SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL (SR2S)

In partnership with
Burbank Unified School District (BUSD) &
City of Burbank

· George Washington Elementary School ·
· Thomas Jefferson Elementary School ·
· John Muir Middle School ·
What is Safe Routes to School (SR2S)?

- SR2S is a movement that builds better and healthier communities by encouraging children to walk and bicycle to school by addressing barriers that make it difficult or unsafe:
  - Programs that promote and encourage walking and bicycling, such as safety education
  - New infrastructure that enhances safety for children and pedestrians, such as high-visibility crosswalks, pedestrian signs, etc.
  - Improves existing infrastructure, such as traffic calming or changing intersections to give priority to people rather than vehicles

- Community enhancements that benefit everyone
Goals & Benefits of SR2S?

- **Improve safety near schools:**
  - Make it safer and easier for students to walk and bicycle to school
  - Reduce traffic injuries

- **Encourage more students to walk and bicycle to school**

- **Health benefits for school children and adults from increased walking and bicycling**

- **Improve air quality and lower pollution by reducing vehicle trips and vehicle emissions near schools**
  - Lessen traffic congestion near school drop-off areas

- **Improve academic achievement and school attendance**
Community Benefits for Children

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programs work

Today, few kids actively travel to school. Traffic speed and volume, and lack of sidewalks, are the main barriers compared to 48% in 1969. 13% walk or bike now among those living within 1/4 mile of school, just 56% walk or bike.

Kids are more active when walking and biking are safe.

After implementing safe routes to school programs:

- 45% increase in walking
- 44% fewer injuries
- 16 min (average) can be achieved by walking or biking to school

Learn more about why Safe Routes to School programs work at activelivingresearch.org/SRTSreview.
Community Benefits for Adults

Run errands on foot or bike:
A remedy for adult inactivity.

Experts recommend:
150 minutes of physical activity per week.

Only 50% of U.S. adults meet the guideline.

Walking or biking:
- To transit stops provides an average of 12-15 minutes of daily activity.
- To work is linked with 11% reduction in the risk of cardiovascular disease.

Most errands in the U.S. are within walking or biking distance.
- 27% are easy walking distance (<1 mile).
- 61% are easy biking distance (<4 miles).

People who live in:

- Neighbors with sidewalks are:
  - 50% more likely to meet physical activity guidelines.

- Mixed-use neighborhoods with work, play, and shopping nearby are:
  - 33% more likely to meet physical activity guidelines by walking for transportation.

SLOwing down traffic reduces crashes that cause injuries by:
- 10% on main roads.
- 25% on residential streets.

Learn more about how policies impact active travel at activelivingresearch.org/ActiveTravelreview.
How is This Project Funded?

- **State Grant Funds**
  - California Assembly Bill (AB) 1457 & 57

- **Project Budget: $490,000**
Where Will Improvements be Implemented?

- Improvements to be focused along and near N. Kenneth Road and Winona Avenue
  - George Washington Elementary School
  - Thomas Jefferson Elementary School
  - John Muir Middle School
Project Location Map

- N. Kenneth Rd.
- Winona Ave.
- George Washington Elementary School
- Thomas Jefferson Elementary School
- John Muir Middle School

Project Corridor

BUSD Schools
What Are The Problems / Issues?

- Issues heard from parents, BUSD, and residents:
  - Cars Speeding
  - Cars rolling through stop signs
  - Cut-through traffic
  - Cars making dangerous U-turns
  - Children are not walking or bicycling to school
  - Feels unsafe for children to walk and/or bicycle to school
  - Traffic circulation near school drop-off zones

➤ Pick-up and drop-off areas at schools are dangerous and congested
How Can SR2S Help with the Issues?

- Collaborative effort with input from residents, parents, school children, BUSD (administrators, teachers, PTA), and City
  - Community Meetings
  - Site Visits / Neighborhood Walks

- 6 E’s approach to customize safety plans
  - Evaluation
  - Engineering
  - Education
  - Encouragement
  - Enforcement
  - Equity

- “Safety Toolbox” of Options
### “Safety Toolbox” of Options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Existing Issues &amp; Concerns</th>
<th>Safety Tools</th>
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| Cars speeding                                                   | • Bulb-Outs or Curb Extensions  
|                                                                 | • Safety Education  
|                                                                 | • School Zone Speed Limits                                                 |
| Cut-through traffic                                             | • Bulb-Outs or Curb Extensions  
|                                                                 | • School Zone Speed Limits                                                 |
| Cars rolling through stop signs                                 | • High-Visibility Crosswalks  
|                                                                 | • School Crossing Signs  
|                                                                 | • Safety Education                                                        |
| Vehicles making dangerous U-Turns                              | • Bulb-Outs or Curb Extensions  
|                                                                 | • Safety Education                                                        |
| Decreased number of children walking and/or bicycling to school | • Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Education  
|                                                                 | • Supportive policies from BUSD  
|                                                                 | • Safety Education                                                        |
| Feels unsafe to walk and/or bicycle to school                  | • Bicycle lanes and Sharrows (shared-lane markings)  
|                                                                 | • High-Visibility Crosswalks  
|                                                                 | • Bulb-Outs or Curb Extensions  
|                                                                 | • Walking Route Maps  
|                                                                 | • School Zone Speed Limits                                                 |
| Pick-up and drop-off areas at schools are dangerous and congested | • High-Visibility Crosswalks  
|                                                                 | • School Crossing Signs  
|                                                                 | • Bulb-Outs or Curb Extensions  
|                                                                 | • Supportive policies from BUSD  
|                                                                 | • Safety Education                                                        |
High-Visibility Crosswalks

Addresses:
- Cars rolling through Stop Signs
- Increases safety

More than doubles visibility from 200 – 500 feet away

Before (Alameda Ave./Mariposa St.):

After (Alameda Ave./Mariposa St.):
Bulb-Outs or Curb Extensions

**Addresses:**
- ✔ Speeding
- ✔ Illegal U-Turns
- ✔ Increases safety and visibility
- ✔ Feels unsafe to walk to school

Shortens the distance to cross the street

- **Muir Middle:** Kenneth Rd./Cornell Dr.
- **Stevenson Elementary:** Oak St./Lima St.
School Crossing Signs

Issue:
- Speeding
- Cars rolling through Stop Signs
- Increases safety and visibility
School Zone Speed Limits

Issue:
- ✔ Speeding
- ✔ Cut-Through Traffic
- ✔ Feels unsafe to walk to school
Bicycle Lanes and Sharrows

**Issue:**
- ✔ Speeding
- ✔ Cars rolling through Stop Signs
- ✔ Feels dangerous to bike to school

“Sharrow” (shared-lane marking)
**Issue:**

☑ Feels unsafe to walk to school

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**Walking Route Maps**

**PEDESTRIAN ROUTES FOR**

**BUDLONG AVENUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**June 2012**

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**Legend**

- Blue: Recommended Crossing
- Red: Recommended Route
- Green: Existing Route
- Yellow: Existing Crossing
- Orange: New Crossing
- Gray: Existing Crosswalk
- Black: Existing Paved Path
- Green: Existing Unpaved Path

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**Route Description**

This map shows the recommended crossings to be made during your daily commute to school. Following the arrows, select the best route from your home to the school and make it a part of your normal routine.

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**Safety Tips**

- Use decorated crosswalks to help children and adults make eye contact with drivers.
- Be visible: Wear bright clothing and use visible crossing devices.
- Slow down before crossing.
- Use sidewalks and crosswalks to ensure safety.

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**Contact Information**

For more information or assistance, please contact your local Safe Routes to School Program at 1-800-SKIDS-36.
Traffic Safety Education & Workshops

Issue:
- Bad driver behavior
- Increases safety
- Feels unsafe to walk to school

Tips for Walking Safely to School

Walking is fun, but you need to be safe when doing it. Follow these tips to make sure you get to and from school without any problems.

Walk together:
Younger children should always walk with an adult. Tell your parents that walking is great exercise and a nice way to spend time together.

- If your parents say that you can walk to school on your own, remember these tips:
  - Walk with a friend when possible.
  - Ask your parents to help you pick a safe route to school, one that avoids dangers.
  - Stick to the route you picked with your parents. Don’t let friends talk you into paths that are more dangerous.
  - When you are not the crowd, don’t push, shove, or otherwise block
  - Never become or take rides from people not allowed by your adults.
  - Talk to your parents and teacher about any bullying that may happen during your walk.

Be seen:
Remember, drivers may not be able to see you. Always wear bright or reflective safety clothing.

Look for traffic:
Watch for cars and trucks at every stoplight and intersection. If drivers don’t see you, they may not stop.

Traffic Safety Education & Workshops

The ABC Quick Check

A is for sin:
Check the area around you before crossing. If the road is clear, you can cross through the crosswalk.

B is for brokers:
Check the crosswalk before crossing. If the road is clear, you can cross through the crosswalk.

C is for Creases, Chains, and Cogs:
Cross the road at the crosswalk only. If the road is clear, you can cross through the crosswalk.

Quick Refers to the Quick Release:
Snow is a hazard quick releases on the wheels or the rear wheel. Check to make sure they are tight and closed properly.

Check:
After making sure the seat and handlebars are tight and the proper height, have the child ride the bicycle around the parking lot and check that everything works well.

Traffic Safety Education & Workshops
Walk to School Day 2017

Wednesday Morning, October 4th
School Administration & PTA Meetings

- **Summer 2017:**
  - Met with BUSD Superintendent Matt Hill
  - Met with all three school Principals & Director of Elementary Education
  - Conducted preliminary school observations

- **Fall 2017 – Winter 2017:**
  - PTA Presentations at Washington, Muir, and Jefferson
  - Walk to School Day: October 4, 2017
    - Distributed preliminary parent surveys
  - City Council & BUSD Board Meetings
Next Steps?

- **Spring – Summer 2018**
  - Continue communicating with PTAs/PTSAs, School Principals, School Administration
  - Walk & Bike Audits at all three schools
  - Gather data and assess existing conditions of walking and bicycling facilities near schools
  - Develop concept-level alternatives for further study and design
  - Hold 2nd Community Meeting
Next Steps?

- **Fall – Winter 2018**
  - Conduct traffic safety workshops for students, parents, and school administrators
  - Hold 3rd Community Meeting
  - Conduct “Train the Trainer” Workshops for school administrators, teachers, parents, etc.
  - Support Walk to School Day activities in October 2018
  - City Council Meeting to decide on recommended safety improvements
  - Hold 4th Community Meeting
Questions or Comments?

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