signage (including speed reader boards, Jack and Jill little people)
- Prospect Lake Park beside the school -when the field is fixed each spring Saanich Parks fences it off and it restricts sidewalk
- Whitehead Park
 - Potential Drive to 5 location (parents park and walk with their children to school); makes the most sense because it is on the right side of the road
 - Complaint about high vehicle speeds by Whitehead Park and blind curves
- School zone:
 - Police liaison has requested speed reader boards, but stated that people are not usually speeding but there is a perception of speeding because most people overestimate the speed cars are going
 - Speed readers : data they collect is important; slow people down because they are a reminder; fairly cheap (discussion on if the school/PAC should buy on); can have a temporary effect
 - Visibility of school is important to remind drivers that it is a school zone
 - Request for traffic calming

Prospect Lake/West Saanich Rd:

- Very congested and super busy intersection
- Crosswalk lights not functioning properly (lights burnt out?); cars are not seeing the flashing lights and are not stopping
- Feeling that it is unsafe to cross West Saanich
- School crossing guard is placed at the intersection in the morning; comment that it is easier to cross this intersection when the crossing guard is there
- Café
 - Brings more traffic congestion into the intersection and
 - Parking backs up right onto West Saanich, which created another complication
 - People are cutting in behind
- People are using the wide lane/shoulder as two lanes
- Discussion on if a crosswalk could be put on the other side of the intersection across West Saanich, but there is no sidewalk to connect to
- Traffic backing up due to left/right turning lane
- District of Saanich stated that the intersection has been identified for improvements. The design will be completed in 2018 with construction in 2019. Discussion on potential

design including roundabout (concern about crosswalks; people aren't used to driving in them); traffic lights; potential to shift the whole road towards Prospect Lake.

West Saanich:

- Road is often frosty because it is colder than other areas of Saanich
- Busy road with high vehicle volumes and speeds
- School zone
 - Comment it is hard to enforce the current "40km/hr when children on road"
 - Request for regular school zone
 - Suggestion that it could be part of the village development

Sparton Road:

- Parents parking cars causing a bottleneck effect on the road
- 3 families currently walk down Sparton to school
- Some parents park and walk their kids to school
- Road is dark at night
- No sidewalks or space for pedestrians
- Request for a sidewalk that includes street parking (suggest ion that this would alleviate need for school parking lot)
- Café:
 - One side of the road runs in to the parking in front of the café
 - Drivers are cutting in behind cars that are stopped waiting to turn on to Saanich Road
 - Parking spaces back up right on to Sparton Road

School bussing:

- 3 busses travel to Prospect Lake School
- Large percentage of kids riding the school bus with over 100 kids are using the school busses after school
- Ridership has gone up each year
- Not guaranteed to stay free (previously \$310/year)
- School District asks for parents to sign-up for the bus in June (it is info, not encouraging. Does not provide info on adding stops, changing routes)
- Concerns:
 - Bus stop on road is not safe
 - Worry the student will catch the wrong bus
 - Safety – bullying on bus
 - Strictly the unknown
 - Don't know what is going on at school (drop off provides an opportunity to interact with the teacher)
 - Age – maybe parent will let child take the bus by grade 4-5
 - Pick up zones – concern about safety, need for curb
 - Child is alone waiting, but maybe with the new neighbors
 - Lots of rural roads that are not comfortable to wait on
- Discussion on options to increase ridership:
 - Respond to safety concerns and independence issues

- Pick up zones
- Bus buddy program
- If there is a cost provide option for part-time ridership at reduced rate
- Plan routes around kids that have signed up
- More school promotion needed to encourage bus ridership
- The PAC could do more with giving information
- Use the bus because it is free

Interurban Trail:

- Pretty fantastic but you need a place to park
- Parking area at Interurban but small and pretty far away
- Trail could be used to be a walking school bus
- Request for increase maintenance because large potholes have been created where vehicles cross the trail
- Request for improve signage, e.g. driveway crossings are not well marked
- Request for increase awareness of bike trails/how to use
- Large chunky gravel is difficult for kids to bike
- People who live on the road are courteous
- People are parking at Hartland and walking with their kids but the intersection lane is not safe

General:

- School has a large catchment
- Support for a 'Think of me' campaign (increase visibility/awareness)
- School supervision starts at 8:25, including the Grade 5 volunteers that help in the parking lot (not enough funding to extend the length of supervision)
- Kindergartens are picked up directly
- If there was a good sidewalk then parents would let their kids walk