

A Plan to make walking and rolling to school a safe, fun, desirable activity

MCMINNVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT SUE BUEL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL **WASCHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** PATTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

FINAL REPORT / JUNE 2022

**Oregon Department of Transportation** Safe Routes to School







# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The following key people and their organizations participated in the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Plan efforts. Their creativity, energy, and commitment were critical to the success of this Plan.

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01 INTRODUCTION

# WHAT IS SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL?

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) is a comprehensive program to make school communities safer by combining engineering tools and engagement with education about safety and activities to enable and encourage students to walk and roll to school. SRTS programs involve partnerships among municipalities, school districts, transit districts, parks and recreation districts, public health agencies, community members, parent volunteers, and community groups.

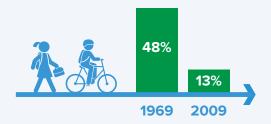
The benefits of implementing a SRTS Plan include improving safety, increasing access, encouraging physical activity, and reducing traffic congestion and motor vehicle emissions near schools. Implementing SRTS programs and projects benefit adjacent neighborhoods as well as students and their families, by reducing traffic conflicts and enabling walking and rolling trips for all purposes.

Learn more at: <u>www.oregonsaferoutes.org</u>

# Why Safe Routes to School?

#### THE PROBLEM

Within the span of one generation, the percentage of children walking or bicycling to school has decreased 73%.



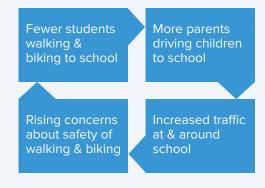
Children and adolescents should have 60 minutes (1 hour) or more of physical activity daily.



Roads near schools are congested, decreasing safety and air quality for children.



This movement away from active transportation is a self-perpetuating cycle.



#### THE SOLUTION

Safe Routes to School programs and activities help overcome obstacles to walking, biking, and skating by improving safety and making it fun and convenient for everyone.



SRTS education and encouragement programs can result in a 25% increase in walking and biking over five years.

When education and encouragement programs are combined with infrastructure improvements, such as sidewalks and safe crossings, SRTS can result in a 45% increase in walking and biking.



1 mile of walking each way to school equals 2/3 of the daily recommended 60 minutes of physical activity.



<sup>\*</sup> McDonald, Noreen, Austin Brown, Lauren Marchetti, and Margo Pedroso. 2011. "U.S. School Travel 2009: An Assessment of Trends." American Journal of Preventive Medicine.

<sup>+</sup> Centers for Disease Control. www.cdc.gov/physicalactivity/basics/children/index.htm
\*\* McDonald, N., Steiner, R., Lee, C., Rhoulac Smith, T., Zhu, X., and Y. Yang. (2014). Impact of the Safe Routes to School Program on Walking and Bicycling. Journal of the American Planning Association.

### Student Benefits of Safe Routes to School

Numerous sudies have documented that Safe Routes to School projects and programs can lead to increased walking and bicycling activity among students. But why is it important for communities to make it safer and more convenient for students to walk and bike to school?

#### **INCREASED SAFETY FOR STUDENTS**

Even if some caregivers choose to drive their students to and from school, many families don't have this option. Some families have no access to a vehicle and others have work schedules that don't allow them to drop their students off or pick them up at school. When we provide critical SRTS improvements and education to our communities, we make it safer for these (and all) students to travel safely.

#### REDUCTION IN ABSENCES AND TARDINESS

Especially in historically-disadvantaged communities, lack of transportation can be a considerable barrier to attending school consistently. Programs such as Walking School Buses and Bike Trains provide alternative options for students to get to school on time, and ready to learn¹.

#### **HEALTHIER STUDENTS**

Because SRTS programs make it easier to walk, bike, skate, and scoot to school, they directly support increased physical activity for young people<sup>2</sup>. Walking even one mile to school and one mile home gives a student about 40 minutes of physical acitivity – two-thirds of the recommended amount!

#### IMPROVED ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

Staying healthy and getting regular exercise have been shown to improve students' academic performance. In one study, researchers found that after walking for 20 minutes, students responded to test questions with greater accuracy and had more brain activity than students who had been sitting. They also learned tasks faster and more accurately following this physical activity<sup>3</sup>.

# CLEANER AIR, FEWER ASTHMA COMPLICATIONS

Increasing the number of students walking and biking to school means decreasing the number who have to rely on private vehicles. This improves air quality near schools, decreasing students' exposure to pollution generated by idling vehicles and heavy traffic.

#### **GREATER CONFIDENCE**

When young people are able to navigate their neighborhood on their own, they build self-confidence and independence. They may also learn to read signs, monitor time, keep track of their belongings, and other valuable skills.

#### STRONGER SOCIAL CONNECTIONS

Arriving to school via Walking School Bus, Bike Train, or even just with a friend or sibling fosters community and builds social bonds. Especially when so many students face challenges like bullying and isolation, this opportunity to make connections can be extremely beneficial.

<sup>1</sup> Attendance Works. "Springfield: Walking School Bus - Attendance Works." Accessed August 22, 2016. http://www.attendanceworks.org/what-works/springfieldwalk-ing-school-bus/.

**<sup>2</sup>** Cooper et al., Commuting to school: Are children who walk more physically active? Amer Journal of Preventative Medicine 2003: 25 (4)

**<sup>3</sup>** Hillman CH, Pontifex MB, Raine LB, Castelli DM, Hall EE, Kramer AF. The effect of acute treadmill walking on cognitive control and academic achievement in preadolescent children. Neuroscience. 2009;159(3):1044–1054. doi:10.1016/j.neuroscience. 2009.01.057

## Community Benefits of Safe Routes to School

Students and their families are not the only ones who benefit when we encourage and enable young people to walk or bike to school safely. In many ways, Safe Routes to School benefits the whole community. Communities that prioritize active transportation can see improvements such as:

#### REDUCED TRAFFIC CONGESTION

Reducing the number of families commuting to school in private vehicles reduces traffic around the school. This means improved circulation for people driving, as well as safer conditions for pedestrians and bicyclists. As more people feel comfortable walking and bicycling, this can also foster an environment where community members see active transportation as a viable option and priority, leading to additional shift from driving to active modes.

#### STRONGER SENSE OF COMMUNITY

Opportunities for social connection and a greater sense of community increase as students and parents participate in collective active transportation (such as Walking School Buses) or get to know neighbors while out walking or biking. Additionally, the common goal of improving conditions for walking and bicycling can bring families, neighbors, school officials and community leaders together.

#### SAFER STREETS

As the use of private vehicles increases, crash rates tend to increase! Conversely, when higher numbers of people are able to walk and bike safely, communities can see a decrease in crashes. More people engaged in active transportation can also improve personal security and the perception of safety by providing more "eyes on the street."



#### **LOWER COSTS**

Encouraging and enabling bicycle and pedestrian trips reduces costs for families, communities and school districts. Families save on gas, while communities spend less on building and maintaining roads. Meanwhile, school districts spend less on busing students who live within walking distance of schools.

#### IMPROVED ACCESSIBILITY

When communities prioritize infrastructure improvements and make walking and biking to school safer, all community members benefit. Improved facilities make it easier for all people to get around, including parents with strollers, senior citizens, residents without cars, and residents with temporary or permanent mobility impairments.

#### **ECONOMIC GAINS**

Studies show that businesses in neighborhoods that are walking and bicycle friendly see more business and higher sales<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Litman, Todd and Fitzroy, Steven (2021), Safe Travels: Evaluating Transportation Demand Management Traffic Safety Impacts, Victoria Transport Policy Institute

<sup>2</sup> Rodney Tolley (2011), Good For Busine\$\$ - The Benefits Of Making Streets More Walking And Cycling Friendly, Heart Foundation South Australia

## **ODOT's Project Identification Program**



The McMinnville School District,
City of McMinnville, ODOT Region
2 representatives, and the school
community worked with ODOT's SRTS
Technical Assistance Providers- Alta
Planning + Design and the Willamette
Valley and Coast Regional SRTS Hub- to
complete this SRTS Plan.



This SRTS Plan supports Oregon's statewide SRTS construction (infrastructure) and education/ engagement (non-infrastructure) efforts. The Project Identification Program (PIP) Process is an Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) technical grant program that connects communities



in Oregon with Planning assistance to identify needs and opportunities near one or more schools, focusing on streets within a quarter-mile of the school, as well as critical issues within a mile of the school.\*



The goals of the PIP process are:

- To engage school partners in identifying and prioritizing projects that will improve walking and bicycling routes to schools.
- To identify and refine specific projects that are eligible for the ODOT SRTS Infrastructure Grants and prepare jurisdictions to apply for the funding.

## The McMinnville School District SRTS Plan Process\*\*



<sup>\*</sup>For more information on the program, visit:

www.oregon.gov/ODOT/Programs/Pages/SRTS-Project-Identification-Program.aspx

\*\*The COVID-19 pandemic impacted the timeline and approach to the planning process.

A detailed summary of the planning process is included in Appendix C.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Final SRTS Plans can be found at <a href="www.OregonSafeRoutes.org">www.OregonSafeRoutes.org</a>

## Using this Plan

This Plan lays the foundation for schools, the community, local public agency staff and ODOT to work together on reducing barriers for students walking and biking to school.

These recommendations include both longand short-term construction improvements as well as education and encouragement program recommendations. It should be noted that not all of these projects and programs need to be implemented right away to improve the environment for walking and bicycling to school. Some projects will require more time, support, and funding than others. It is important to achieve shorter-term successes while laying the groundwork for progress toward some of the larger and more complex projects.

#### WHO ARE YOU?

Each partner has a key role to play in contributing to this Plan's success.

#### I AM A STUDENT

- Practice and encourage safe walking and rolling to, from, and near school
- Participate in a Walking School Bus or another education/encouragement idea identified in Chapter 4
- Promote SRTS activities through artwork or school projects



Student submission to Oregon Safe Routes to School Walk + Roll Fall Art Contest, 2021

#### I AM A CAREGIVER

- Understand the conditions at your student's school in Chapter 2 to plan a walking/rolling route or advocate for improvements
- Help implement many of the educational and encouragement programs suggested in Chapter 4
- Support fundraising for projects and programs (see Appendix E)

#### I WORK FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

- Distribute information about walking and rolling safely, and SRTS talking points in Appendix B to caregivers and the school community.
- Tackle the SRTS objectives and actions from Chapter 2 that are relevant to the School District and develop Chapter 4 programs that educate and encourage students and caregivers to seek alternatives to single family commutes to school.
- · Prioritize facility improvements on District property
- Work with multiple schools, sharing information and bringing efficiencies to programs at each school working on SRTS.

#### I AM A TEACHER OR OTHER STAFF MEMBER

- Include bicycle and pedestrian safety in lesson Plans and school curriculum (see Chapter 4 and Appendix B).
- Arrange field trips within walking distance of school and teach lessons about safety along the way.
- Be positive and encourage students and families to try walking and rolling!

#### I AM A COMMUNITY MEMBER

- Learn about walking and bicycling conditions in your neighborhood and how a SRTS program can improve them (see Chapter 2)
- Participate as an advocate to support education and encouragement programs (see Chapter 4)

#### I WORK FOR THE CITY OR COUNTY

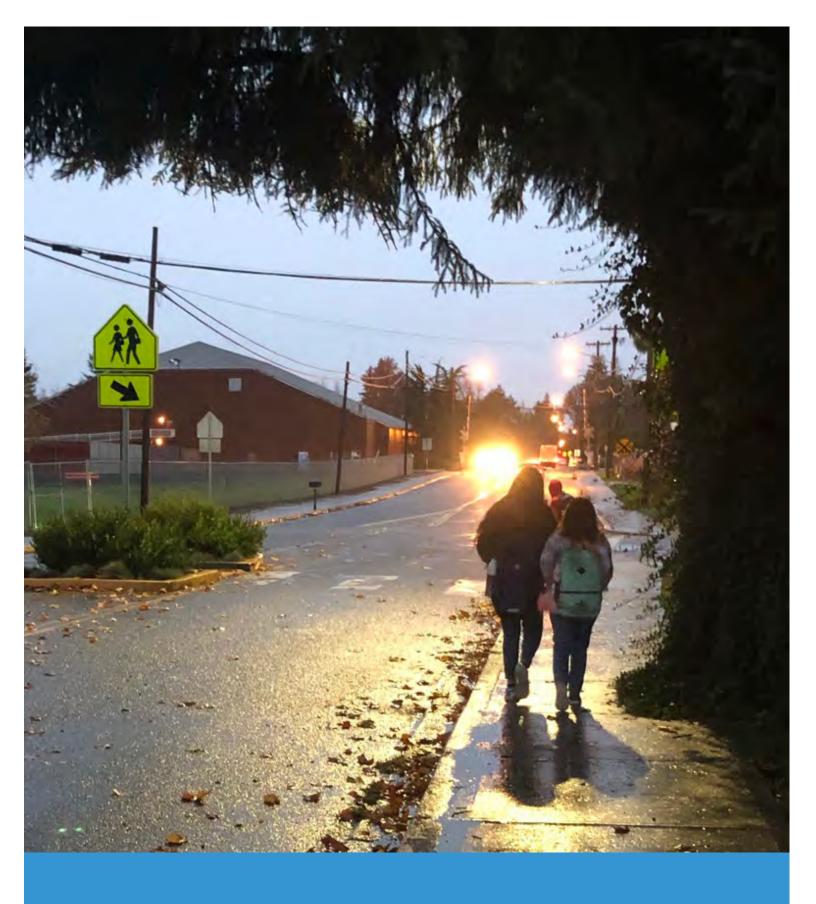
- Identify citywide issues and opportunities related to walking and bicycling and to prioritize construction improvements provided in Chapter 4
- Pursue funding for improvements, using sources listed in Appendix E

#### I WORK FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

- Raise awareness of traffic rules, focusing on key SRTS locations that have a history of crashes.
- Focus on traffic safety education, rewarding positive behavior, and supporting school walk and bike events. Be mindful of strategies that may disproportionately and negatively affect children and families of color, low wealth, or marginalized populations.

#### I WORK IN PUBLIC HEALTH

 Identify specific opportunities to collaborate with schools and local governments to support safety improvements and encourage healthy behaviors (see Chapter 4).



02



## **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter includes an overall vision as well as specific actions that school district, city and school leadership can take to support SRTS. It also includes an overview of the public input process that shaped this Plan.

### Vision

The McMinnville School District envisions a future where students and their families safely, comfortably, and conveniently walk and bicycle as part of the daily school commute and a healthy lifestyle.

# Goals, Objectives, and Actions

The ODOT SRTS PIP team suggested overall goals to support SRTS in the areas of health, safety, equity, or the environment. Participants in the McMinnville School District PIP process selected Safety as the main priority for the community.

The following are specific recommended objectives and actions based on the community-identified goals, as well as community input from the walk audit and data collected throughout the PIP process. Actions may relate to achieving more than one goal, but each action is only listed once.





### **SAFETY**

Goal: Increase safety for families traveling to school, including perceptions of safety, since perceived barriers can have a real impact on whether parents allow their students to walk or bike.

Objective 1: Students are able to walk and bike to and from campus, between schools, and to homes within a quarter-mile of the school.

- Action: McMiinnville School District will integrate on-campus infrastructure improvements into their ongoing planning processes.
- Action: The City of McMinnville and the City of Lafayette will consider applying to the ODOT Competitive SRTS Infrastructure Grant in 2022 for infrastructure improvements, outlined in Chapter 4.

Objective 2: Safe walking or biking access is available to all families within one mile of the school.

- Action: The City of McMinnville and the City of Lafayette will adopt the long-term infrastructure recommendations as a part of its planning processes.
- Action: The City of McMinnville and the City of Lafayette will begin implementing recommendations as funds for capital improvements become available, particularly lower cost improvements within a quarter mile of each school.
- Action: The City of McMinnville and its partners will explore opportunities for educational demonstrations of safe streets through the ODOT Quick Build program.

Objective 3: Pedestrian and bicycle safety education is available to students in the McMinnville School District.

 Action: The McMinnville School District will consider applying for the ODOT SRTS Education Grant to fund a Safe Routes to School Coordinator position. This coordinator will organize safety, education and encouragement activities for student in the district.

- Action: Sue Buel Elementary, Patton Middle School, and Wascher Elementary School will encourage families to walk and bike to school by distributing information regarding safety and suggested routes.
- Action: The City of Lafayette will explore opportunities for partnership with PGE (energy provider for the City) on installation of lighting along Bridge St and other critical school travel routes.

## **EQUITY**

Goal: Increase access and opportunity to walk and bike to school for all residents, with a particular focus on transportation-disadvantaged populations (non-white and Latinx, low-income and low-wealth households, those with limited English proficiency, households without access to a vehicle, people with disabilities, crowded households, elderly, youth).

Objective 1: Engage with families from historicallydisadvantaged groups to hear and learn about their barriers to students walking or biking to school.

- Action: McMinnville School District and its partners will provide SRTS information and educational materials in English and Spanish.
- Action: McMinnville School District and its partners will work with existing groups and organizations that serve historically-disadvantaged groups to help disperse information and better understand needs and barriers.
- Action: McMinnville School District will consider how to overcome barriers such as parent work schedules and transportation limitations to enable all parents to participate in SRTS programs and activities.

Objective 2: Prioritize infrastructure and noninfrastructure improvements that connect underserved or low-income communities, to schools and improve access for students walking, biking, and taking transit to school campuses.

- Action: The City of McMinnville and the City of Lafayette will implement infrastructure recommendations with a consideration for improvements that serve or were requested by underserved and low-income communities.
- Action: If McMinnville School District implements a SRTS Education and Outreach Program, it will work to include lower income students, those with mobility challenges, Spanish-speaking students, and students from other historically marginalized groups.

### **HEALTH**

Goal: Increase student access to physical activity and reduce emissions near schools.

Objective 1: Students have increased physical activity before, after, and during the school day.

- Action: Schools will look for areas of overlap between SRTS efforts and other health initiatives and P.E. class.
- Action: Staff champions from Wascher Elementary School will work with parents to re-establish a Walking School Bus and/or Bike Train for students.

Objective 2: The school community supports families using active and shared transportation to access school and reach nearby destinations.

- Action: McMinnville School District will consider adopting SRTS-supportive language in school wellness policy.
- Action: Schools and the School District will share relevant health statistics and messages in school newsletters, back to school night, or through other communication channels.

### **ENVIRONMENT**

Goal: Increase environmental health near schools, including air and water quality

Objective 1: Reduce congestion and air pollution near the school campus.

- Action: McMinnville School District will provide parents with education and encouragement materials providing information on carpooling, walking, biking, and school buses.
- Action: Wascher Elementary will continue to promote park-and-walk as an alternative to dropping students off on the school campus.
- Action: McMinnville School District will explore opportunities for school bus fleet electrification, including grants and partnerships with PGE.

# A Community-Driven Planning Process

The vision, goals, objectives and actions provided here, as well as the detailed construction project and programmatic recommendations to follow in Chapter 4, were shaped by community input. Community members had the opportunity to participate in the SRTS planning process and provide feedback in the following ways:

- Participation on the Project Management Team (PMT)
- Participation in a school walk audit and community meeting
- Virtual feedback using the online Public Input Map and survey

The McMinnville School District and its partners on this project worked diligently to spread the word about the walk audits, community meetings, and the online Public Input Map and survey. The project team hosted a series of three walk audits in McMinnville and Lafayette over a two-day period (November 3-4, 2021). In order to comply with CDC guidance on COVID-19 prevention, in-person gatherings were limited to 12 people, participants were required to stay 6 ft apart, and masks were required on school campus.

Six people attended the afternoon walk audit and community meeting at Wascher Elementary School, providing feedback about specific barriers and challenging locations near the school. The following day, four people participated in the morning walk audit at Buel Elementary, and four participated in the afternoon walk audit at Patton Middle School. Following each observation of arrival or dismissal, members of the project team met to debrief what they'd observed.





# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT KEY THEMES

According to comments on the Public Input Map, parents and caregivers were most concerned with addressing the following issues and barriers for each school:

#### SUE BUEL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

• Sidewalks in disrepair along Davis St, as well as in the neighborhoods east of the school

#### PATTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

- · The crossing of Hwy 99 at McDonald Ln
- The crossing of McDonald at the west school entrance
- The important four-way intersection of 19th St and McDonald Ln

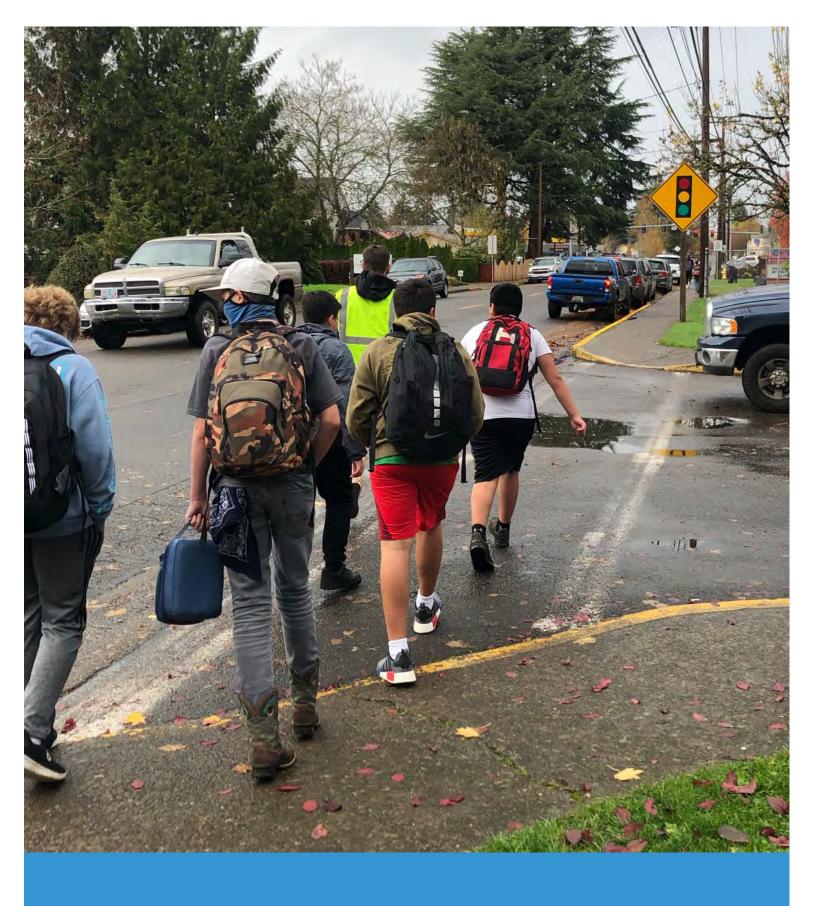
 Frustration with the closure of the school's drop-off and pick-up lane

#### WASCHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- The crossing of Hwy 99 / 3rd St (including at Washington St and Bridge St)
- · Dangerous crossing at 7th St and Bridge St
- Speeding vehicles and poor visibility of pedestrians when crossing Grant St
- · The need for a crossing guard in the parking lot

When asked through the Public Input Map about the most important goal for a Safe Routes to School Plan for McMinnville School District, survey respondents indicated that Safety was their top priority, followed by Equity, Health, and Environment.

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# **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter summarizes the key challenges and opportunities for families accessing schools by walking or bicycling that this Plan seeks to address.

The following pages provide contextual information for each of the schools, as well as key themes documented during the walk audits and through community and partner input. A detailed summary of the Planning process and activities that took place to support this Plan is included in Appendix C.

Previous Planning processes and additional data informed the existing conditions documented in this chapter.

#### SCHOOL CONTEXT:

## Sue Buel Elementary

1985 SE DAVIS ST, MCMINNVILLE

#### PRINCIPAL:

Veronica Chase



**ENROLLMENT: \*** 

417



**GRADES SERVED:** 

K-5



>95% of students eligible for free or reduced lunch \*



#### **DEMOGRAPHICS\***

- Hispanic, 50%
- White, non-Hispanic, 46%
- Multiracial, 2%
- · Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander, 1%



# TOP 5 LANGUAGES SPOKEN BY STUDENTS IN DISTRICT\*\*

0.00200		
English	5,188	
Spanish	1,785	
French	10	
Chinese	6	
Panjabi	6	

Total Languages Spoken: 13

## Sue Buel Elementary Safety Assessment

Date: November 4th, 2021

#### SCHOOL LAYOUT

Sue Buel Elementary School is a public school located just east of Hwy 99 in the southern area of McMinnville. The school was constructed in the 2000s and is a LEED Gold Certified building. The parking lot and pickup/dropoff area are located on the east side of the campus with a single entrance/exit on Davis St. Students walking, biking, or getting dropped off/picked up in family vehicles use this main entrance. Students taking the bus are dropped off at a separate entrance of the west side of the building, which is accessed from Booth Bend Rd.

#### SITE CIRCULATION

Vehicles: School staff recommend that parents drop off and pick up students along the circular driveway/ parking lot off of Davis St. School staff report that when students returned to school after the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, there was a large increase in students being dropped off and picked up, which caused considerable traffic problems as cars backed up onto streets around the schools. However, between instituting a staggered dismissal schedule, providing education/enforcement for parents, and more students now taking the school bus, these problems have diminished significantly. Vehicle infrastructure is functioning well, and the biggest issues still experienced by staff are mostly related to parent/caregiver behavior at pickup and dropoff.

School Buses: Buses approach the school from Booth Bend Rd (south), dropping students off at the southwest side of the school building. They then circle around the west parking lot counterclockwise and exit the campus through the same point where they entered. Private vehicles and school buses use different dropoff/pickup areas, which prevents conflict between the two modes.

<sup>\*</sup>Source: Oregon Department of Education 2020-2021 school year

<sup>\*\*</sup>Source: Oregon Department of Education 2018-2019 school year



# Sue Buel Elementary School Site Plan

Pedestrians: Students were observed walking campus along the Davis St frontage, most coming from the neighborhoods to the east of the school or traveling south along Davis St. Students primarily used the sidewalk on the east side of Davis St, crossing to the school where the crossing guard is located (south of Alethea Way). Students who walk regularly have been trained to stop at the center median until southbound cars have come to a stop.

Bicyclists/Micromobility: A few students were observed biking to school on the day of the walk audit along Davis St (though the weather was dark and rainy). Bike parking is located to the left of the main entrance to the school building, but this parking is uncovered.



**Transit:** Route 1 of the Yamhill County Transit system travels to the southern part of McMinnville. The nearest stop to Sue Buel Elementary School is at Davis St and Linfield Ave, which is 0.5 miles from the school.

#### PREVIOUS SRTS EFFORTS OR WALKING/ BIKING ENCOURAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Sue Buel Elementary School has not yet participated in SRTS activities. However, McMinnville School District hopes to bring education and encouragement activities to schools and reduce barriers to walking and biking.

# Bike and Pedestrian Facilities Inventory



The school's main crosswalk on Davis St includes high-visibility markings, a pedestrian refuge island, and School Crossing signage. However, staff has to move the portable in-street pedestrian signage to the crosswalk each day, and lighting is inadequate.



The crosswalk leads directly into a pedestrian route through the school parking lot. There is another crossing guard assisting students as they cross the parking lot.



Bike parking is provided, but is not covered. During rainy or windy weather, bicycles are not protected.



Pedestrians can also enter the campus by the paved path at the north end of the school building. This allow them to avoid the path of vehicles altogether.



For the most part, the pickup/dropoff area in front of the school functions well. However, some drivers were observed parking and passing unsafely in the drop off and pick up queue.



Sidewalks along the west side of Davis St facilitate student travel.



- While the main school crossing at Davis St functions well in general, the in-street signage is not permanent and lighting is inadequate during the winter months.
- Crosswalks at side streets adjacent to Davis St would benefit from pavement markings to deter people driving from pulling out onto Davis St without looking out for pedestrians.
- Booth Bend Rd is not currently safe for students to walk on west of the railroad tracks, as there are no sidewalks.
- Students are bussed to school from the Horizon Homeowner Cooperative despite this neighborhood being within walking distance of the school.
- The pedestrian approach to the intersection of Hwy 99 and Booth Bend Rd is not accessible and is overgrown with vegetation.



Radar speed feedback signage along Davis St lets cars know if they're exceeding the speed limit as they pass the school campus.



Sidewalks along the east side of Davis St are inconsistent. Some sidewalks near the school were observed to be partially overgrown by vegetation.



There is a railroad intersecting Booth Bend Rd west of the school.



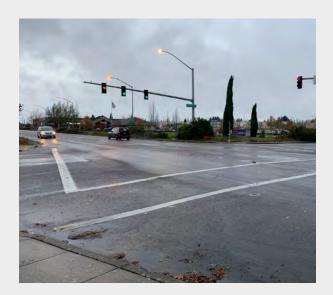
Students that live in the Horizon Homeowner's Cooperative west of the school have no safe walking route to the school along Booth Bend Rd, and are currently bussed in.



Several residential streets intersect with the east side of Davis St along the school frontage. Many drivers were observed pulling out into the intersections. Low visibility during dark morning or evening hours make it difficult to see pedestrians.



There is no sidewalk beyond the railroad tracks on Booth Bend Rd to facilitate safe travel, and pedestrians use the shoulder of the road.



The intersection of Booth Bend Rd and Hwy 99 is an important location for accessing both the school and commercial areas.



The approach to the NE corner of Booth Bend Rd and Hwy 99 lacks an accessible sidewalk and is overgrown with vegetation.

#### SCHOOL CONTEXT:

### Patton Middle School

1175 NE 19TH ST, MCMINNVILLE

#### PRINCIPAL:

Matt Combe



ENROLLMENT: \*



**GRADES SERVED:** 

6-8



>95% of students eligible for free or reduced lunch \*



#### **DEMOGRAPHICS\***

- White, non-Hispanic, 53%
- Hispanic, 43%
- Multiracial, 2%
- American Indian/Alaska Native, 1%
- Asian, 1%



# TOP 5 LANGUAGES SPOKEN BY STUDENTS IN DISTRICT\*\*

English	5,188
Spanish	1,785
French	10
Chinese	6
Panjabi	6

Total Languages Spoken: 13

## Patton Middle School Safety Assessment

Date: November 4th, 2021

#### **SCHOOL LAYOUT**

Patton Middle School is a public school located just south of Hwy 99 in McMinnville. The school is on the east side of McDonald Ln and north of 19th St. There is one main school building with entrances on both the north and the south. The parking lot is on the north side of the campus, and sports fields are located to the east, toward McDaniel Ln.

#### SITE CIRCULATION

Vehicles: Parent drop-off occurs along both McDonald Ln and 19th St. Vehicles line up along the streets, and students walk to where their parents or caregivers are waiting. Outside the south entrance on 19th St, there is a pick-up and drop-off area that was not operational at the time of the facilities inventory. The McMinnville School District plans to make striping improvements to this driveway and reopen it in Spring 2022.

**School Buses:** Buses enter the school parking lot from McDonald Ln. Students are dropped off at the north entrance to the school.

Pedestrians: Many students were observed walking home from school, as well as walking to reach vehicles. The majority of students traveled through the intersection of McDonald Ln and 19th St, going in different directions from that point. A large number of students used the sidewalk on the east side of McDonald up to the crossing of Hwy 99. Ruby's Mart, on McDonald Ln just north of Hwy 99, is a popular after-school location for Patton students, and there are also residential neighborhoods north of Hwy 99.

**Bicyclists/Micromobility:** Students traveling by bicycle entered the school through the pedestrian path that leads between McDonald Ln and the north entrance of the school. The bike racks are located near this entrance.

<sup>\*</sup>Source: Oregon Department of Education 2020–2021 school year

<sup>\*\*</sup>Source: Oregon Department of Education 2018-2019 school year



## Patton Middle School Site Plan

Transit: Route 3 of the Yamhill County Transit system is a loop that travels south along Hwy 99 and north along Evans St. The nearest stop to Patton Middle School is on Hwy 99 near Mikey's Pizzeria, which is 0.3 miles from the school. Students could also access the bus from the stop at Evans St and 19th St, which is 0.6 miles from the campus.



#### PREVIOUS SRTS EFFORTS OR WALKING/ BIKING ENCOURAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Patton Middle School has not yet participated in SRTS activities. However, McMinnville School District hopes to bring education and encouragement activities to schools and reduce barriers to walking and biking.

## Bike and Pedestrian Facilities Inventory



Because the pick-up / drop-off area is currently closed, many parents park across the street from the school on 19th St to wait for their students.



Some students exit from the south entrance of the school and either walk home or are picked up by a parent or caregiver.



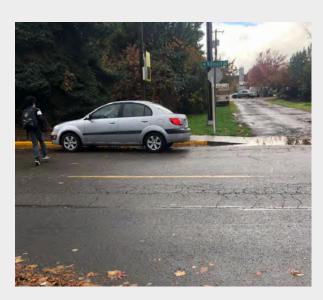
Many students also use the west entrance to access the building. A covered walkway leads from McDonald Ln to the bike racks and school entrance.



The path on the west side of the building leads to the sidewalk, but there is no crossing for students being dropped off or picked up on the west side of McDonald Ln.



19th St and McDonald Ln is a heavily-utilized fourway stop at the southwest corner of the campus. This crossing does not have adequate lighting during the winter months, and it lacks high-visibility crosswalk markings, which could help with visibility.



Because there is no designated mid-block crossing of McDonald Ln near the school's west entrance, students tend to run across the road to reach vehicles parked on the other side.



- The circular pick-up and drop-off area at Patton was closed because of lack of ADA accessibility.
   However, the school district has a restriping plan and plans to reopen this circular driveway in Spring 2022...
- The intersection of McDonald Ln and 19th St is a popular intersection for students, but it lacks highvisibility crosswalks.
- Students tend to cross McDonald Ln midblock on the west side of the campus in order to reach vehicles during pickup, and a midblock crossing would make this area safer.
- The crosswalk at the school driveway is not highvisibility despite being used frequently by many students during arrival and dismissal.
- Students report not feeling safe at the crossing of Hwy 99 at McDonald Ln. This is a wide highway with a large number of vehicles and considerable traffic during pick-up and drop-off.
- Students attempting to reach the popular destination Ruby's Mart on the west side of McDonald tend to cross north of the Hwy 99 crosswalk, where there is no designated crossing.



The crosswalk at the parking lot entrance/exit (on McDonald Ln) is very busy during arrival and dismissal.



Many students who walk home from school travel north along the east side of McDonald Ln to reach residential neighborhoods north of Hwy 99.



The crossing of Hwy 99 at McDonald Ln is one of the more hazardous crossings for students. Some reported feeling uncomfortable when traveling through this intersection.



Ruby's Mart is a popular after-school desination for students. However, it is located on the west side of McDonald Ln just north of Hwy 99, and students often run across the street to reach it instead of crossing at Hwy 99.

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#### SCHOOL CONTEXT:

## Wascher Elementary

986 7TH ST EXT, LAFAYETTE

#### PRINCIPAL:

Lauren Berg



ENROLLMENT: \*



**GRADES SERVED:** 

K-5



>95% of students eligible for free or reduced lunch \*



#### **DEMOGRAPHICS\***

- White, non-Hispanic, 62%
- Hispanic, 34%
- Multiracial, 3%
- Asian, 1%
- Black/African American, 1%
- Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander, 1%



# TOP 5 LANGUAGES SPOKEN BY STUDENTS IN DISTRICT\*\*

English	5,188
Spanish	1,785
French	10
Chinese	6
Panjabi	6

Total Languages Spoken: 13

## Wascher Elementary School Safety Assessment

Date: November 3rd, 2021

#### SCHOOL LAYOUT

Wascher Elementary School is located on 7th St Extension in Lafayette, in the eastern portion of the City. a hill on the west side of the city. The school grounds include a school building, a long parking lots stretching north-south along the east side of the school, and a play area north of the building. Students enter and are dismissed through multiple doorways on the east and south sides of the primary building.

#### SITE CIRCULATION

Vehicles: Vehicle dropoff and pickup happen primarily along the east side of the school where the long parking lot is located. Vehicles line up in the parking lot before the dismissal bell, usually reaching 7th St and continuing in both directions. Caregivers have found creative ways to avoid this long line, including parking in the neighborhoods surrounding the school and then either walking to meet their children at the campus or waiting for their children to walk to them. School staff report that although many students live within walking distance, many parents prefer to drive their children to avoid unsafe crossings at major roads including Hwy 99 and Bridge St.

School Buses: School buses load and unload passengers at the circular driveway at the south end of the school. Buses enter the school's circular driveway through the east entrance, line up along the driveway to the west of the school's main doors, and exit the driveway.

Pedestrians: Some students were observed walking home from school traveling along 7th St Extension. Some of these students were walking to meet caregivers who were parked at a desigated meeting spot, and some walked with their caregiver to a car parked in the neighborood.

<sup>\*</sup>Source: Oregon Department of Education 2020-2021 school year

<sup>\*\*</sup>Source: Oregon Department of Education 2018-2019 school year



# **Wascher Elementary School**Site Plan



**Bicyclists/Micromobility:** Students were observed biking home from school on the day of the walk audit, traveling west on 7th St Extension. Bicycle parking is located to the left of the school's main doors. This parking is uncovered.

Transit: Route 44 of the Yamhill County Transit system connects the City of McMinnville with surrounding cities. The nearest stop to Wascher Elementary School is at the Lafayette City Hall, which is 0.5 miles from the school.

#### PREVIOUS SRTS EFFORTS OR WALKING/ BIKING ENCOURAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Because of support and interest from staff and parents at Wascher Elementary, the school has organized some previous SRTS activites, including a walking school bus.

The City of Lafayette applied for CDBG funding to improve Monroe St as a pedestrian route but did not receive this funding. However, the City built a sidewalk from 3rd St to 7th St using local funds.

## Bike and Pedestrian Facilities Inventory



The circular drive at the school entrance is used primarily for school bus pick-up and drop-off. There is also short-term parking on the left side of the driveway.



The circular driveway has wide sidewalks to accomodate students walking in and out of the school. Many parents park in the neighborhoods nearby, and students walk to meet them. The school encourages this behavior to minimize traffic.



Bike parking is provided near the school entrance, but is not covered.



Vehicle pick-up and drop-off occur to the east of the school building. Parents and caregivers drive alongside the school, turn around in the back parking lot, and exit through the same route.



Many parents park in the neighborhoods nearby, and students walk to meet them. The school encourages this behavior to minimize traffic.



Especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, vehicle traffic has backed up on 7th St and caused traffic jams during arrival and dismissal.



- There is considerable vehicle congestion at pick-up and drop-off times. Students and parents are encouraged by school staff to park and walk from nearby streets to lessen this congestion.
- Many students and parents were seen traveling along 7th St and 7th St Extension. Curb ramps are needed at some of the crossings on 7th St, and there is a sidewalk gap between Jefferson St and Bridge St.
- The crossing of Bridge St at 7th St is a barrier to safe travel for students and families who live west of Bridge St. This intersection has been improved but needs additional measures to improve visiblity and safety for pedestrians.
- Students who live in Pioneer Park are bussed to school because there is no safe route for them to travel. There is a locked gate on 6th St that prevents them from taking a direct route, and Hwy 99 is not a comfortable road for pedestrians of all ages and abilities.
- Vehicles entering Lafayette on Hwy 99 may not realize they are traveling over the speed limit until they are approaching downtown crossings where students commonly travel, such as Bridge St or Monroe St.



7th St is a popular route for students walking and biking to and from school. Some are accompanied by parents, and others walk alone or with friends and siblings.



There are two high-visibility crossings on 7th St. However, curb ramps are needed to facilitate access at these crossings.



7th St is an important travel route for students who live west of the school. However, there is not a complete walking path for students because of sidewalk gaps between Bridge St and Jefferson St.



Vehicle speed and volume along Bridge St is high, and many do not anticipate students traveling across the intersection of 7th St and Bridge St. There are no curb ramps for pedestrians at this intersection.



Several residential streets intersect with the north side of 7th St/7th St Ext. Many drivers were observed coming to a stop relatively far out into the intersections. Low visibility during dark morning or evening hours make it difficult to see pedestrians.



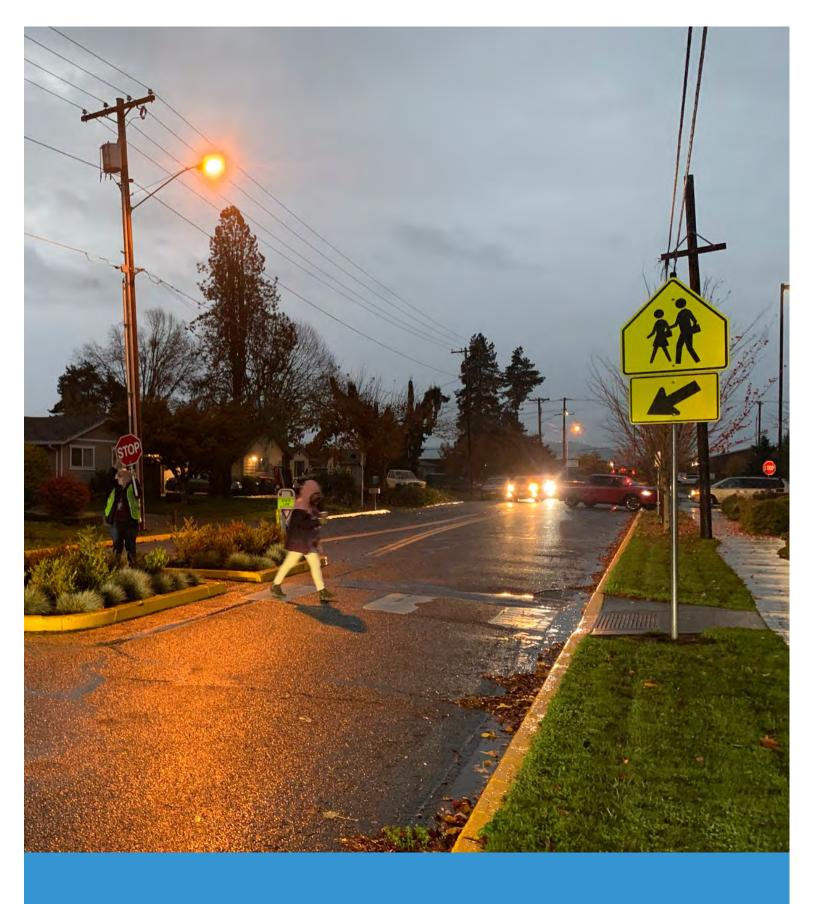
School Zone signage informs drivers of the 20 mph speed limit on 7th St as they approach the school.



Due to a permanently closed gate along 6th St west of the Pioneer Park neighborhood, there is no direct route for students to travel between school and neighborhoods to the east.



Vehicles entering Lafayette from the west are traveling at high speed with no prior stop controls, and may not anticipate students crossing at this intersection to reach Bill's Market on the south side of the intersection or neighborhoods to the southwest.



04



NEEDS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter outlines recommendations for construction projects, as well as education and encouragement programs, that address the issues identified in Chapter 3.

Changes to the streetscape are essential to making walking and rolling to school safer and more comfortable. Infrastructure improvements make it safer and more comfortable for families to walk and bike to school – and benefit everyone who travels to school and through the school area.

In addition, education and encouragement programs are a necessary component of any successful SRTS Plan. Often, programs that get more youth walking and rolling lead to increased public support for infrastructure projects – they can be an important first step towards building out the physical elements that make walking, biking, and rolling safer and more comfortable. Also, relative to many construction projects, most education and encouragement programs are very low cost.

The recommendations for construction projects and education and encouragement programs contained in this chapter were informed by existing conditions and input from school and district staff, caregivers, students, community members, and city and county staff, and are tailored to meet the needs and interests of the school community.

### **Construction Project Recommendations**

Construction project recommendations are shown and described on the following pages. The map on the following page is a guide to the location of recommendations described in detail in Table 1. A more detailed table is included in Appendix F that includes: the needs identified at each location and ensuing construction recommendations, as well as the relative priority of the recommendation, a high-level associated cost, the agency responsible for implementing the recommendation, and any potential funding source for construction.

This Plan does not represent a comprehensive list of every project that could improve conditions for walking and bicycling in the neighborhood. Instead, it calls attention to key conflict points and potential improvements near the schools. Recommendations range from simple striping changes and signing to more significant changes to the streets, intersections, and school infrastructure. All construction projects need to be reviewed and designed by engineers and approved by the local road authority.

The recommendations are categorized into implementation timelines based on existing conditions, input from local partners, readiness of the school or community to accomplish the recommendation, resources available and other factors:

· Short term: within a year

• Medium term: 1-3 years

• Long term: 3-5 years

Implementation takes place continuously over time, with cooperation amongst partners and often, new sources of funding. Appendix F lists a variety of funding sources that can be used to implement the recommendations outlined in this section.





Table 1. Sue Buel Elementary School Infrastructure Needs and Recommendations

Rec#	Recommendation	Timeline
	School Grounds	
01	Consider locating bike parking under a covered, lit area to provide shelter from weather.	Medium term
	Davis Street	
02	Designate Davis St as a neighborhood greenway. Install any appropriate neighborhood greenway signage and/or pavement markings. Consider traffic calming if necessary to reduce vehicle speeds.	Medium term
03	Install high-visibility continental crosswalk markings and stop bars as old crosswalk markings need to be replaced, or where crosswalk markings currently are not present, across all of the roads that intersect with the east side of Davis St between the railroad crossing to the north and Alethea Way to the south (Cleveland Ave, Morgan Ln, Border Ln, Debbie St, Alethea Way). Install ADA-compliant curb ramps serving the marked crossings in locations where existing ramps are not compliant.	Long term
04	Trim vegetation as needed along sidewalks and walking paths.	Short term
05	Install pedestrian-oriented lighting at the Davis St crosswalk. Evaluate potential for installation of a raised crosswalk. Consider installation of a rapid rectangular flashing beacon (RRFB) to accompany existing school crossing assembly. Alternatively, change wattage of existing street lamp to provide more illumination of the crossing.	Medium term
06	Install permanent R1-6c signage atop the raised median reminding drivers to stop for pedestrians in crosswalk per state law for both the northbound and southbound approaches at the existing crosswalk along Davis St at the school frontage (just south of Alethea Way).	Short term
	Booth Bend Road	
07	Install approximately 1/2 mile of sidewalk along the north side of Booth Bend Rd between Highway 99W to the west and the railroad crossing to the east. Install buffered/protected bicycle facilities along Booth Bend Rd (exact design to be determined). Coordinate with future development plans of the vacant lot on the north side of the street, as appropriate.	Medium term
08	Install approximately 450 feet of sidewalk along the south side of Booth Bend Rd between Highway 99W to the west and Horizon Homeowners Cooperative to the east.	Medium term
09	Consider installation of high-visibility continental crosswalk markings on the east side of the intersection of Booth Bend Rd and the Horizon Homeowners Cooperative driveway. Install curb ramps on both sides of the crossing. Install a School Crossing assembly (S1-1 with W16-7P) in both directions at the crossing. Install a School Advance Crossing assembly (S1-1 with W16-9P) for both approaches.	Long term
10	Install "Look" pavement markings on the sidewalk on both sides of the railroad crossing to alert pedestrians.	
	Install detectable warning surfaces on both sides of the railroad crossing.	
	Optional: Install pedestrian automatic gates on either side of the railroad crossing. (These gates have "arms" that lower in front of the sidewalk path)	
	Hwy 99 and Booth Bend Road	
11	Install ADA-accessible perpendicular curb ramps at all four corners of the intersection of Highway 99W and Booth Bend Rd	

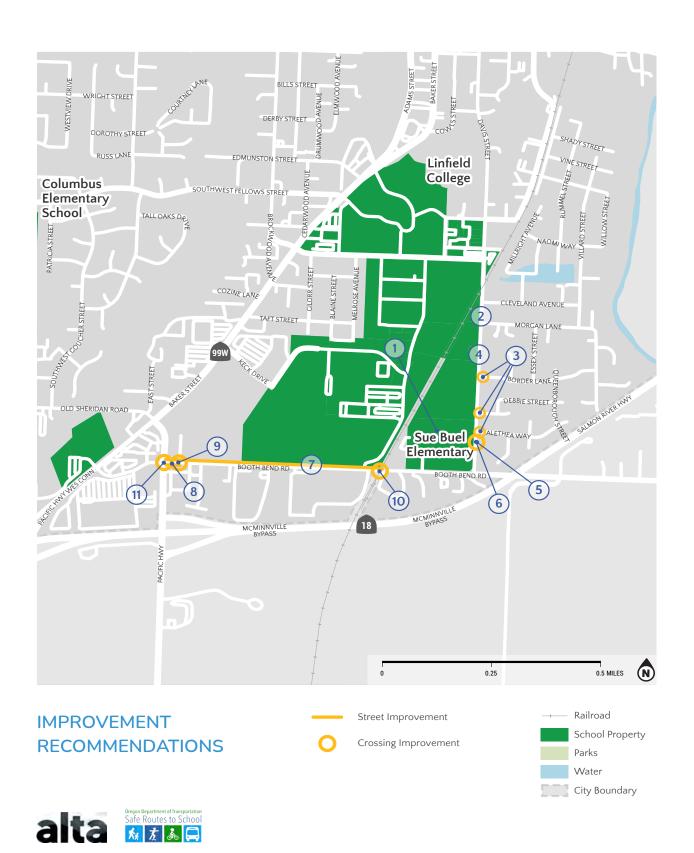


Table 1. Patton Middle School Infrastructure Needs and Recommendations

Rec#	Recommendation	Timeline
	School Grounds	
01	Consider locating bike parking under a covered, lit area to provide shelter from weather.	Medium term
02	Reopen vehicle pickup and drop off driveway along 19th St, per the School District signing and striping plan.	Short term
	McDonald Lane	
03	Install high-visibility continental crosswalks at all four legs of the intersection of McDonald Ln and 19th St. Optional: Install stop bars in advance of each crosswalk and install pedestrian-oriented lighting at the intersection.	Medium term
04	Install high-visibility continental crosswalk markings across McDonald Lane midblock between 21st St and Hideaway Dr connecting with the existing pathway to the school. If feasible (considering driveway locations on the west side of the street), install bulbouts and curb ramps on one or both sides of McDonald Ln. Install a School Crossing Assembly (S1-1 with W16-7P) in both directions. Install a School Advance Crossing Assembly (S1-1 with W16-9P) for both approaches. Install in-street pedestrian crossing sign (R1-6c) to alert vehicles of crosswalk. Consider installation of RRFBs at this crossing.	Medium term
05	Install high-visibility continental crosswalk across the east side of the intersection of McDonald Ln and 21st St.	Short term
06	Fill in the sidewalk gap along McDonald Lane just south of 18th St on the east side of the street (approximately 80 ft).	Long term
07	Consider installing high visibility continental crosswalk markings across the south side of the intersection of McDonald Ln and 25th St. Install a west-facing curb ramp on the southeast corner. Install an ADA-compliant curb ramp on the southwest corner. Install a School Crossing Assembly (S1-1 with W16-7P) in both directions at the south crossing. Install a School Advance Crossing Assembly (S1-1 with W16-9P) for both approaches.	Long term
	Hwy 99 and McDonald Lane	
08	Work with ODOT to consider establishing a Leading Pedestrian Interval (LPI) to provide pedestrians with a few second head start to enter the intersection before vehicles are granted a green light. In the long term, consider rebuilding the southeast and northeast corners of the intersection to reduce the vehicle turning radius and therefore reduce the pedestrian crossing distance.	Medium term

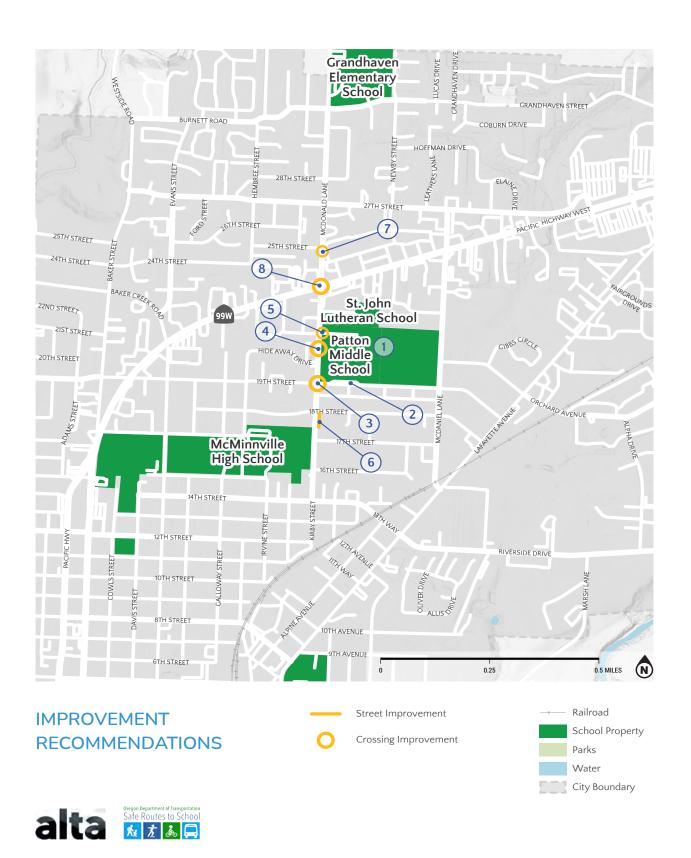
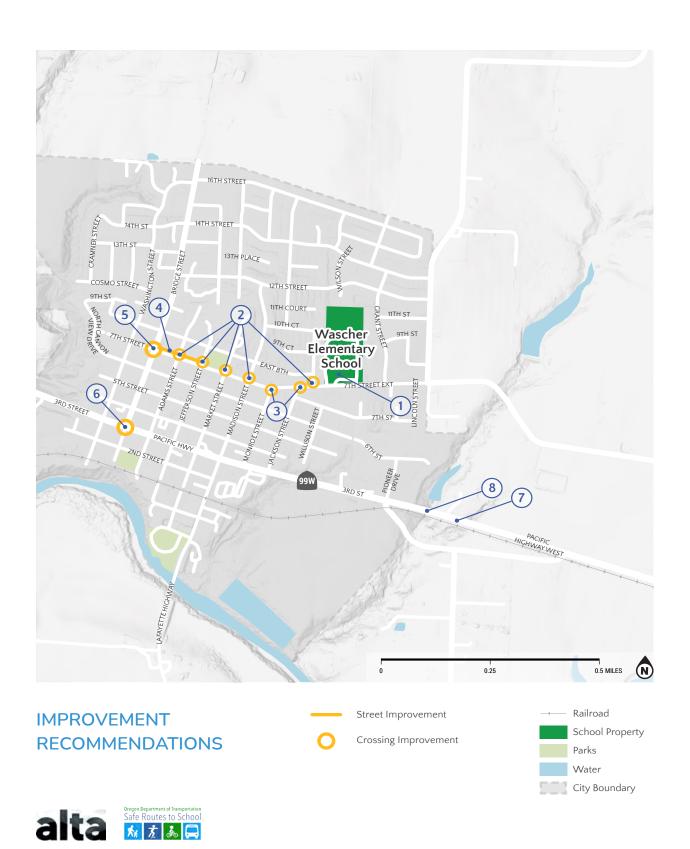


Table 1. Wacher Elementary School Infrastructure Needs and Recommendations

Timeline  Medium term
Medium term
Medium term
Medium term
Medium term
Medium term
Medium term
Medium term
Medium term



# Education and Encouragement Program Recommendations

The programs outlined in this section are intended to increase awareness, understanding, and excitement for walking and rolling to school. Table 2 includes additional details about each recommended program including a brief description, suggested leads, timeline, and resources.

Suggested walking routes were also developed with project partners, based on community input and findings from the bike and pedestrian facility inventory. The Suggested Route Maps provided on page 54 encourages students and families to consider walking and biking to school. They also provide a School Commute network for the City to focus future infrastructure investments along the most important routes to school.

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) SRTS Program provides technical assistance to support local SRTS efforts. This support includes:

- Coordination between practitioners through Regional Hubs (see call-out below) <a href="https://www.oregonsaferoutes.org/contact">https://www.oregonsaferoutes.org/contact</a>
- Trainings and resource guides, which can be found on the Oregon SRTS website <a href="https://www.oregonsaferoutes.org/resources/">https://www.oregonsaferoutes.org/resources/</a>
- 3. Incentives, activities, and messaging for monthly Walk+Roll events <a href="https://www.oregonsaferoutes.org/walkroll/">https://www.oregonsaferoutes.org/walkroll/</a>
- 4. Bicycle and pedestrian safety trainings and a loaner bike fleet coming in 2022

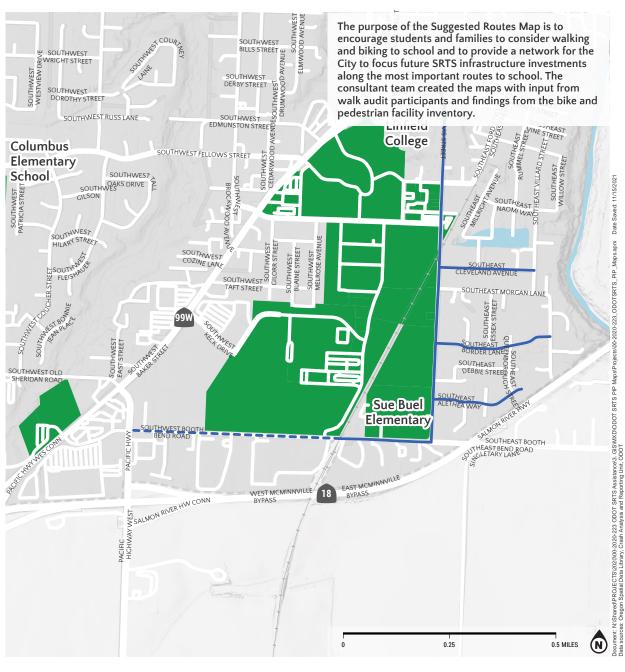
Learn more and keep in touch by signing up for the ODOT SRTS Newsletter:

https://www.oregonsaferoutes.org/

#### CONNECT WITH YOUR ODOT SRTS REGIONAL HUB COORDINATOR

The ODOT SRTS Program can provide free resources, materials, and guidance to implement education and encouragement programs. The ODOT SRTS Education team is working in parallel with the Construction team to help communities across the state implement education and encouragement efforts. The team holds Regional Hub meetings to discuss statewide and regional SRTS strategies and efforts. Regional Hub Coordinators are a resource for local SRTS coordinators and regions without a coordinator to help create and sustain successful SRTS programs.

SRTS champions or involved staff in or near McMinnville and Lafayette are a part of the Willamette Valley and Coast Hub. Register for the meetings and office hours <a href="here">here</a> or fill out the <a href="here">contact form</a> to be connected with your Regional Hub Coordinator. Review Table 2 to identify educational and encouragement priorities and discuss with the Regional Hub Coordinator.

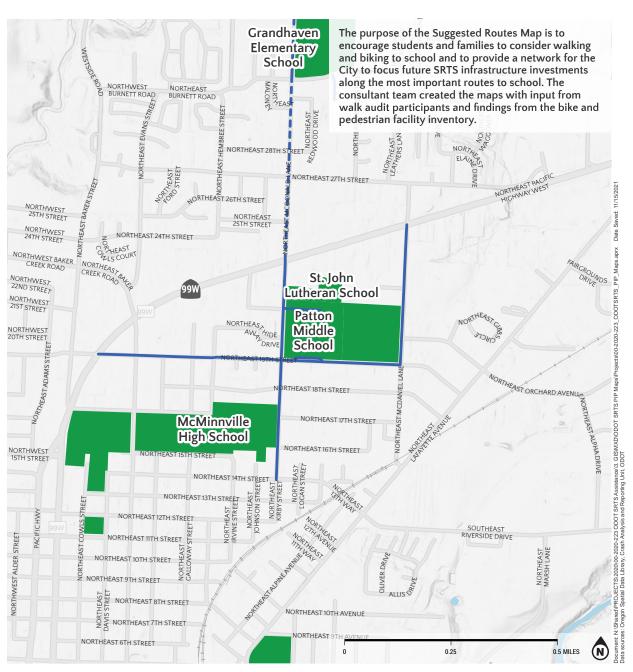


SUGGESTED WALKING AND BIKING ROUTES







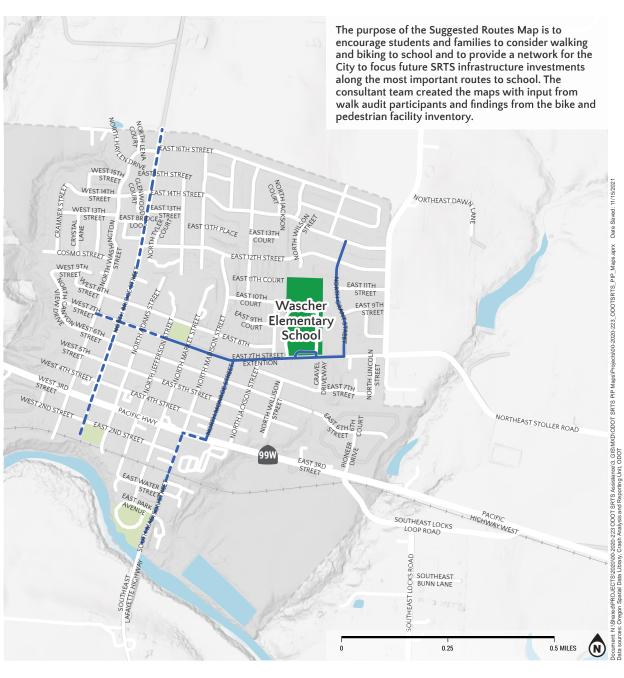


SUGGESTED WALKING AND BIKING ROUTES









SUGGESTED WALKING AND BIKING ROUTES







Table 2. McMinnville School District Education and Encouragement Recommendations

Activity	Responsible Party	Description (Additional details provided on following page)	Timeline	Resources Needed	Inclusion Considerations	Measures of Success
Parent Education and	Individual schools	Travel safety tips for parents aimed at people walking, biking, driving, or riding the bus.			Provide materials in Spanish, or other languages as needed.	Feedback from families; observations from school leadership
Outreach		<ul> <li>Sue Buel Elementary School: Place a particular emphasis on proper vehicle circulation procedures.</li> </ul>				
		<ul> <li>Patton Middle School: Inform parents of proper use of the circular driveway after it is reopened with new striping.</li> </ul>				
		<ul> <li>Wascher Elementary: Place an emphasis on safe routes for students and traffic reduction at arrival and dismissal times, including the option to park and walk with students.</li> </ul>				
Safe Routes to School Coordinator Position	McMinnville School District	Apply for funding for a Safe Routes to School Coordinator for the entire McMinnville School District through the ODOT Competitive Education Grant.	Short term	Example job description and application materials	Include in the scope of this grant funds for translation of materials and programs where necessary	Receipt of funding from ODOT, and hiring of a SRTS Coordinator
Pedestrian and Bike Safety Education	SRTS Coordinator, Individual schools	Where feasible, work through after-school programs or within existing education curriculum to provide pedestrian and bicycle safety education to students. Place a particular emphasis on safe crossing behavior and route planning.	Medium term	Travel Safety Hand-out, messaging, curriculum	Focus on walking and biking safely in students' neighborhoods or on field trips	Number of students participating; feedback from families
Community School Safety	Individual schools	A school zone safety campaign can be used to	Medium term		Provide materials in Spanish, or other	Feedback from families;
Campaign	SCHOOLS	share simple safety messages and increase the visibility of the school zone.	term		languages as needed	observations from school leadership
Walking School Bus and/or Bike Train		Interested parents from Wascher Elementary School have organized WSBs in the past, and there are staff members interested in reviving these. Parents from other schools may also be willing to accompany a WSB or Bike Train if they receive support from a SRTS Coordinator. Additionally, events could be held periodically to raise awareness of these options among students and families.	Short term	Communications to parents, routes and meet-up points, signs, staff/ volunteer time	Provide materials in Spanish, or other languages as needed. Consider how students with mobility challenges could participate.	Number of students participating; feedback from families

Activity	Responsible Party	Description (Additional details provided on following page)	Timeline	Resources Needed	Inclusion Considerations	Measures of Success
Walk + Roll to School Day	SRTS Coordinator, Individual schools	Organize participation in Walk + Roll to School Day to encourage and celebrate walking and biking at the school. This could also be a good time to organize a pilot Walking School Bus or Bike Train. Prize/incentive donations could be solicited from local businesses.	Short term	Food, music, decorations, incentives or prizes for students	Ensure that students who live too far to walk or bike are able to participate on campus. Consider locations to hold a remote drop-off site.	Number of students and community members participating
SRTS Demonstration Projects	SRTS Coordinator, City staff	Organize demonstration projects to engage students and families in opportunities to improve the built environment. Cooperate with road jurisdictions to ensure that these projects are compliant with permitting regulations.	Medium term	Support from the ODOT Quick Build program; Cones, barricades, paint, signage	Provide parent engagement materials in Spanish, or other languages as needed.	Feedback from families

# PARENT EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Parents are the primary decision–makers about how their students get to school. Informing parents about their options for walking and bicycling, as well as communicating the benefits of active transportation, can encourage more families to walk and bike. This can occur through school e-news or announcements, and other informational resources. After high-priority construction recommendations are implemented, suggested route maps can show parents the best walking or biking route to the school and help overcome concerns about barriers.

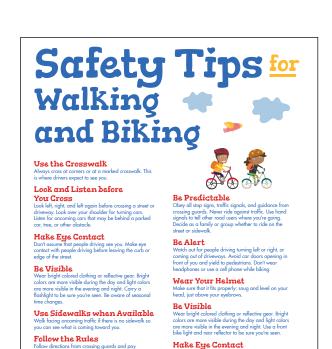
#### Resources include:

- The Oregon SRTS website has a host of safety tips for parents who are interested in their student walking and biking to school. Also, sign up for the newsletter to get current materials and seasonal safety tips
- The <u>National Center for SRTS</u> offers tools and training to provide communities the technical support they need to make community-enhancing decisions.

# SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL COORDINATOR POSITION

A designated individual who is tasked with coordinating and championing Safe Routes to School can greatly increase the likelihood of program success. A SRTS coordinator is usually charged with scheduling, publicizing, and administering SRTS programming, including encouragement events, educational activities, safety campaigns, Walking School Buses and Bike Trains for students and their families. This person is also responsible for coordinating between various involved jurisdictions, community groups, and community stakeholders to promote SRTS as a priority.

Funding for SRTS Coordinators is available through ODOT's competitive Education Grant process, as well as some regional and local governments.



Lock Your Bicycle
When you get to school, lock your bike to a bike rack
on school grounds. Lock both your front wheel and th
bike frame to the rack.

attention to traffic signs and sig

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#### TRAFFIC SAFETY CAMPAIGN

A school traffic safety campaign can share simple safety messages and increase the visibility of the school zone and families traveling in the area. Focus outreach during back to school time, as the weather turns and time changes in the late fall, and during the early spring months, to address seasonal visibility issues. Resources include:

- The Oregon SRTS website has a host of banners, brochures, and other materials that schools can use to raise drivers' awareness of students traveling in a school area. Order materials from the ODOT Storeroom and check the www. oregonsaferoutes.org website for current incentives and outreach materials available.
- The <u>Drive Like It</u> campaign offers yard signs, safety kits, and other materials with a simple, clear message.



# PEDESTRIAN AND BIKE SAFETY EDUCATION

Pedestrian and bike safety education teaches students basic traffic laws and safety rules. Lessons are usually during PE classes or after school and may be one-time Bike Rodeos or multi-day courses.

#### Resources include:

- The ODOT SRTS Neighborhood Navigators 2.0
   <u>Curriculum</u> includes a flexible in-class and on-bike Walk and Roll Safety Education lesson Plans and workbooks. The ODOT SRTS technical assistance team are piloting bike fleets and new Train-the-Trainer materials in 2022. Sign up for the Oregon SRTS newsletter or join the Regional Hub meetings to learn when these will launch.
- Oregon SRTS provides <u>curriculum for activities</u> <u>and lessons</u> that teach the knowledge and skills necessary to be safe road users, including bike and pedestrian <u>education videos</u>.
- The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration offers a <u>child pedestrian safety curriculum</u> and <u>Cycling Skills Clinic Guide</u> to help organizations Plan bike safety skills events.



# WALKING SCHOOL BUS/BIKE TRAIN

In a walking school bus, a group of students walks together to school, accompanied by one or two adults (usually parents or guardians of the students on the "bus"). As the walking school bus continues on the route to school, they pick up students at designated meeting locations. Similar to walking school buses, bike trains involve a group of students biking together with adults.

Bike trains and walking school buses for elementary school students are typically led by a parent, however, middle school students can become leaders, act as role models, and practice and teach safe bicycling behaviors. Bike trains may be more appropriate for middle school students, as they



enable students to feel independent in their mobility, while also providing the safety and comfort of riding in a group.

ODOT's SRTS Website has <u>resources and tips</u> to get started, including a <u>2021 webinar</u> on the topic

#### WALK + ROLL TO SCHOOL DAYS

Walk+Roll events encourage and celebrate students walking and rolling to school.

Keep the momentum going year-round with ODOT SRTS' monthly themes:

September: Back to School

October: International Walk to School Day

November: Ruby Bridges Walk to School

February and March: Winter Walk+Roll

April: Earth Month

May: Bike Month

Parents can set up a table on the event day to provide refreshments and small rewards for families who participate, as well as maps, lights, and safety information to encourage more students and families to join in the fun. Even families who live too far from school to walk and bike can participate by driving to a designated central location and walking together from there. Coffee and breakfast can be provided, and students can dress up or hold posters to make a fun, parent-supervised parade to school. Walks could also take place as a part of another health-related event or to benefit a cause.



#### Resources include:

- Schools in Oregon can order incentives to support and promote <u>Walk + Roll to School Day</u>.
- King County Metro in the Seattle area has a <u>Tool Kit</u> with resources to plan a Walk + Roll to School Day event.
- Walk and Bike to School suggests event ideas and Planning resources for encouraging active transportation at schools.
- The National Center for SRTS maintains a <u>national</u> database of walk and bike to school day events, as well as event ideas and Planning resources.





# **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter identifies high priority projects and provides guidance for implementation, including information about the ODOT SRTS Competitive Grants.

One of the goals of the PIP Process is to identify and refine specific projects that are eligible for the ODOT SRTS Infrastructure Grant and prepare jurisdictions to apply for the funding. This chapter describes the community-driven process to prioritize recommendations for the Competitive ODOT SRTS Infrastructure Grant Application, as well as additional project-related details that will be needed to complete the application.

### **Project Prioritization Process**

PMT members provided feedback on how actions and recommendations should be prioritized in their community. This exercise requires thinking about trade-offs between different goals and actions.

The PMT found safety to be the most important priortization factor while also recognizing that equity, student density, and proximity to school were essential when considering projects. In order to make active transportation a reality for students, a longterm approach that maximized safety was essential.



How should we prioritize projects in your community?

#### SAFETY \*

Projects should be prioritized based on how unsafe a road is, looking at factors such as speed, traffic volumes, number of lanes, crossing distance or history of crashes.

#### PROXIMITY TO SCHOOL

Projects should be prioritized based on their distance from a school.

#### **EQUITY**

Projects should be prioritized based on their ability to support walking and biking for all students regardless of age, ability, race, or income.

#### COMMUNITY-IDENTIFIED NEED

Projects should be prioritized because they were identified through school or community engagement, parent/caregiver feedback, or during another Planning process.

#### STUDENT DENSITY

Projects should be prioritized based on their proximity to current and future students and families.

#### **FEASIBILITY**

Projects should be prioritized based on their location on or along a street that is already Planned for improvements, their cost, or other feasiblity measures that make them most achievable in the short term.



🎓 Prioritization criteria identified as the most important to the community

### **High Priority Construction Projects**

The following are top priority improvements recommended for the Competitive ODOT SRTS Infrastructure Grant Application. These projects were chosen due to their emphasis on safety, proximity to school, and ability to serve a large number of students walking and biking both to and from and between schools. The City of McMinnville and the City of Lafayette will be the relevant parties to prepare the Competitive ODOT SRTS IN Grant applications for these projects.

Tables 3, 5, and 7 (page 60) provides a planning-level cost estimate for each recommendation to the Cities of McMinnville and Lafayette. To help facilitate the application preparation, the recommendations are organized by relevant school. Tables 4, 6, and 8 (page 60) provide additional project-specific information needed for ODOT grant applications. Appendix E includes more detailed project cost estimates.

Table 3. Sue Buel Elementary (City of McMinnville) Implementation Priority Projects

PROJECT DESCRIPTION	PLANNING-LEVEL COST ESTIMATE
Mobilization	\$77,500
Traffic Control	\$116,200
Erosion Control	\$15,500
Clearing and Grubbing	\$7,800
Booth Bend Road (North Sidewalk)	\$496,074
Booth Bend Road (South Sidewalk)	\$232,520
Davis Street Crossing Improvements	\$45,900
Additional Costs	\$668,800

Table 4. Project Details for Sue Buel Elementary ODOT Competitive Infrastructure Grant

PROJECT DESCRIPTION	RESPONSE FOR CITY OF McMINNVILLE
Relevant Right of Way ownership	City of McMinnville
Utility implications and opportunities to mitigate	N/A
Environmental resource implications	N/A
Stormwater management implications	Sidewalks on the north side of Booth Bend Rd will need to be built far enough back from the roadway to allow for stormwater modifications if/when the parcel north of this road is developed.
Near a railroad? Or bridge, tunnel, retaining wall affected?	Booth Bend Rd is bisected by railroad, and a pedestrian crossing is needed at this location.
AADT	Unknown
Priority Safety Corridor	No

Table 5. Patton Middle School (City of McMinnville) Implementation Priority Projects

PROJECT DESCRIPTION	PLANNING-LEVEL COST ESTIMATE
Mobilization	\$8,700
Traffic Control	\$13,100
Erosion Control	\$1,800
McDonald Lane at 19th Street Crossing Improvements	\$4,040
McDonald Lane Midblock Crossing	\$82,900
Additional Costs	\$74,700
Total Project Cost	\$185,240

Table 6. Project Details for Patton Middle School ODOT Competitive Infrastructure Grant

PROJECT DESCRIPTION	RESPONSE FOR CITY OF McMINNVILLE
Relevant Right of Way ownership	City of McMinnville
Utility implications and opportunities to mitigate	N/A
Environmental resource implications	N/A
Stormwater management implications	N/A
Near a railroad? Or bridge, tunnel, retaining wall affected?	No
AADT	Unknown
Priority Safety Corridor	No

Table 7. Wascher Elementary (City of Lafayette) Implementation Priority Projects

PROJECT DESCRIPTION	PLANNING-LEVEL COST ESTIMATE
Mobilization	\$36,500
Traffic Control	\$54,700
Erosion Control	\$7,300
Clearing and Grubbing	\$9,200
7th Street / 7th Street Extension (North Sidewalk)	\$296,500
7th Street at Bridge Street Crossing Improvements	\$67.920
Additional Costs	\$318,600
Total Project Cost	\$790,720

Table 8. Project Details for Wascher Elementary School ODOT Competitive Infrastructure Grant

PROJECT DESCRIPTION	RESPONSE FOR CITY OF LAFAYETTE
Relevant Right of Way ownership	City of Lafayette, ODOT
Utility implications and opportunities to mitigate	N/A
Environmental resource implications	N/A
Stormwater management implications	Stormwater infrastructure will need to be installed when new sidewalks are installed on 7th St.
Near a railroad? Or bridge, tunnel, retaining wall affected?	No
AADT	Unknown
Priority Safety Corridor	No

### **Next Steps**

With an SRTS Plan in place, it's time to shift attention to implementation.

The strategies identified in this Plan may seem overwhelming at first. Just remember that anything you can do to make walking, biking, and rolling to school safer, easier, and more fun for students is a step in the right direction. Here are some things to remember:

#### START SMALL

Small actions can have a big impact, especially when it comes to building support, interest, and momentum for bigger initiatives.

#### **FOCUS ON EQUITY**

Not everyone has equal opportunities to walk and bike to school. Identify and prioritize strategies to address and overcome barriers that disproportionately impact the most vulnerable students.

#### **BUILD PARTNERSHIPS**

Look for opportunities to strengthen existing partnerships and build new ones. Reach out to caregivers, community members, local agencies and community organizations, and other partners to expand capacity and support for SRTS initiatives.

# EMPOWER STUDENTS AS LEADERS

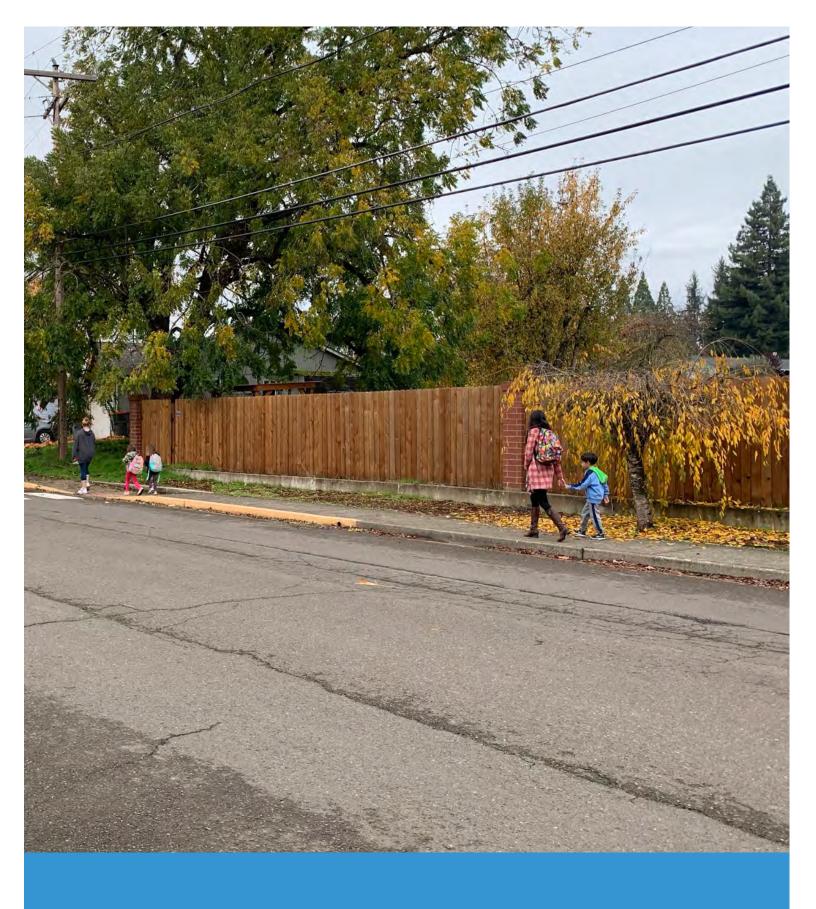
Student-led initiatives can generate enthusiasm and improve social conditions for SRTS. Empower students to take ownership of programs to raise awareness, build excitement, and expand opportunities for their peers to walk and bike to school.

#### TRACK PROGRESS

Continue to track trips and survey caregivers and students about their experiences walking, biking, and rolling to school. Conducting regular evaluation will help your team understand what works and what doesn't work and allocate resources accordingly. Consider reporting annually on progress.

#### **CELEBRATE SUCCESS**

Take time to recognize efforts and celebrate progress. Whether it's changing travel habits, achieving a major milestone, implementing an infrastructure improvement, launching a new program, or hosting a successful event, recognize and celebrate success.





### **APPENDICES**

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## APPENDIX A. FOR MORE INFORMATION

This appendix provides contact information for state and national SRTS program resources as well as school partners.

#### NATIONAL RESOURCES

Safe Routes to School Data Collection System

http://www.saferoutesdata.org/

Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center

http://www.pedbikeinfo.com/

National Center for Safe Routes to School

http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/

Safe Routes to School Policy Guide

http://www.saferoutespartnership.org/sites/default/files/pdf/Local\_Policy\_Guide\_2011.pdf

School District Policy Workbook Tool

https://www.changelabsolutions.org/product/safe-routes-school-district-policy-workbook

Safe Routes to School National Partnership State Network Project

http://www.saferoutespartnership.org/state/network

Bike Train Planning Guide

http://guide.saferoutesinfo.org/walking\_school\_bus/bicycle\_trains.cfm

10 Tips for SRTS Programs and Liability

http://apps.saferoutesinfo.org/training/walking\_school\_bus/liabilitytipsheet.pdf

Tactical Urbanism and Safe Routes to School

http://www.saferoutespartnership. org/resources/fact-sheet/ tactical-urbanism-and-safe-routes-school

#### STATE RESOURCES

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) SRTS Program provides technical assistance to support local SRTS efforts. This support includes:

- 1. Coordination between practitioners through Regional Hubs that meet monthly <a href="https://www.oregonsaferoutes.org/contact">https://www.oregonsaferoutes.org/contact</a>
- 2. Trainings and resource guides, which can be found on the Oregon SRTS website <a href="https://www.oregonsaferoutes.org/resources/">https://www.oregonsaferoutes.org/resources/</a>
- 3. Incentives, activities, and messaging for monthly Walk+Roll events <a href="https://www.oregonsaferoutes.org/walkroll/">https://www.oregonsaferoutes.org/walkroll/</a>
- 4. Bicycle and pedestrian safety trainings and a loaner bike fleet coming in 2022

Learn more and keep in touch by signing up for the ODOT SRTS Newsletter: https://www.oregonsaferoutes.org/

## APPENDIX B. SRTS TALKING POINTS

To ensure a successful SRTS program, it is crucial to get school principals and other school administration leaders the communications resources they need to share the importance of SRTS with caregivers. To get these leaders involved initially, in-person meetings are a great start and opportunity to share SRTS goals and potential activities for the year. This gives school leaders a chance to learn more about the program, but also share thoughts and ideas unique to their school. Share with them the academic benefits: students that walk or bike to school arrive awake, alert, and ready to learn, and physical activity before school increases academic performance and reduces student absences.

The following list of facts and statistics can be used by principals and other SRTS advocates in communications materials to share the benefits of a SRTS program. These points have been collected from national sources, and apply to all schools and school districts: big or small, urban or rural, etc.. They are intended to be used in communication materials such as school newsletters, emails, school websites, social media posts, signs, videos, and direct communications with caregivers (including handouts, emails, texts, automated calls, etc.). Except where otherwise noted, the following are based on research summarized by the National Center for Safe Routes to School. More information, including primary sources, can be found at http://guide.saferoutesinfo.org.

# Traffic: Costs, Congestion, and Safety

- In 1969, half of all US students walked or biked to school; by 2009, that number had dropped to just 13 percent.
- In the United States, 31 percent of students in grades K-8 live within one mile of school; 38 percent of these students walk or bike to school. You can travel one mile in about 20 minutes by foot or six minutes by bicycle.
- Personal vehicles taking students to school accounted for 10 to 14 percent of all personal vehicle trips made during the morning peak commute times. Walking, bicycling, and carpooling to school reduces the numbers of cars dropping students off, reducing traffic safety conflicts with other students and creates a positive cycle—as the community sees more people walking, biking, and rolling, more people feel comfortable walking and bicycling.
- Reducing the miles caregivers drive to school by just one percent would reduce 300 million miles of vehicle travel and save an estimated \$50 million in fuel costs each year.
- Did you know that as more people bicycle and walk, biking and walking crash rates decrease? This is also known as the 'safety in numbers' principle. As more families walk and bike to school, streets and school zones become safer for everyone.

# Health: Physical Activity and Obesity

- The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services recommends that children do one hour or more of physical activity each day. Walking just one mile each way to and from school would meet two-thirds of this goal.
- Studies have found that students who get regular physical activity benefit from healthy hearts, lungs, bones, and muscles; reduced risk of developing obesity and chronic diseases; and reduced feelings of depression and anxiety. Teachers also report that students who walk or bike to school arrive at school alert and "ready to learn."
- Researchers have found that people who start
  to include walking, biking, and rolling at part of
  everyday life (such as the school commute trip)
  are more successful at sticking with their increased
  physical activity in the long term than people who
  join a gym.
- One recent study showed that students who joined a "walking school bus" ended up getting more physical activity than their peers. In fact, 65 percent of obese students who participated in the walking program were no longer obese at the end of the school year.
- Childhood obesity rates have more than tripled in the past 30 years, while the number of students walking, biking, and rolling to school has declined. According to the 2009 National Household Travel Survey, 13 percent of students between the ages of five and 14 walked or biked to or from school, compared to 48 percent in 1969.

## Environment: Air Quality, Climate Change and Resource Use

- Did you know? When you walk, bike, or carpool, you're reducing auto emissions near schools.
   Students and adults with asthma are particularly sensitive to poor air quality. Approximately 5 million students in the U.S. suffer from asthma, and nearly 13 million school days per year are lost due to asthma-related illnesses.
- Did you know that modern cars don't need to idle? In fact, idling near schools exposes students and vehicle occupants to air pollution (including particulates and noxious emissions), wastes fuel and money, and increases unnecessary wear and tear on car engines. If you are waiting in your car for your student, please don't idle – you'll be doing your part to keep young lungs healthy!
- Families that walk two miles a day instead of driving will, in one year, prevent 730 pounds of carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere.
- Short motor-vehicle trips contribute significant amounts of air pollution because they typically occur while an engine's pollution control system is cold and ineffective. Thus, shifting 1 percent of short automobile trips to walking or biking decreases emissions by 2 to 4 percent.
- Eight bicycles can be parked in the space required for just one car.

## **APPENDIX C. PLANNING PROCESS**

## The McMinnville SRTS Planning Process



## **Project Initiation**

The first step in the Planning process was to collect data and information to support evaluation of existing conditions. This included two meetings with the Project Management Team (PMT) to identify issues and opportunities related to SRTS. Existing Conditions information is included in Chapter 3 and Appendix D.

## School Safety Assessment

The School Safety Assessment included the walk audit observations, community meetings, and a bike and pedestrian facility inventory.

#### **WALK AUDIT**

During each walk audit, the PMT and community participants observed traffic conditions, travel patterns, and behaviors for all modes of travel during arrival or dismissal at each school. Before each walk audit, the team gathered to identify key routes and locations for observation.

### **COMMUNITY MEETING**

The School Safety Assessment community meeting was an opportunity for school leadership, roadway jurisdiction staff, teachers, and parents to discuss barriers to walking and biking to school, and brainstorm ideas for how to overcome them. The meetings were held directly after each walk audit. Meeting participants discussed the typical routes that students who walk and bike take to and from school, points of conflict between people driving and walking/biking, ongoing SRTS programming and some additional ideas for education and engagement events at the school.

### **BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN FACILITY INVENTORY**

The bike and pedestrian facility inventory documented existing infrastructure, focusing on all streets within a quarter mile of all schools. The inventory collected the following information about general infrastructure deficiencies and needs:

- Sidewalk deficiencies lack of continuity, insufficient width, poor surface condition, noncompliant cross-slopes and driveways, lack of separation from the travel lane, and obstacles (utility/light poles, signs, and vegetation)
- School area signs and pavement markings presence, placement, and condition
- · Paths formal or informal, surface material
- Bike lanes lack of continuity, insufficient width or markings, presence of on-street parking, speed and volume of traffic, poor pavement condition
- Bicycle, scooter, and/or skateboard parking presence, location, visibility, degree of security, and utilization
- Drop-off/pick-up areas designated areas, curb paint, and signs
- Visibility insufficient pedestrian lighting, line of sight obstacles (parked cars, vegetation, signs, and poles)

The bike and pedestrian facility inventory collected the following information about street crossings:

- Traffic signals pedestrian signals, push-button location and reach distance, signing, countdown feature, accessible pedestrian signal feature, and sufficient crossing time
- Marked crosswalks condition, type, signs, visibility, and whether ramp is contained within crosswalk markings
- Curb ramps presence at corners, ADA-compliant design (tactile domes, ramp and flare slope, level landing)
- Connections with neighborhood trails or paths signage, bike parking, ease of connection to transit hubs, parks, or schools

Deficiencies and needs identified in the bike and pedestrian facility inventory inform the infrastructure recommendations described in Chapter 4.

## **Review Process**

Following the School Safety Assessments, initial recommendations were prepared and shared with the PMT for review. The PMT met to discuss the recommendations, and to identify priority projects for the Competitive ODOT SRTS Infrastructure Grant. Once this was complete, a Draft SRTS Plan was prepared and underwent both PMT review as well as Public Review in the form of an online interactive PDF document.

## APPENDIX D. EXISTING CONDITIONS

## Plan Review

## MCMINNVILLE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PLAN (2010)

As the primary transportation planning document for the City of McMinnville, the Transportation System Plan (TSP) provides an overarching structure for proposed infrastructure changes in community, including the area around two of the three focus schools. The Plan includes, for example, an inventory of existing sidewalks, an accounting of missing sidewalks and curb ramps, a Pedestrian System Plan, and maps of the City's existing and planned bicycle networks, showing how schools fit into a comprehensive mobility plan.

One of the goals of the TSP is to promote transit and pedestrian-oriented development. The Plan also identifies "complete street" projects to improve safety and add important bicycle and pedestrian facilities along key routes, and promotes utilization and enhancement of the existing transportation system through better management techniques.

### Sue Buel Elementary

There are no existing bicycle facilities in the area of Sue Buel Elementary. However, the TSP calls for bike lane restriping on Davis St and new bike lanes on Booth Bend Rd. Relevant pedestrian projects in the vicinity of Sue Buel Elementary include sidewalks on Davis St and Booth Bend Rd.

### Patton Middle School

As of the writing of the TSP, there were 3–4 ft bike lanes on Hwy 99 and a combination of bike lanes and shoulder lanes on Evans St, west of the school. The Plan calls for the installation of sharrows on 19th St, McDonald Ln, and McDaniel Ln. The TSP also states as a priority installation of sidewalks on 19th St, McDonald Ln, and McDaniel Ln.

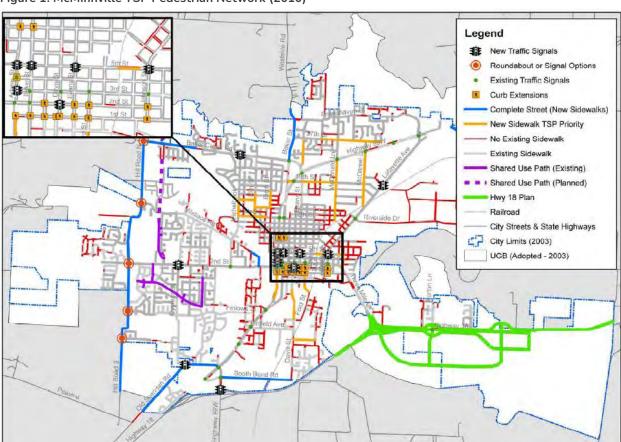


Figure 1. McMinnville TSP Pedestrian Network (2010)

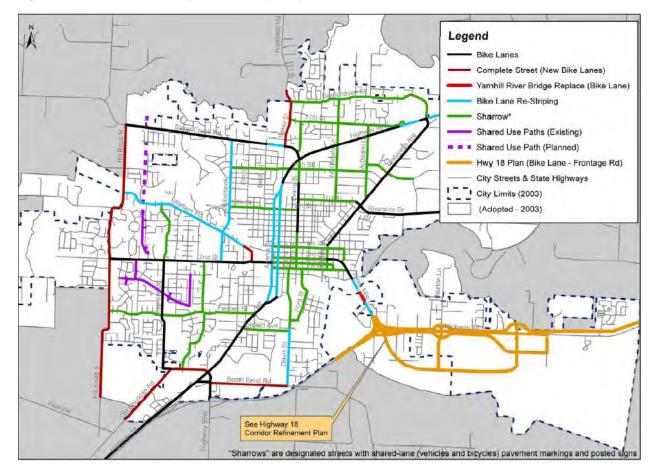


Figure 2. McMinnville TSP Bicycle Network (2010)

## MCMINNVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPPLEMENTAL TRANSPORTATION MAPS (2020)

A school district is required to provide transportation for elementary students who reside more than one mile from school and for secondary school students who reside more than 1.5 miles from school. A district is also required to provide transportation for any student identified in a supplemental plan approved by the State Board of Education. However, in some cases, the District chooses to offer supplemental transportation for students who live in areas where accessing school by walking or rolling would not be safe.

These maps represent areas that have been determined to require supplemental bus transportation for students due to hazardous conditions for active transportation.

For Sue Buel Elementary, the area south of Old Sheridan/Booth Bend Rd is a supplemental transportation area, as well as the area NW of Linfield College.

For Wascher Elementary, the area south of 3rd St (Hwy 99) and the Pioneer Park area are both supplemental transportation areas.

Figure 3. OR99W Modal Consideration Comparison (2020)

OR99W Segment	Recommended Context	Vehicular Speeds Comparison	Bicyclist Facility Comparison	Pedestrian Facility Comparison
NE McDonald Road to NW 15th Street	Urhan Mix		Existing: Standard sidewalks, no buffer Recommended: Wide, comfortable, buffered facilitie	
NW 15th Street to SE 1st Street	Traditional Downtown/CBD	Existing: 30 MPH Recommended: 25 MPH	Existing: None Recommended: Wide, comfortable facilities	Existing: Standard sidewalks, no buffer Recommended: Wide, comfortable, buffered facilities
SE 1st Street to SW Linfield Avenue	Urban Mix	Existing: 35 MPH Recommended: 25 – 30 MPH	Existing: Standard on-street bike lanes/None Recommended: Wide, comfortable, buffered facilities	Existing: Standard sidewalks, no buffer Recommended: Wide, comfortable, buffered facilities

## OR99W CORRIDOR VISION STATEMENT (2020)

The purpose of this memorandum is to identify the corridor vision statement of the McMinnville Active Transportation Concept Plan by establishing the existing and future desired urban contexts of OR99W within the area.

The Modal Consideration Comparison table within this statement indicates that near Patton Middle School, ODOT plans to reduce travel speeds of Hwy 99 from 30-35mph to 25-30mph, which would have the potential to increase safety for Patton students who travel through or along this corridor. The plan for this section (between NE McDonald Ln and NW 15th St) is also to upgrade sidewalks and bike facilities so that they are wide and comfortable, as well as buffered.

The southern section of Hwy 99 (from SE 1st St to SW Linfield Ave) is located near Sue Buel Elementary, but the attendance boundary of the school does not include any area west of the highway.

# Previous SRTS Efforts or Walking/Biking Encouragement Activities

### **EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES**

Sue Buel Elementary School and Patton Middle School have not yet participated in SRTS activities. However, Because of support and interest from staff and parents at Wascher Elementary, the school has organized some previous SRTS activites, including a walking school bus.

McMinnville School District hopes to bring education and encouragement activities to all of its schools and reduce barriers to walking and biking.

### **CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES**

The City of McMinnville made improvements to the main crosswalk at Sue Buel Elementary in order to reduce crossing distance and improve visibility.

The City of Lafayette applied for CDBG funding to improve Monroe St as a pedestrian route but did not receive this funding. However, the City built a sidewalk from 3rd St to 7th St using local funds.

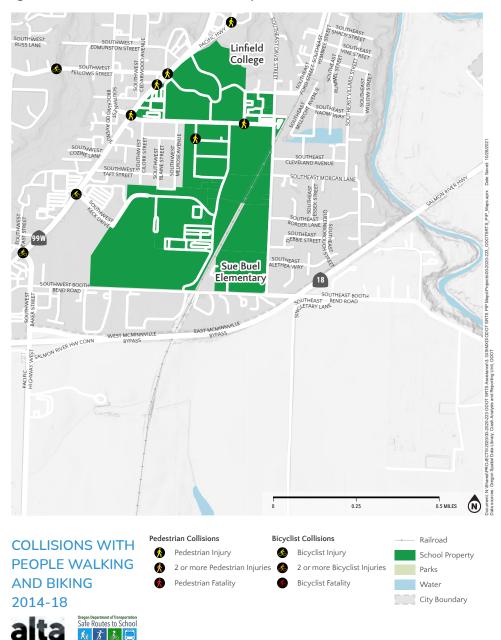
## **Crash History**

From 2014 to 2018, there have been two reported crashes involving a bike or pedestrian in the close vicinity of Sue Buel Elementary School (see Figure 4). One 2014 crash occured at the intersection of Linfield Ave and Cowls St. In 2015, another pedestrian was injured when a vehicle hit them on Linfield Ave. There

were also several pedestrian and bicycle involved crashes along Hwy 99 near the school.

Importantly, no crashes were reported along David St or Booth Bend Rd, the two streets located closest to the school. There were also no crashes reported in the residential neighborhoods east of the school during this time.

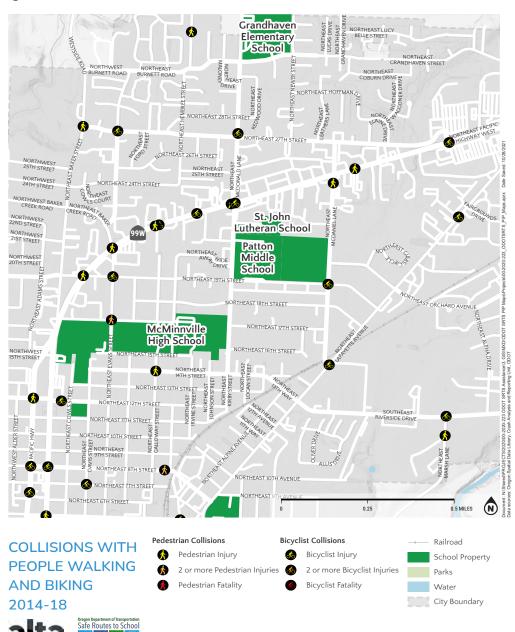
Figure 4. Crashes near Sue Buel Elementary School



Because Patton Middle School is located in such close proximity to Hwy 99, there are a considerable number of crashes involving bicycles and pedestrians near the school. Many of these involve people walking or bicycling along the highway. In October of 2018 around 6pm, a pedestrian was hit and injured at Hwy 99 and McDonald Ln. It was dark when this crash occured.

There were also two crashes reported along McDaniel Rd, east of the school. In 2015, a pedestrian was hit just south of Hwy 99. A bicyclist was hit at the intersection of McDaniel and 19th St in 2017 when the person driving the vehicle failed to stop at the stop sign.

Figure 5. Crashes near Patton Middle School

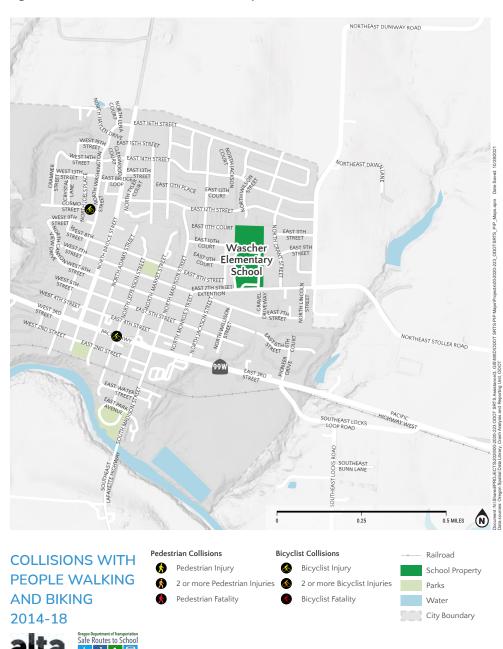


There were two bicycle involved crashes reported in Lafayette during this period.

One crash happened in 2014 on Hwy 99 at Jefferson St. A person driving struck a bicyclist after making an improper turn.

In the other case, a crash occured on Cosmo St west of Washington St. According to the report, a bicyclist struck the vehicle as it was exiting a driveway.

Figure 6. Crashes near Wascher Elementary School



# APPENDIX E. FUNDING AND IMPLEMENTATION

This section lists a variety of funding sources that can be used to implement the recommendations outlined in Chapter 4. These funding sources are accurate as of July 2021, but may change over time. Please refer to ODOT or other funding jurisdictions website for the most up to date information.

This section also includes detailed Planning-level cost estimates for the High Priority Projects identified in Chapter 5.

# Statewide Funding Opportunities

#### **ODOT SRTS GRANTS**

ODOT currently offers Safe Routes to School specific funding pools for local jurisdictions interested in improving walking and biking conditions near schools, including a competitive infrastructure grant program, a rapid response infrastructure grant, and an education (non-infrastructure) grant.

### COMPETITIVE INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT

ODOT's SRTS Competitive Infrastructure Grant program funds roadway safety projects located within a one-mile radius of an educational facility that improves walking and biking conditions for students on their way to school. Funding requests may range between \$60,000 and \$2 million, with a 40% local match (special circumstances may allow a 20% reduction in match requirements). These funds are awarded on a competitive application basis to cities, counties, transit districts, ODOT, any other roadway authority, and tribes are in compliance with existing jurisdictional Plans and receive school or school district support. Learn more about the 2021-2022 grant cycle at <a href="https://www.oregon.gov/odot/">https://www.oregon.gov/odot/</a> Programs/Pages/SRTS-Competitive-Infrastructure-Grant.aspx.

### RAPID RESPONSE INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT

Up to 10% of state SRTS funding will be reserved for projects that can demonstrate serious and immediate need for safety improvements within a one-mile radius of schools. This funding would be awarded outside of the Competitive Infrastructure Grant cycle as a Rapid Response Infrastructure Grant. Eligibility

requirements for Rapid Response Infrastructure grants can be found at <a href="https://www.oregon.gov/odot/Programs/Pages/SRTS-Rapid-Response-Grant-Program.aspx">https://www.oregon.gov/odot/Programs/Pages/SRTS-Rapid-Response-Grant-Program.aspx</a>.

#### **EDUCATION GRANT**

In addition to funding construction improvements for Safe Routes to School programs, ODOT reserves approximately \$300,000 annually for funding of SRTS Education programs and projects that encourage students in grades K-8 to walk and roll to school. This competitive grant program distributes funding to a project over the course of two to three years with a 12% match requirement. Grant funds are traditionally used for capacity building and innovation. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/Programs/Pages/SRTS.aspx">https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/Programs/Pages/SRTS.aspx</a>.

# SMALL CITY ALLOTMENT PROGRAM (SCA)

The Small City Allotment Program is available to communities with less than 5,000 residents. One application may be submitted per city per year, and successful projects may receive up to \$100,000. Successful applicants may request an advance of up to 50% of their award and will receive the remainder of their award upon submission of project invoices. An awardee may not have more than two active SCA projects at any given time; if the awardee has two active projects, another application cannot be submitted until one is completed. SCA funds can be used as a match for SRTS grant funding, but the SRTS grant has to have already been awarded prior to the request for SCA funds as match. SCA projects must be completed within two years from the agreement execution date. For example, if a community receives a SRTS grant award and an SCA grant for matching funds, chances are they may need to extend the SCA grant to coordinate with the SRTS project work. This is permitted, but the SCA award would be considered an open project until the SRTS project was closed out. Also important to note, the SCA program does not require any matching funds. The state cannot reimburse for any right of way or utility costs, and all work must be performed within the public road right of way. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/LocalGov/">https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/LocalGov/</a> Documents/SCA-Guidelines.pdf

## OREGON COMMUNITY PATHS PROGRAM

The Oregon Community Paths Program (OCP) is funding 21 off-road Active Transportation projects totaling \$15 million in 2021. Through the OCPP, ODOT strives to fund projects for pedestrian and bicycle transportation projects including the development, construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, or other capital improvement of multi-use paths, bicycle paths, and footpaths that improve access and safety for people walking and bicycling. The program is funded through FHWA Transportation Alternatives funds, and state Multi-modal Active Transportation funds. For more information visit <a href="https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/Programs/Pages/OCP.aspx">https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/Programs/Pages/OCP.aspx</a>

# TRANSPORTATION AND GROWTH MANAGEMENT (TGM) FUNDS

TGM supports community efforts to expand transportation choices by linking land use and transportation Planning. TGM services include an annual competitive grant program for Planning work leading to local policy decisions for transportation facilities and services or for land uses with supportive transportation changes. The grant application period opens in the Spring and closes in the Summer. In addition to grants, TGM provides several other non-competitive services to help resolve land use and transportation Planning issues: Quick Response to bridge the gap between long range Planning and development of specific properties, Code Assistance to identify and remove barriers to smart growth, Transportation System Plan (TSP) Assessments to evaluate local TSPs, and Education and Outreach projects to move community conversations forward. For more information visit <a href="https://www.oregon.gov/">https://www.oregon.gov/</a> lcd/TGM

# STATE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT FUND (STIF)

Walking and biking connections to transit are eligible under ODOT's STIF Discretionary and Statewide Network Program, a new fund for transit started in 2018. STIF formula and discretionary funds may be used to support projects that connect pedestrians and bikers to public transit. This fund program was created in response to HB 2017 and funds are dispersed every two years. For more information visit <a href="https://www.oregon.gov/odot/RPTD/Pages/Funding-Opportunities.aspx">https://www.oregon.gov/odot/RPTD/Pages/Funding-Opportunities.aspx</a>

# CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY (CMAQ) PROGRAM

The CMAQ program is jointly administered by the FHWA and FTA, with projects selected by local jurisdictions designated as high pollution areas. Bike/pedestrian projects make up a significant portion of the funded projects, which must focus on air quality improvement. For more information visit <a href="https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/air\_quality/cmaq/">www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/air\_quality/cmaq/</a>

## Federal Funds

Some federal funding sources may be available to certain communities and can be used for Safe Routes to School projects. Such as:

- Community Development Block Grant Program, <a href="https://www.orinfrastructure.org/">https://www.orinfrastructure.org/</a> Infrastructure-Programs/CDBG/
- Rural Development Grant Assistance Program, https://www.usda.gov/topics/farming/ grants-and-loans

# Local Funding Opportunities

## POTENTIAL SCHOOL BOND OPPORTUNITIES

Localities can leverage school bonds to collect funding for transportation educational programing and school-zone pedestrian/bicycle infrastructure improvements. School bonds may be sufficient to cover the cost of low to mid cost projects or could be utilized to collect local match dollars for state awarded grants.

### SRTS PROJECTS AND THE TSP

Cities and counties undergoing transportation system Plan updates should consider including a section on their Plans and priorities for Safe Routes to School infrastructure upgrades and programming to identify project expenses well in advance and allow ample time to gather project funding.

## **QUICK BUILDS**

Quick Builds are temporary roadway improvement installments that utilize temporary barriers (such as traffic cones, Planters, hay barrels, etc.) to test and demonstrate how a street would operate with bicycle and/or pedestrian infrastructure improvements. These low-cost Quick Build projects can serve as an immediate term temporary solution to traffic issues while local jurisdictions build support and funding for permanent infrastructure improvements. Depending on specific site conditions and the nature of materials used, Quick Builds can last for several hours to several months.

Table 9. Sue Buel Elementary (City of McMinnville) Prioritized Project Cost Estimates

ITEM DESCRIPTION	MEASUREMENT	COST/UNIT	UNITS	ESTIMATE
Mobilization	10%	\$77,500	1	\$77,500
Traffic Control	15%	\$116,200	1	\$116,200
Erosion Control	2%	\$15,500	1	\$15,500
Clearing and Grubbing	1%	\$7,800	1	\$7,800
1) Booth Bend Road - North S	idewalk			
Remove concrete curb	LF	\$6	44	\$264
Remove concrete median	SF	\$7	50	\$350
Install concrete sidewalk	SF	\$30	15750	\$472,500
Install ADA curb ramp	EA	\$10,000	2	\$20,000
Install marked crosswalk	SF	\$10	200	\$2,000
Install ADA detectable warning surface	SF	\$40	24	\$960
2) Booth Bend Road - South S	idewalk			
Install underground pipe/inlet drainage system	LF	\$160	450	\$72,000
Install catch basin	EA	\$10,000	2	\$20,000
Embankment fill	CY	\$15	288	\$4,320
Remove asphalt pavement	SF	\$5	300	\$1,500
Install concrete curb & gutter	LF	\$50	450	\$22,500
Install concrete sidewalk	SF	\$30	2700	\$81,000
Install ADA curb ramp	EA	\$10,000	3	\$30,000
Install marked crosswalk	SF	\$10	120	\$1,200
3) Davis Street Crosswalk Im	provements			
Install in-street pedestrian crossing sign	EA	\$450	2	\$900
Install set of RRFBs	EA	\$25,000	1	\$25,000
Install street light	EA	\$10,000	2	\$20,000
			Subtotal	\$991,494

ITEM DESCRIPTION	MEASUREMENT	COST/UNIT	UNITS	ESTIMATE
Additional Costs				
Construction Engineering			12%	\$119,000
Contingency			30%	\$333,200
			Total Construction Cost	\$1,443,694
Soft Costs			20%	\$216,600
ROW			-	-
			Total Project Cost	\$1,660,294

Table 10. Patton Middle School (City of McMinnville) Prioritized Project Cost Estimates

	. ,			
ITEM DESCRIPTION	MEASUREMENT	COST/UNIT	UNITS	ESTIMATE
Mobilization	10%	\$8,700	1	\$8,700
Traffic Control	15%	\$13,100	1	\$13,100
Erosion Control	2%	\$1,800	1	\$1,800
1) McDonald Lane at 19th Stre	eet Crosswalk Improven	nents		
Install marked crosswalk	SF	\$10	336	\$3,360
Install 1' wide stop line	LF	\$10	68	\$680
2) McDonald Lane Midblock	Crossing			
Install concrete curb extension - midblock	EA	\$25,000	2	\$50,000
Install ADA curb ramp	EA	\$10,000	2	\$20,000
Install street light	EA	\$10,000	1	\$10,000
Install marked crosswalk	SF	\$10	100	\$1,000
Install crosswalk warning sign	EA	\$250	4	\$1,000
Install in-street pedestrian crossing sign	EA	\$450	2	\$900
			Subtotal	\$110,540
Additional Costs				
Construction Engineering			12%	\$13,300
Contingency			30%	\$37,200
			Total Construction Cost	\$161,040
Soft Costs			15%	\$24,200
ROW			-	-
			Total Project Cost	\$185,240

Table 11. Wascher Elementary School (City of Lafayette) Prioritized Project Cost Estimates

ITEM DESCRIPTION	MEASUREMENT	COST/UNIT	UNITS	ESTIMATE
Mobilization	10%	\$36,500	1	\$36,500
Traffic Control	15%	\$54,700	1	\$54,700
Erosion Control	2%	\$7,300	1	\$7,300
Clearing and Grubbing	1%	\$9,200	1	\$9,200
1) 7th Street / 7th Street Exten	sion - North Sidewalk			
Install concrete sidewalk	SF	\$30	3300	\$99,000
Install ADA curb ramp	EA	\$10,000	6	\$60,000
Install underground pipe/ inlet drainage system	LF	\$160	650	\$104,000
Install catch basin	EA	\$10,000	5	\$9,200
2) 7th Street at Bridge Street				
Remove pavement marking	SF	\$5	84	\$420
Install set of RRFBs	EA	\$25,000	1	\$25,000
Install crosswalk warning sign	EA	\$250	2	\$500
Install ADA curb ramp	EA	\$10,000	4	\$40,000
Install marked crosswalk	EA	\$10	200	\$2,000
			Subtotal	\$472,120
Additional Costs				
Construction Engineering			12%	\$56,700
Contingency			30%	\$158,700
			Total Construction Cost	\$687,520
Soft Costs			15%	\$103,200
ROW			-	-
			Total Project Cost	\$790,720