



CARMI ELEMENTARY SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL FINAL REPORT

January 2024

PREPARED FOR:

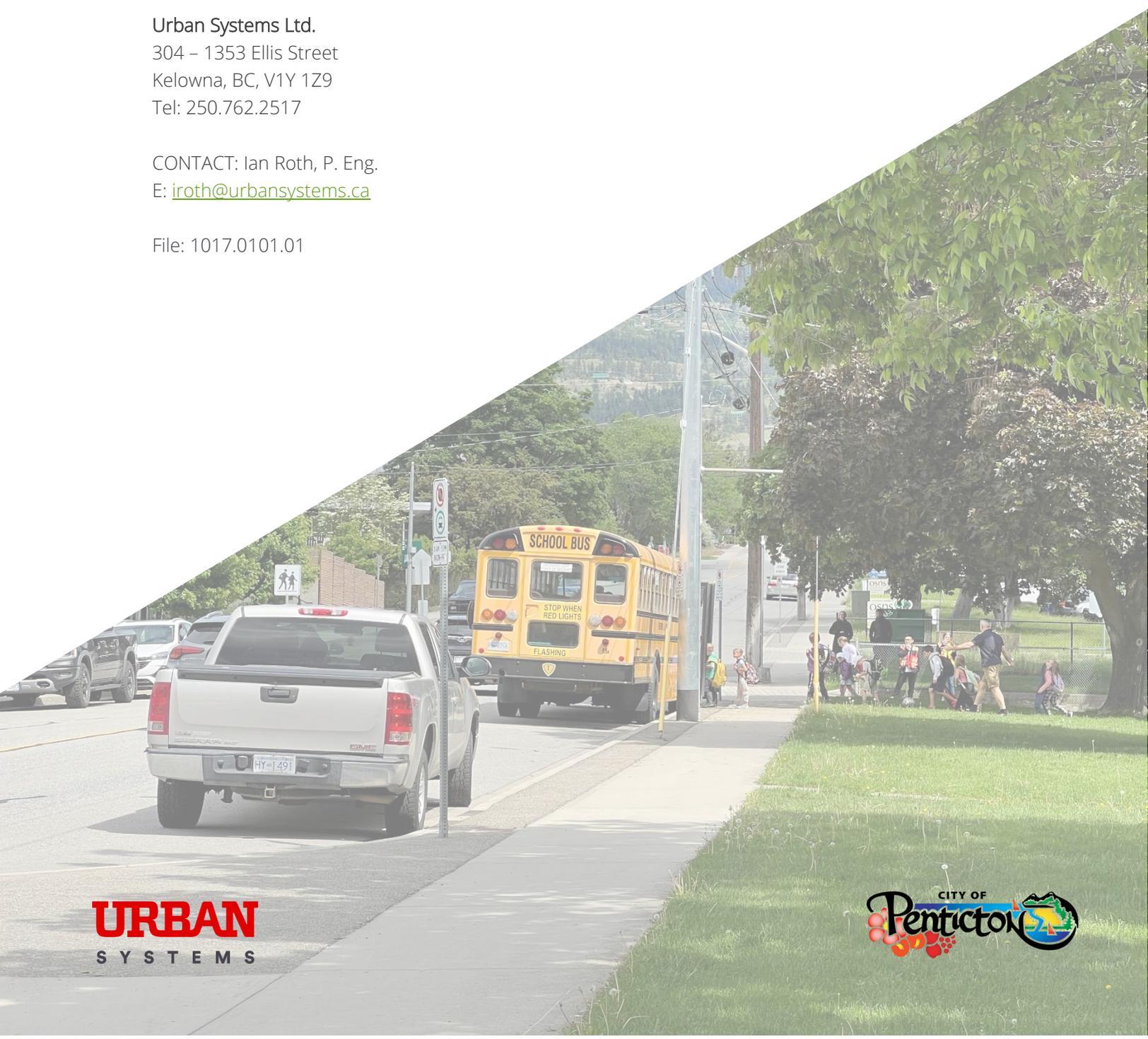
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Appendix A – Classroom and Community Survey Forms

1 Safe Routes to School Plan

1.1 Overview

In 2021, the City of Penticton adopted a Transportation Master Plan (TMP) that seeks to create and manage a safe transportation system that supports all ages, abilities and modes of transportation. A key goal identified in the TMP is to ensure residents and workers throughout Penticton have the opportunity to walk to parks, schools, shopping, jobs and other destinations in safety and comfort.

The City of Penticton has partnered with Carmi Elementary and Uplands Elementary on a pilot project to help identify safe routes to school using active transportation. Informed through best practices and community engagement, this plan establishes a best routes map and action plan that supports safe and comfortable environments for students to walk, wheel and roll to school, wherever possible. The Safe Routes to School Plan is a joint effort to implement infrastructure, programs and educational materials. An action plan is included in this Safe Routes to School Plan that identifies responsibilities for improvements and actions by various stakeholders including the City of Penticton, School District 67, school administration and the Parent Advisory Committee. The plan is intended to serve as a living document that should be reviewed annually by the City with input from the school and will be used to guide infrastructure upgrades identified through this process.

The purpose of the planning process has been to empower individuals and groups to work with their school community to plan initiatives that increase safety for students traveling to school, and to increase the number of students traveling to school in a physically active manner (walking, cycling, riding a scooter, etc.).



1.2 Benefits of Active Transportation

There are several reasons why promoting active transportation to and from school is important, including:

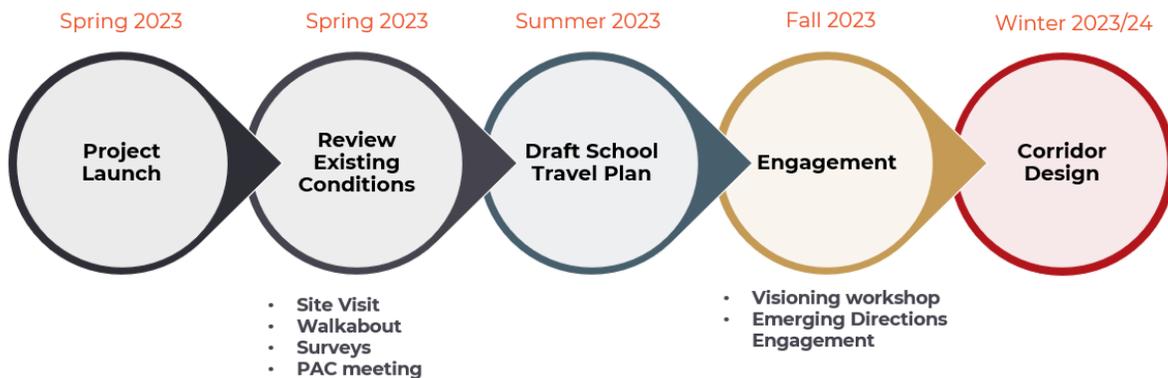
- **Health:** The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) recommends children and youth aged 5-17 get at least one hour of physical activity a day. Walking, rolling, or cycling to school can help students become more active and create good habits for an active lifestyle.
- **Friends, Family, and Community:** Active travel promotes social connections with friends, family, and neighbours and creates safer communities.
- **Academic Performance:** Students that walk or roll to school arrive more alert and ready to learn, have better concentration in class, and are happier. Active transportation has also been shown to increase alertness and grades at school.
- **Environment:** Reducing the number of car trips to school decreases greenhouse gas emissions. Reducing emissions is a step in the right direction for climate action in our community.
- **Reduced traffic impacts:** Getting more people out of their vehicles helps to reduce motor vehicle congestion, parking problems, and safety concerns, which are especially evident at pick-up and drop-off times around schools. Large numbers of motor vehicles entering and exiting school sites can create safety and congestion issues that affect not only the school community, but the neighbourhood at large.
- **Lifelong Skills:** Walking, rolling, and cycling is fun for students and helps promote positive perspectives towards physical activity and teaches the importance of individual health.
- **Independence:** Active travel builds confidence and promotes independence. Travelling actively allows students to reach destinations on their own, encourages students to navigate and explore the City, and helps foster independence.



1.3 Process

Carmi Elementary was identified as a candidate to pilot a Safe Routes to School Plan by the City of Penticton and the process was officially launched in March 2023. The City of Penticton oversaw the process at Carmi Elementary with support from consultants, whose team included professional transportation planners and engineers. The project team worked closely with school administration, staff, and students to gather information and coordinate events.

The project process that was conducted is summarized in the following graphic and described in further detail below:



- **Kick-Off Meeting (April 13, 2023):** The project team met with Carmi Elementary administration to kick-off the project and identify initial transportation issues.
- **Site Visit (May 23, 2023):** The project team examined the school site during drop-off and pick up to better understand transportation challenges and opportunities. The surrounding catchment area was also examined for its current state of infrastructure.
- **Community Walkabout (May 23, 2023):** A community walkabout was conducted following PM pick-up. The walkabout explored the immediate school neighborhood, looked at well-used routes, and brainstormed opportunities to address travel issues. Attendees included the project team (consultants and the City of Penticton staff), school administration, caregivers and students. Key stakeholders were also invited to attend which included representatives from the School District and School Trustees as well as Bylaw.
- **Parent Advisory Committee Meeting (May 23, 2023):** The project team met with the Carmi Elementary Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) to introduce the Safe Routes to School process and gather input regarding transportation issues and opportunities.
- **Community Survey (May 2023):** An online family survey was conducted on the City's *Shape Your City* platform and promoted to the school community to better understand students and their family's travel to school (mode share), as well as travel behaviours and attitudes and overall traffic safety concerns that affect parents' decision to allow children to work or bicycle to school.

- **Student Survey (May 2023):** In addition to the community survey, students at Carmi Elementary participated in a classroom ‘hands-up’ survey where they were asked what mode of transportation they used to go to and from school that day.
- **Student Visioning Workshop (Fall 2023):** Students were also engaged by the school administration to participate in a visioning workshop. Students were asked to share what they love and dislike about how they get to school and to share ideas about what they would like to do differently.
- **Draft School Travel Plan (Summer / Fall 2023):** Based on the survey findings from the facilitated engagement activities, a draft School Travel Plan was developed by the project team.
- **Parent Advisory Committee Meeting (January 9, 2024):** The project team met with the Carmi Elementary Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) to present a summary of the engagement findings and the draft School Travel Plan actions and recommendations.

2 Carmi Elementary School Overview

Carmi Elementary School is located at 400 Carmi Avenue in the City of Penticton, BC. Carmi Elementary is a public school for students in kindergarten to Grade 5. During the 2023-2024 school year, 147 students were enrolled at Carmi Elementary School.

The StrongStart program is also hosted at Carmi Elementary School, which provides early education for parents with children between the ages 0 – 5 years old. Carmi Elementary will also have a before school care program starting in the 2023-2024 school year.

As identified by the catchment area in **Map 1**, students attending Carmi Elementary School predominantly travel from the east, west and north part of the City. Carmi Elementary School is located south of the city centre in a predominantly industrial and commercial area. Directly adjacent to the school is a number of health services buildings and in close proximity to the school are big box stores and car dealerships.

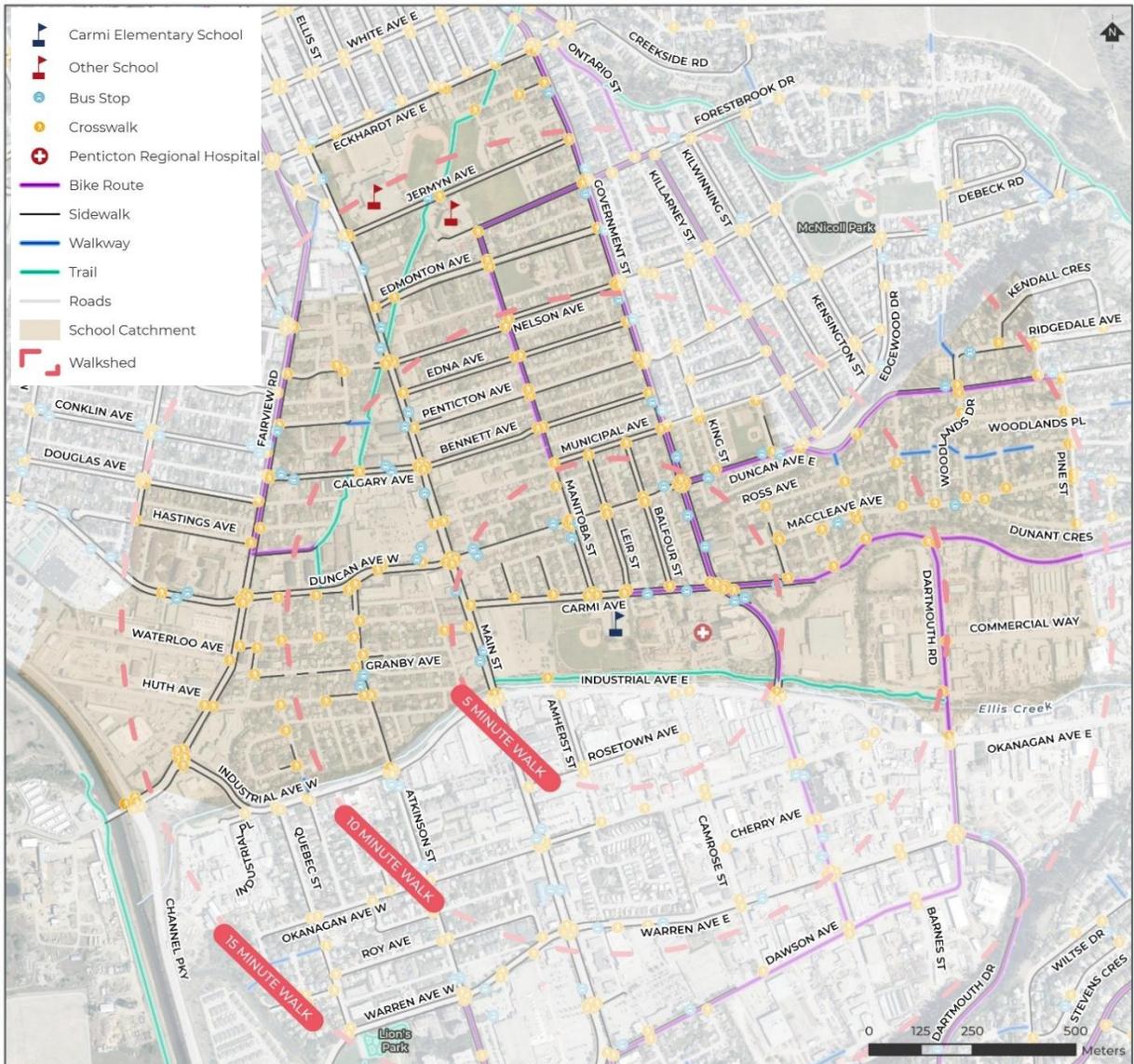
Carmi Elementary School’s front entrance is on Carmi Avenue. Pedestrian crosswalks are provided at the east and west side of the school frontage and connects to sidewalks that connect to the school entrances. The school parking lot is accessible along Carmi Avenue, directly adjacent to the east crosswalk. The school parking lot is restricted to school administration as indicated through signage. Vehicles accessing Carmi Elementary School are observed parking along Carmi Avenue using the 15-minute parking stalls, in addition to on-street parking on side streets including Manitoba Avenue and Leir Avenue, despite the “residential only” signage, which has created community concerns of congestion and road safety. Carmi Elementary administration has made an agreement with the adjacent property, Wholesale Club, to use their parking lot for temporary parking as a solution to the pick-up drop-off congestion.



Top: School Parking Lot signage
Bottom: Residential Parking Signage



Infrastructure to accommodate pedestrians near Carmi Elementary School is provided through pedestrian crosswalks at most intersections and connected to a network of sidewalks on at least one-side throughout most of the catchment area. Carmi Avenue has recently been updated to improve facilities for pedestrians through curb extensions and crosswalks. Manitoba Avenue and Duncan Avenue are key corridor connection for students with signage indicating that they are designated local bike routes.



Map 1: Current Conditions Carmi Elementary School

Walking in the area requires travelling along several major roads to connect to residential neighbourhoods. Main Street is a 5-lane road with a 50-kilometre signed speed limit. Where Main Street intersects with Carmi Avenue, there is no dedicated pedestrian crosswalk or traffic signal. Students accessing the school west of Main Street are required to cross at Calgary Avenue, Industrial Avenue or Duncan Avenue, to access fully signalized intersections.

Government Street is a 3-lane road with painted bike lanes and frequent transit service. Signalized pedestrian crossings are provided at Forestbrook, Nelson, Penticton, Duncan Avenue and Carmi Avenue.

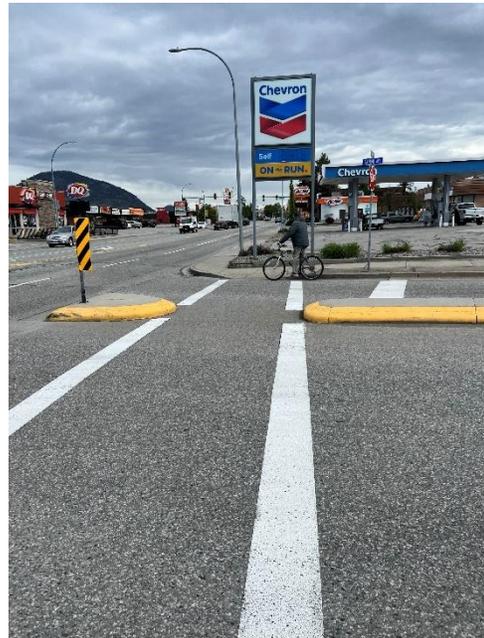


Cross-section of Carmi Avenue at Government Street

To the south of the school, Industrial Avenue runs parallel to the school but lacks sidewalks. A parallel gravel trail (Ellis Creek trail) runs behind Industrial Avenue and provides a direct connection to Carmi Elementary School that is off-street and protected from vehicles. Despite the amenity of an off-site walking path, this pedestrian trail has experienced social challenges over the recent years that have made it feel unsafe for students and families to travel along. Efforts have been made to improve the safety of the path by working with Bylaw Services, however challenges persist.



Left: Pedestrian Trail adjacent to Industrial Avenue



Right: Intersection of Main Street at Carmi Avenue

For students Grades K – 3 who reside more than 4km away, the School District 67's transportation system provides school buses. Carmi Elementary School is also well-served by public transportation, with bus routes servicing bus stops along Carmi Avenue, Manitoba Street, Government Street and Duncan Avenue.

The City of Penticton will continue to invest and prioritize in transportation infrastructure and programs that supports all ages, abilities and modes of transportation as directed through its Transportation Master Plan. Key priorities as part of its sidewalk and cycling network plans that will have an impact on Carmi Elementary School community include:

- Government Street (Carmi Avenue – Industrial Avenue) – completing sidewalk gaps
- Duncan Avenue (Main Street to Manitoba Street) – proposed sidewalk upgrades to include sidewalks on both sides
- Industrial Avenue (Main Street to Atkinson Street) – proposed sidewalk upgrades to include sidewalks on both sides
- Duncan Avenue – proposed separated cycling facilities
- Government Street – upgrade painted bike lanes to protected bike lanes
- Manitoba – sidewalk upgrades to include sidewalks on both sides
- Manitoba – upgrade bike route to support local bike network standards
- Calgary Avenue and Bennett Avenue (Fairview Road to Manitoba Street) - Connect Holy Cross School to the bike network via a proposed standard facility on Calgary and Bennett Avenues

3 Engagement – Key Findings

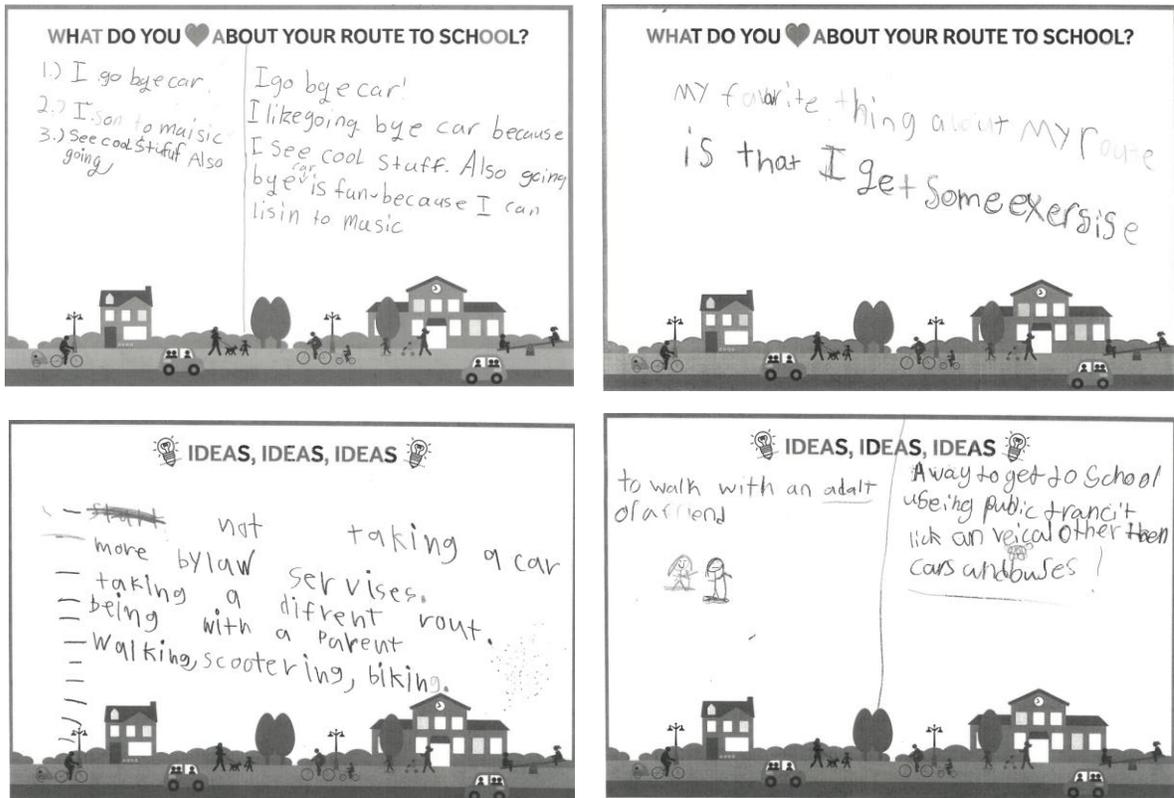
3.1 Process

Key findings from the engagement process are detailed below. Engagement activities included:

- **Community Survey:** The Community Survey was conducted on the City's *Shape Your City* engagement platform and promoted to the school community for completion. The Community Survey focused on gathering background data, measure attitudes about active transportation, identifying the key issues and opportunities for walking and cycling to school, and discovering opportunities for long-term behavior changes. The survey received **34 responses**. Detailed responses from the survey are provided in the following section.
- **PAC Presentation and Discussion:** The project team met with the Carmi Elementary Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) to introduce the Safe Routes to School process and gather input regarding transportation issues and opportunities.
- **Community Walkabout:** A community walkabout was conducted following PM pick-up. The walkabout explored the immediate school neighborhood, looked at well-used routes, and brainstormed opportunities to address travel issues. Attendees included the project team (consultants and the City of Penticton staff), school administration, caregivers and students. Key

stakeholders were also invited to attend which included representatives from the School District and School Trustees and Bylaw Services.

- **Student Visioning Workshop:** School administration facilitated a workshop with students to gather information on what they like about their route to school and if they have ideas to include in the plan. Findings from the workshop helped to inform the vision statement and action plan.



Results from the Student Visioning Workshop

Findings from the engagement process are identified below and will help to inform recommendations for the emerging Best Routes to School Map and Action Plan. Detailed findings from the Community Survey are provided later in this report.

3.2 Key Themes

Travel Behaviours

- Driving and walking are the primary mode choices for families at Carmi Elementary School.
- Factors that contribute to mode choice include the child's age, distance from school and traffic safety concerns.
- Families would consider accessing the school by active modes if there was traffic calming and improved facilities such as sidewalks and pedestrian crossings.

Infrastructure

- Infrastructure improvements desired by the community include additional speed bumps, traffic lights, pedestrian-controlled flashing lights, speed cameras, and reduced speed signs on key corridors.
- Desire for more sidewalks and marked crosswalks along busy intersections.
- Many students travel on sidewalks along Carmi Avenue. Opportunities to increase visibility and improve safety at driveway crossings.
- Manitoba Street is a key corridor that connects multiple schools. Need improved sidewalks on both sides of the street and consider traffic calming opportunities.
- Granby Avenue and Granby Place were noted by parents as a nice quiet place to walk. If a midblock crossing was added, this would make a great future connection to Carmi Elementary. Currently, people living in this area need to either walk up to Duncan Street or down to Industrial Avenue in order to cross Main Street.

Road Safety

- The area surrounding Carmi Elementary has high density traffic, multiple side streets, and driveways that are hazardous to those choosing active transportation as their mode of getting to and from school.
- Main Street at Duncan Avenue is noted as a loud, busy intersection where vehicles do not always comply with pedestrian crossing signal. Reported collisions and near misses here. Consider upgrades for crossing and/or enforcement at Manitoba Street and Duncan Avenue.
- Perception that drivers are not observing current speed limits. Desire from community to extend school zone boundary and implement slower speeds in the area.
- Areas of greatest concern to the school community are Main Street, Manitoba Street, and Carmi Avenue.
- Duncan Avenue East is noted as having speeding vehicles and there are limited opportunities for pedestrians to cross.
- Concerns from community for safety of Carmi Avenue at Main Street intersection. Parents noted that crossing from the NW sidewalk to pedestrian island is dangerous and cars turning right from Main to Carmi often don't notice the pedestrians because there is so much going on at the intersection.

Pick Up/Drop Off Behaviours

- There is very limited street parking and parents are ticketed on the residential side streets (Manitoba Street, Leir Street) when picking up and dropping off their child / children
- School parking lot does not allow for short-term PUDO, but community uses it anyway. When utilized, it is noted that it requires better maintenance in winter months.
- Parents utilizing Wholesale Club for short-term parking, but connections to the school along the path and behind the school/store (Industrial Ave) are not welcoming/comfortable.

Active Transportation Opportunities

- Desire for a walking / rolling bus option for a group of students and parents to travel to and from school.
- Bike parking on school property is not secure enough. Bike racks are in a location with good visibility but theft still occurs.

Social Challenges

- Unhoused people residing along walking routes has made the environment feel unsafe and unwelcoming.
- Many comments about people feeling unsafe along pathway near Industrial Avenue due to unhoused population living in area.
- Students instead sometimes use the desire path along Industrial Ave as an alternative route but poses other safety concerns due to lack of sidewalks.

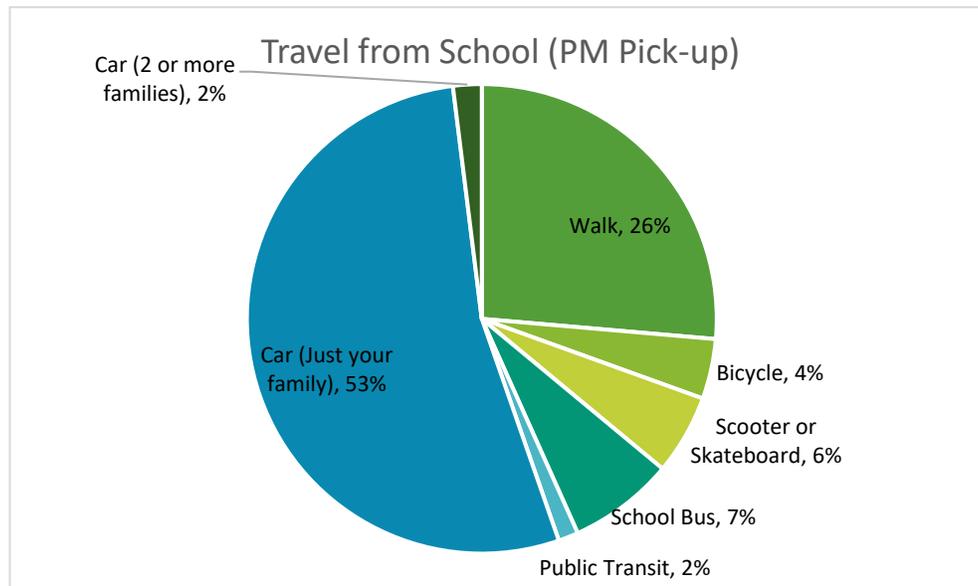
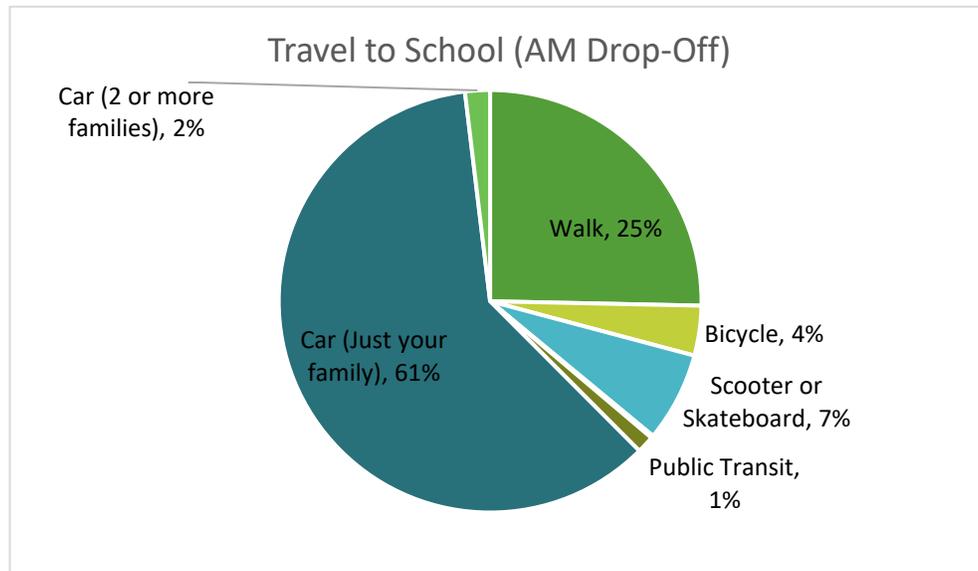
4 Survey Analysis

To better understand transportation patterns, challenges, and opportunities at Carmi Elementary, two surveys were conducted in May 2023. One directed at students (Hands Up Classroom Survey) and one directed at parents/caregivers (Community Survey). A copy of both survey forms are provided in **Appendix A**. The survey results are summarized in this section.

4.1 Classroom Survey Results

The Hands Up Classroom Survey collected mode share data by having teachers ask their students everyday for one week, how they got to school that day and how they will get home. This information provides baseline mode share data, and is an interactive way for students to be involved in the process.

The survey was conducted from May 23 to May 26th and the results are shown below:



The Classroom Survey results show that driving just as a family is the primary mode choice for students and families, with 61% driving the AM Drop Off and 53% in the PM pick up. Students demonstrated a

strong uptake in active transportation modes with 25-26% of students walking, 4% biking and 6-7% using a skateboard or scooter. 1-2% of students access the school by public transit and 7% indicated they take the school bus in the PM.

4.2 Community Survey Results

The Community Survey was conducted on the City's *Shape Your City* engagement platform and promoted to the school community for completion.

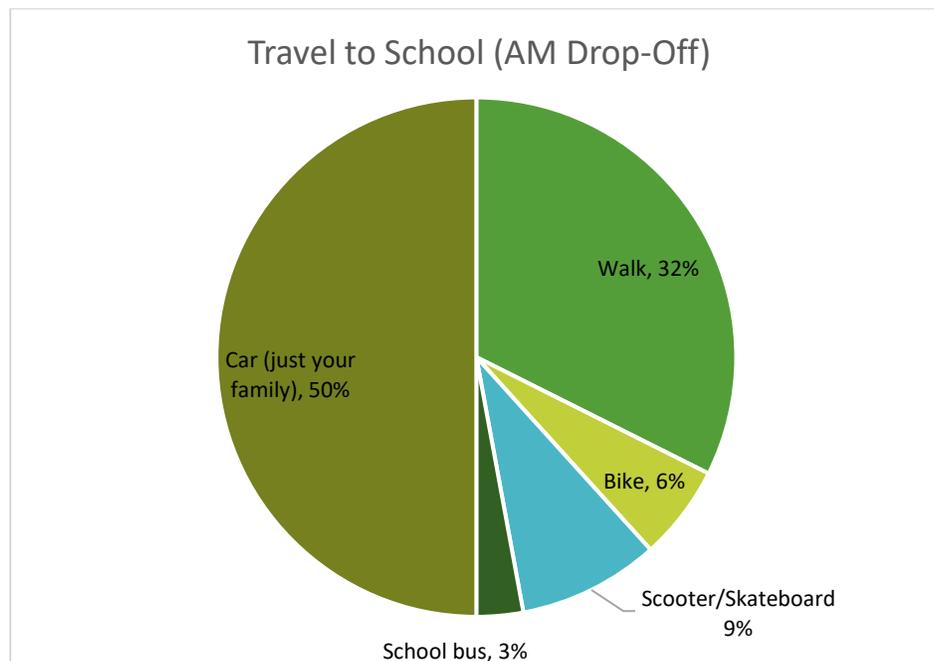
The Community Survey focused on gathering background data, measure attitudes about active transportation, identifying the key issues and opportunities for walking and cycling to school, and discovering opportunities for long-term behavior changes. This survey was promoted to parents and caregivers to complete.

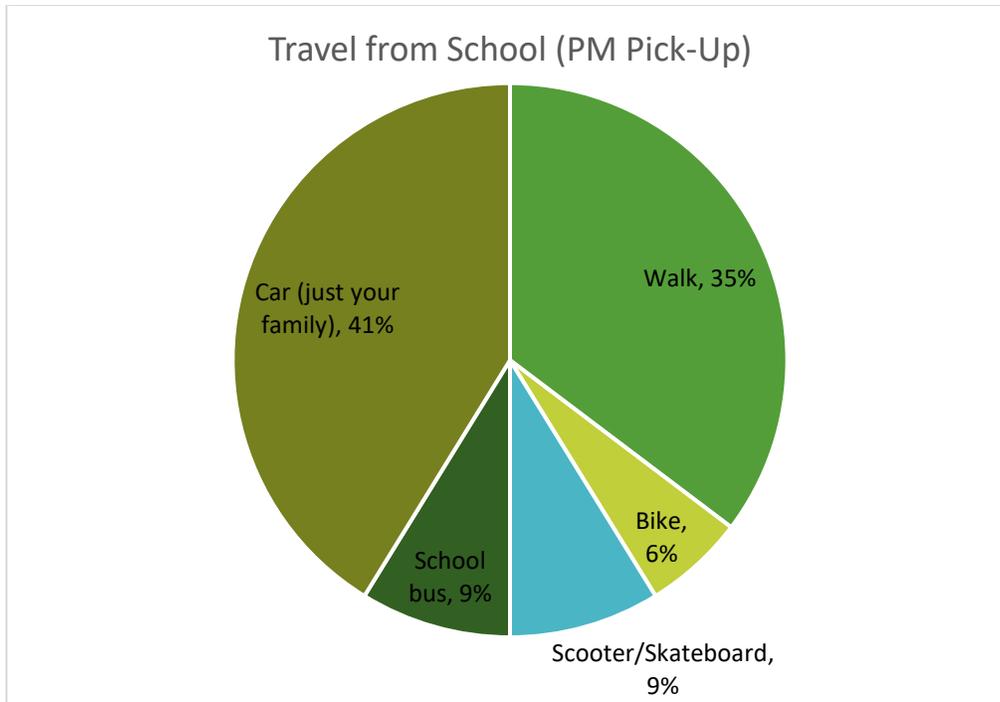
The baseline family survey received **34 responses**. The survey responses are summarized below.

Mode Share (Average)

Mode share results from the Community Survey identify driving just as a family is the primary mode choice at 50% in the AM and 41% in the PM. This is slightly lower than the results of the Classroom Survey that identified driving as a family at 61% in the AM and 53% in the PM.

The community survey also demonstrates that 32% of students are walking to school in the AM and 35% in the PM. Taking the school bus, rolling (scooters/skateboards) and carpooling are other modes identified but with low results. No one responded by carpooling with 2 or more families or taking public transit.

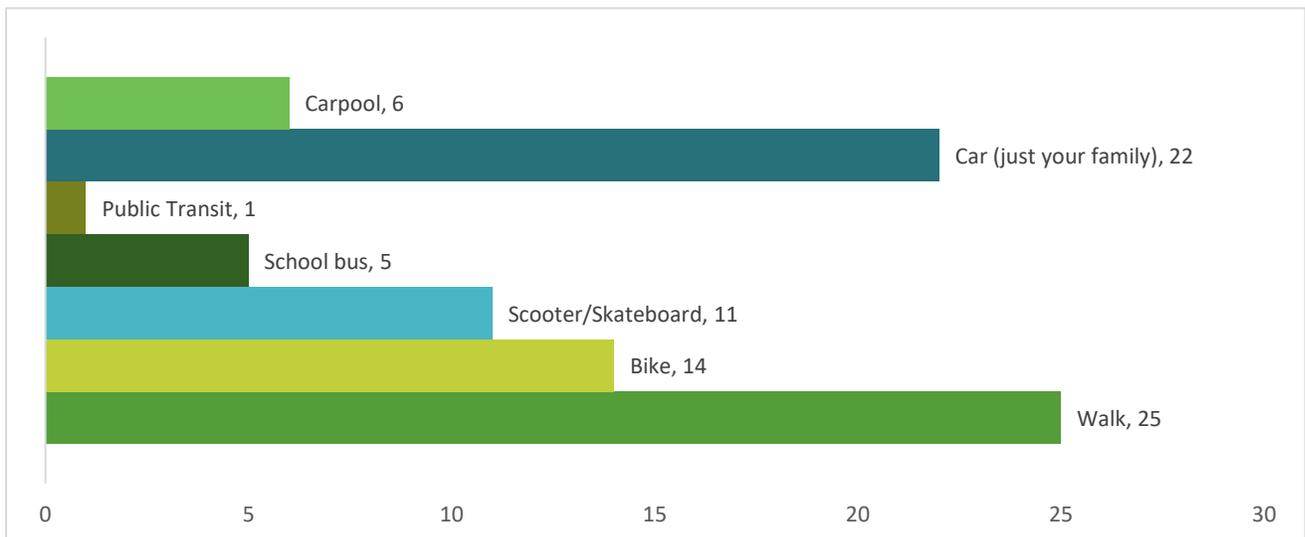




Mode Share (Options)

Respondents were asked to identify all the modes of transportation they have used to travel to or from school in the last year. Participants were able to select all options that applied. This question helps to complement the question above and understand the variety of transportation options the school community uses and the potential to encourage more sustainable modes of transportation.

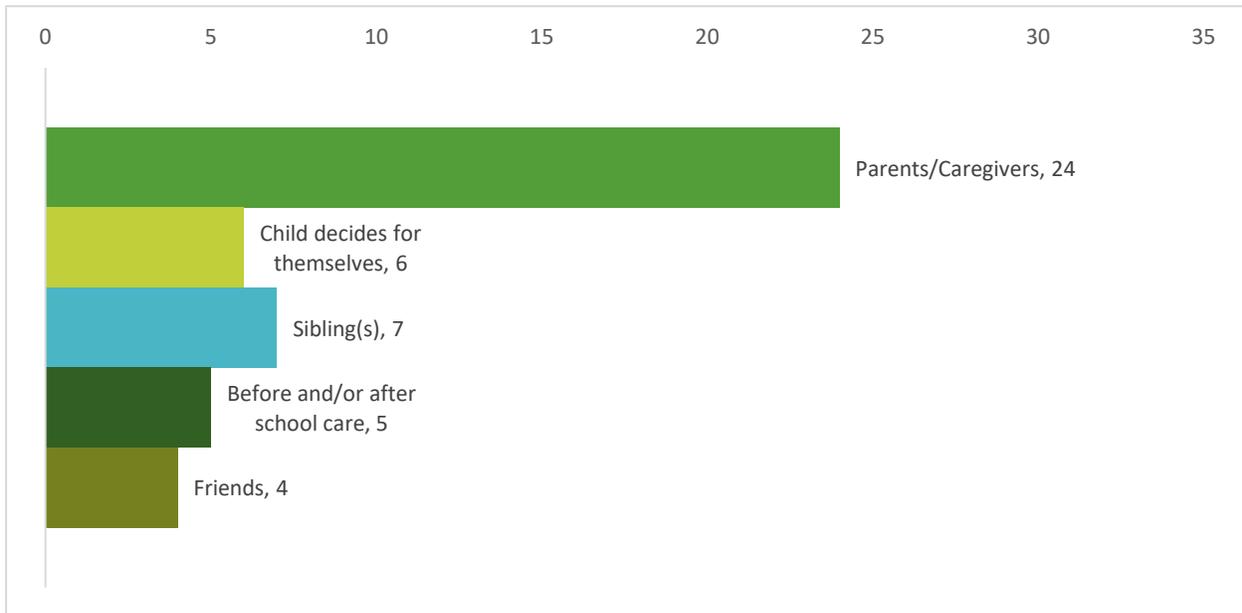
From the results in the chart below, walking (25 responses), driving just as a family (22 response), biking (14 responses), and rolling such as scooters and skateboards (11 responses) are the main forms of transportation used by the school community.



4.3 Travel Companions

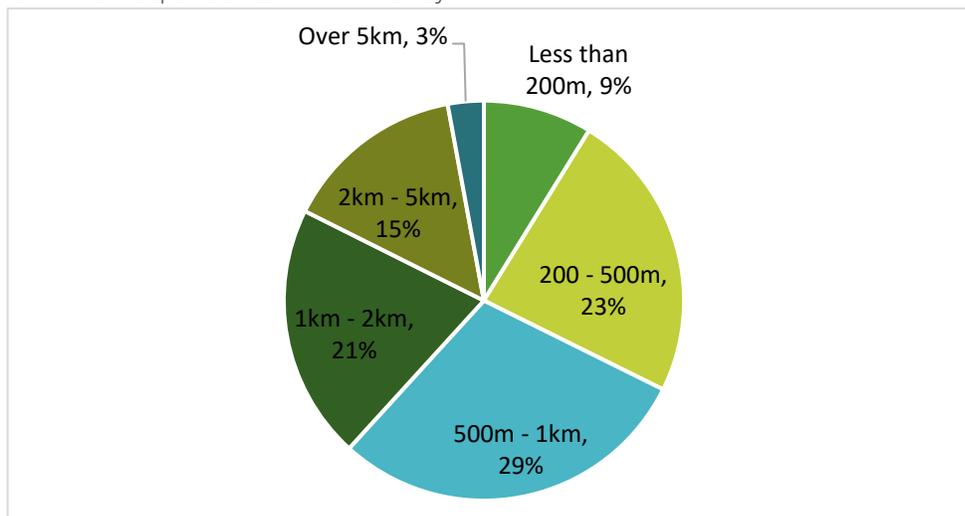
Respondents were asked to identify who is involved in their child/children’s journey to school. This could include who is responsible for deciding their mode choice, who accompanies them on the journey and/or coordinates their journey etc.) Participants were able to select all options that applied.

Results in the chart below show that parents/caregivers (24 responses), siblings (7 responses), and the child decides for themselves (6 responses) are the main travel companions and organizers.



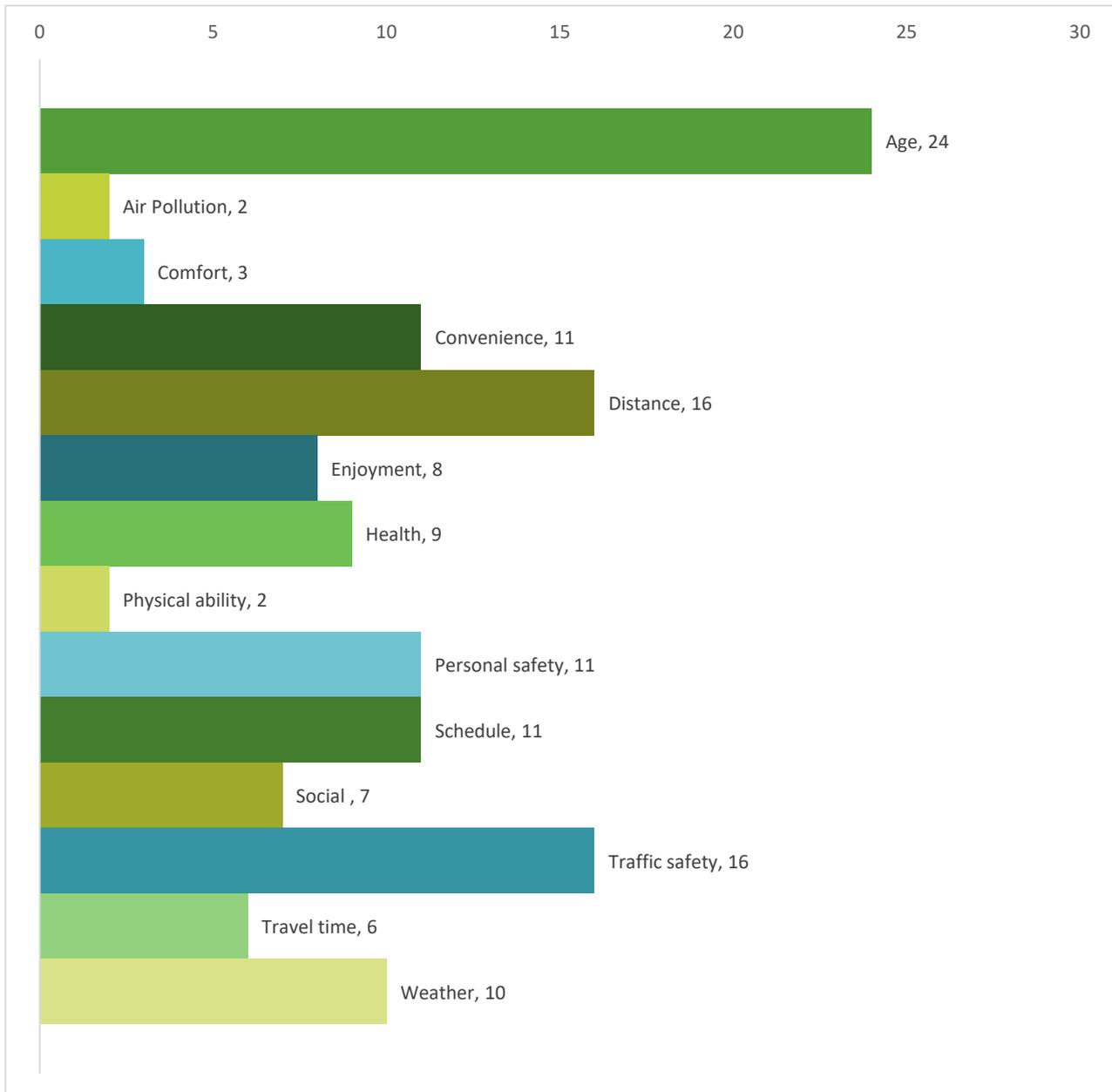
Distance from School

Respondents were asked to identify how far (in metres or kilometres) they live from Carmi Elementary. 29% of respondents live 500m – 1km away from Carmi Elementary. 24% of respondents are within 200-500m away and 21% of respondents 1 – 2 km away.



Factors for Mode Choice

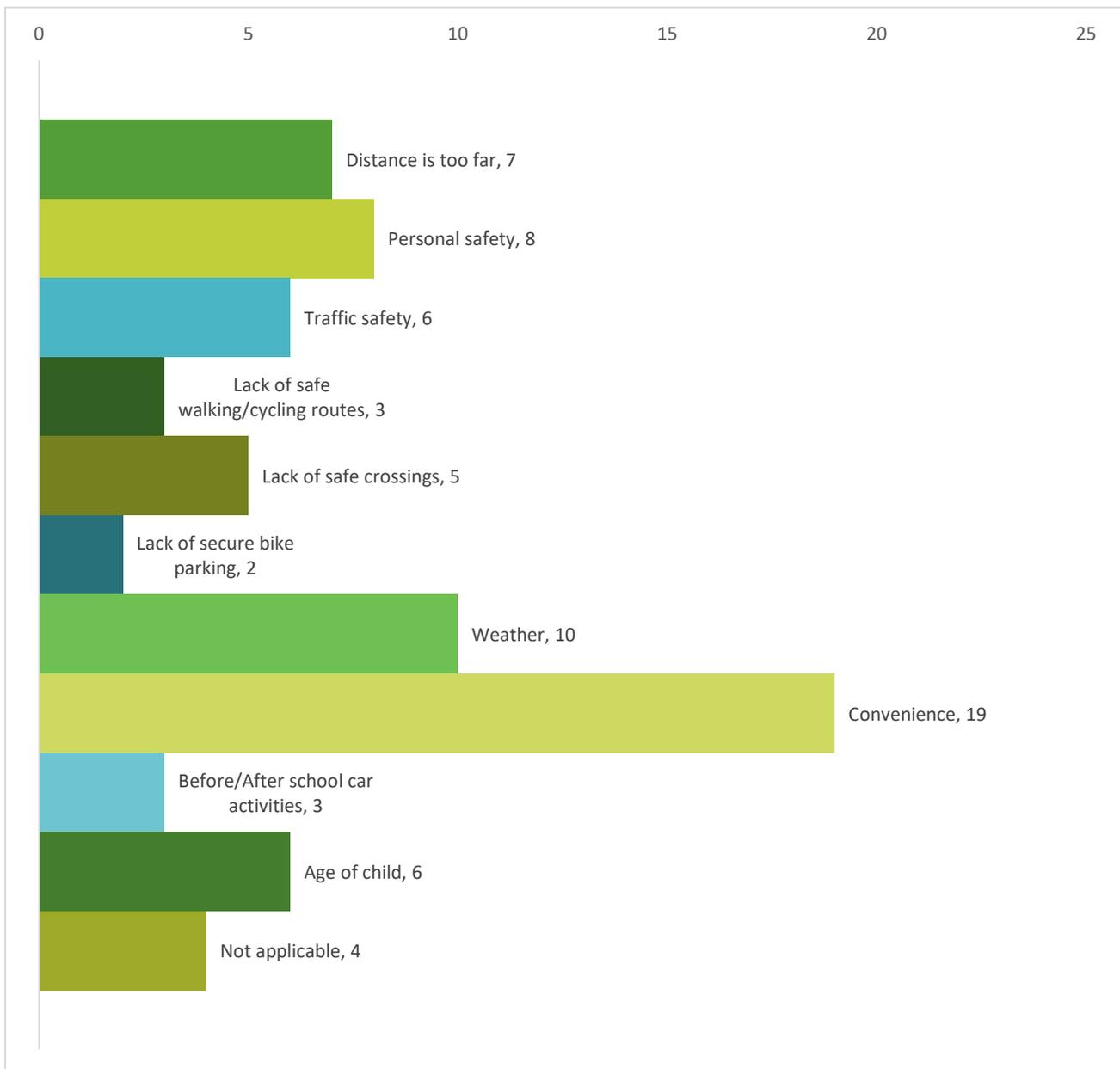
Participants were asked to select from the list of options, all the factors that contribute to their child/children's mode choice to and from school. Participants were able to select all options that applied. From the results in the chart below, age of the child (24 responses), distance between home and school (16 responses), and traffic safety (16 responses) were the main factors for choosing their mode choice. Convenience (11 responses), personal safety (11 responses) and schedules (11 responses) also received high response rates.



Driving Mode Choice (Rationale)

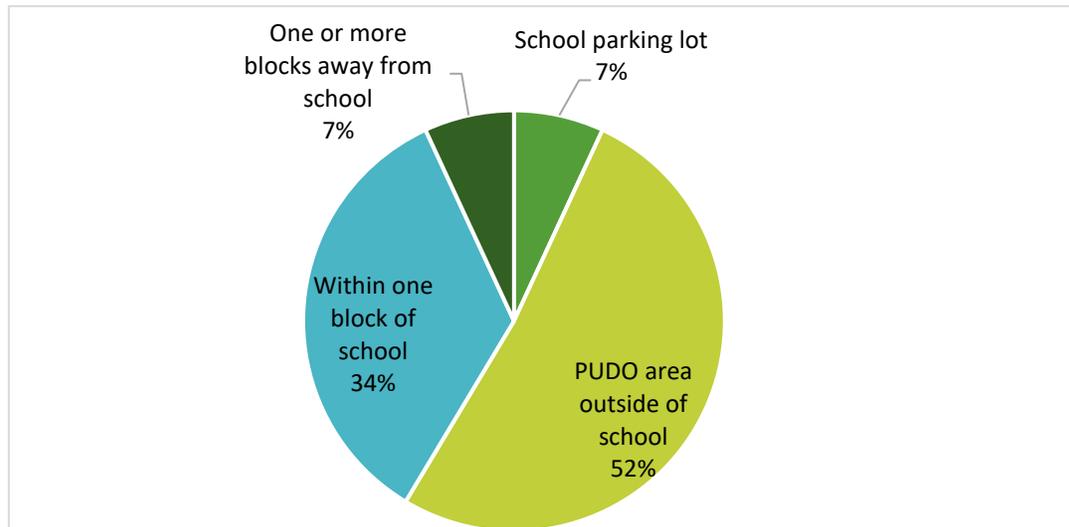
Participants were asked to identify the primary reasons (selecting up to 3 responses) for driving their child/children to school. Convenience/time pressures (19 responses) and poor weather (10 responses) were the top reasons for driving.

Personal safety (8 responses) and traffic safety (6 responses) were selected and are relevant to improvements that can be reviewed as part of the Safe Routes to School process.



Driving Behaviours (Pick Up / Drop off Locations)

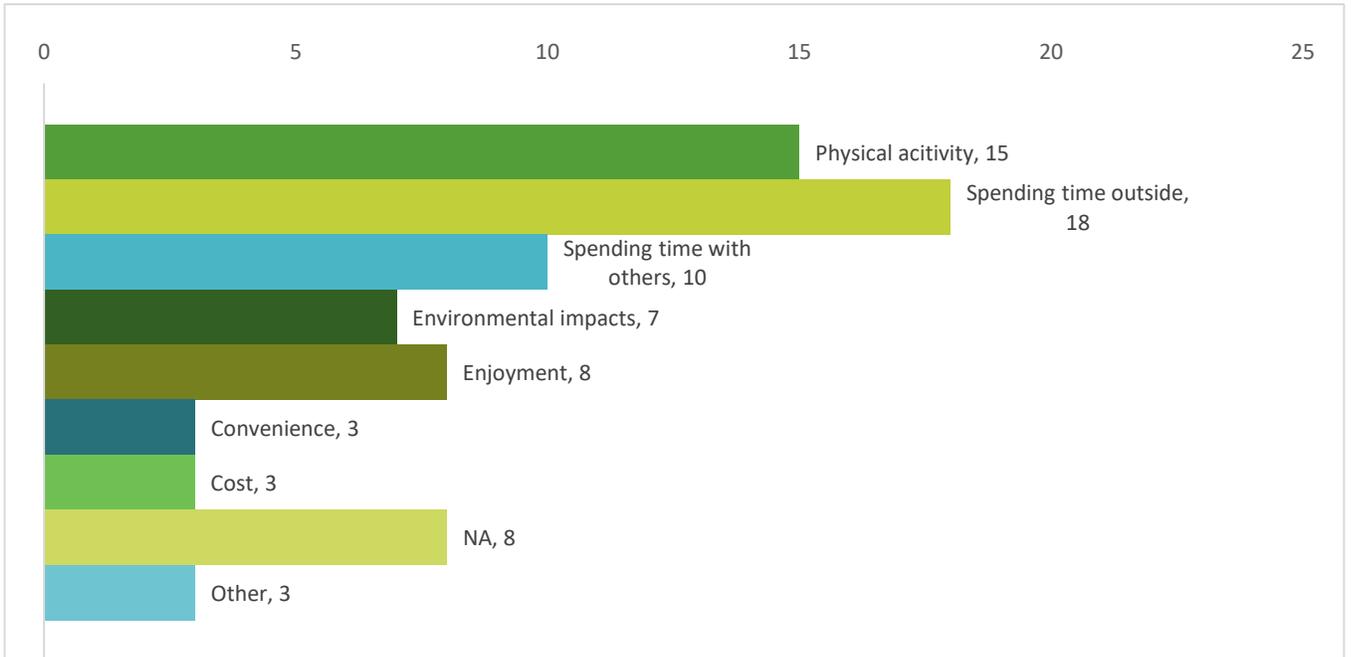
Respondents that drive their child/children to school were asked to identify the pick up and drop off (PUDO) locations they use. As identified in the chart below, 52% of respondents use a PUDO location outside of the school frontage and 34% park within one block of the school. 7% of respondents use the school parking lot and 7% park further than one block away from the school.



Active Transportation Behaviours (Rationale)

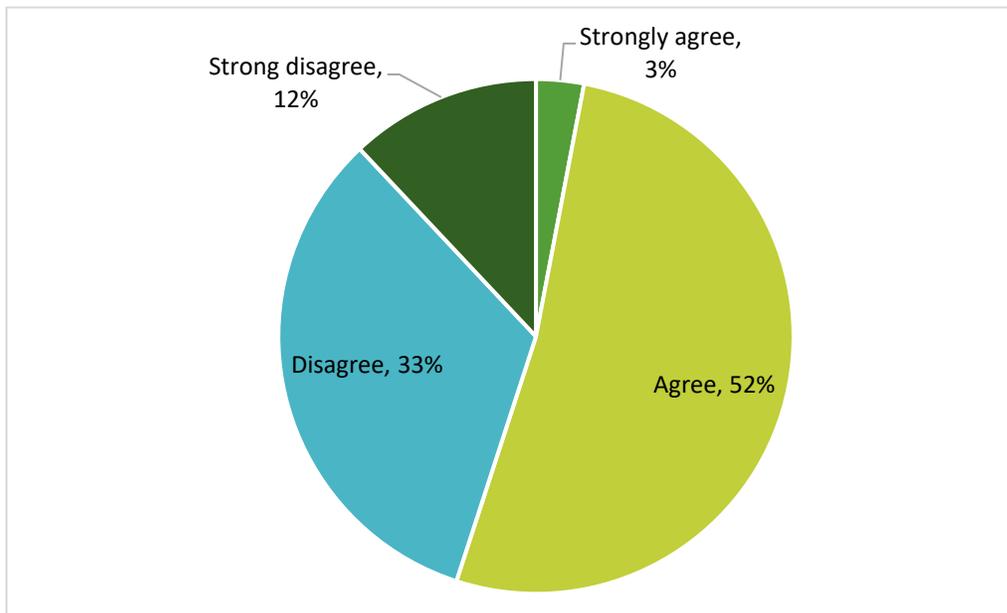
Respondents were asked to identify if/when their child/children use active transportation (walking, cycling, rolling) to get to school, what motivates them. Respondents were able to select up to 3 answers. As identified in the chart below, the main motivations are time to spend outside (18 responses), getting physical activity (15 responses), and time to spend with friend and family (10 responses). 8 respondents identified that they do not use active transportation to get to/from school.

Of the respondents that selected “other”, participants expressed they have their child travel actively to increase their independence.



Perceived Safety (Active Transportation)

Respondents were asked their opinion on how safe it is for their child/children to walk, bike or roll to school. As identified in the chart below, the perceived safety is relatively divided but the responses favour toward a generally positive sense of safety. 55% of respondents agree to strongly agree that it is safe, 45% of respondents disagree to strongly disagree that it is safe to walk, bike or roll.

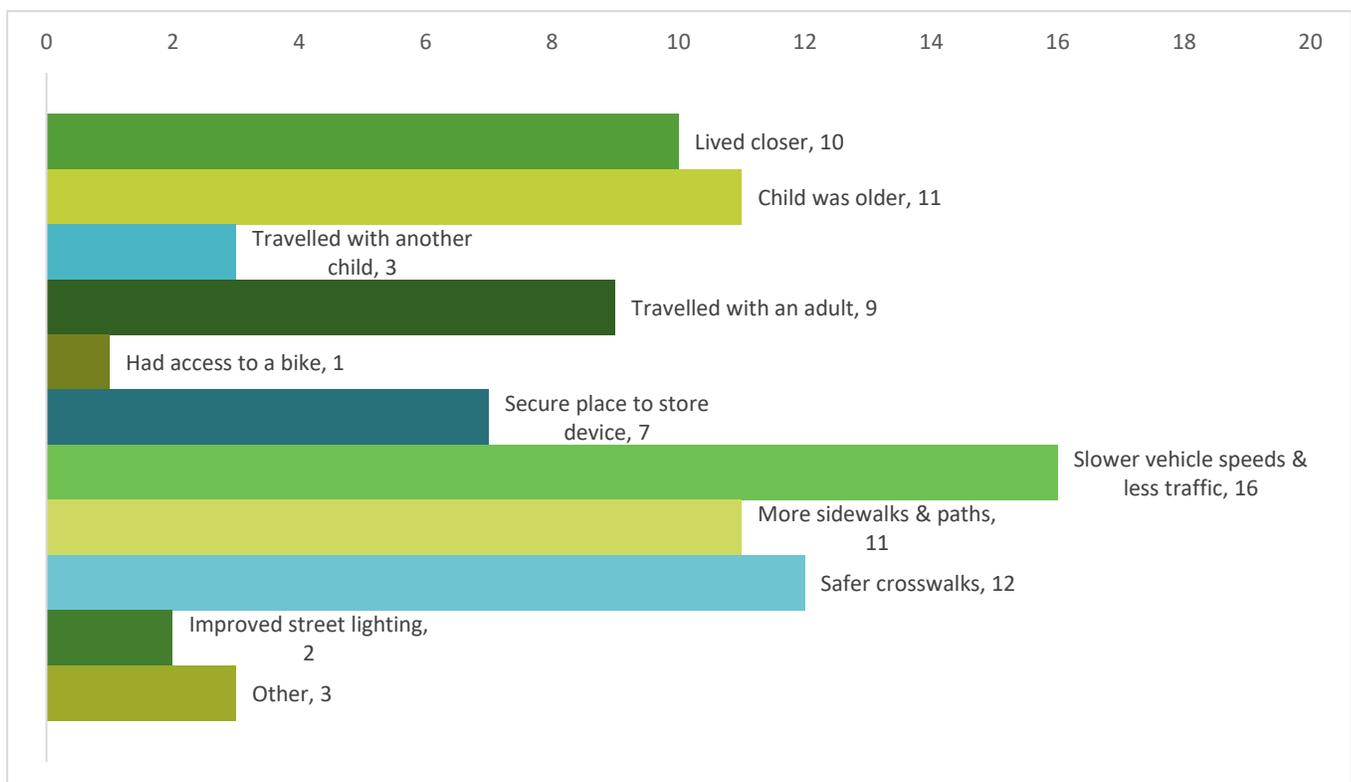


Active Transportation Opportunities

Respondents were asked to identify what they need to encourage their child/children to use active transportation to access school. Participants were able to select their top three options. As identified in the chart below, slower vehicle speeds and / or less traffic on the route to school (16 responses), safer street crossings (12 responses), safer active transportation routes (11 responses, and if the child was older (11 responses) received the highest response rates. The first three of the four responses are relevant to potential recommendations through this process. Living closer (10 responses) and being with an adult (9 responses) also received high responses.

Of the three responses indicating “other”, respondents noted the social challenges in the area need to improve before they will allow their children to travel to Carmi Elementary by active modes.

It is important to note that no one responded to the option “I am not willing to encourage them to walk, bike or roll to school”.



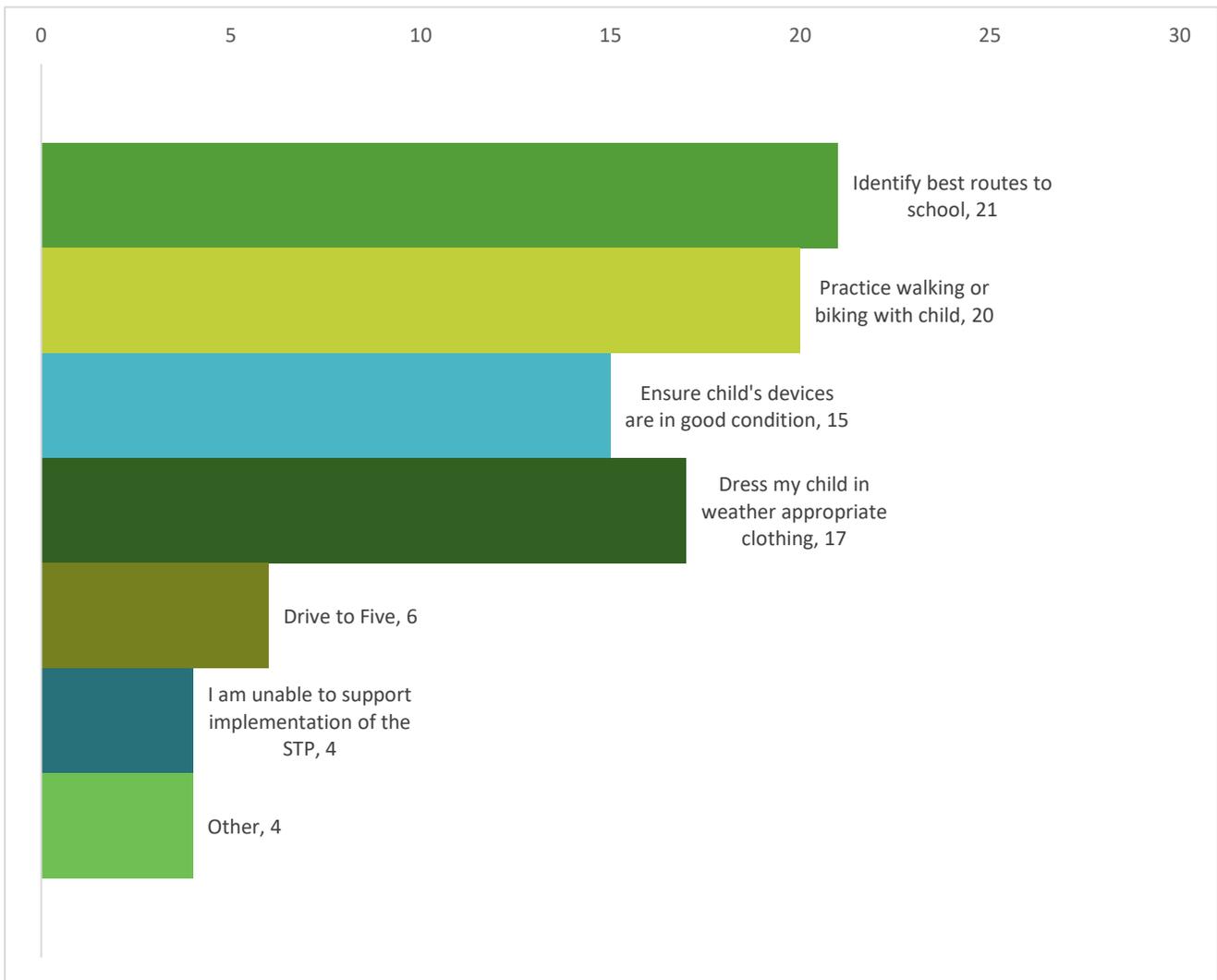
Supporting Active School Travel

Respondents were asked to identify what they are willing to do to help support their child/children in travelling to school by active transportation. Some of the options provided are relevant to the emerging work and recommendations to come from the Safe Routes to School process. Participants were able to select as all options that applied to them.

As identified in the chart below, identifying best routes to school (21 responses), practicing walking or biking with their child (20 responses) and ensuring their child is dressed for the weather conditions (17 responses) received the highest responses. 15 respondents identified that they could ensure their child’s devices are in good working condition.

4 respondents identified that they do not have the capacity to support the implementation of the school travel plan.

Of the 4 respondents that identified “other”, they explained that they do not need support encouraging their child to travel actively.



5 Vision and Targets

Informed by the school community, Carmi Elementary School has established a vision statement to create a unique identify for the school community's priorities, with a focus on making transportation safer and more sustainable in the future.

At Carmi Elementary School, students, caregivers and staff have safe and welcoming transportation options that make their school travel fun, social and sustainable.

The vision statement is complemented by two key goals that support the overall vision of the Safe Routes to School Plan:

Goal 1: Improve safety along routes to school

This goal considers safety of all modes (walking, cycling, rolling, driving, and transit). Actions to improve safety are outlined in the action plan and include infrastructure improvements (filling sidewalk gaps, improved pedestrian crossings), reducing speed limits in the school zone, and providing educational resources to parents, caregivers, students, and teachers.

Goal 2: Increase the daily number of active travel trips to school

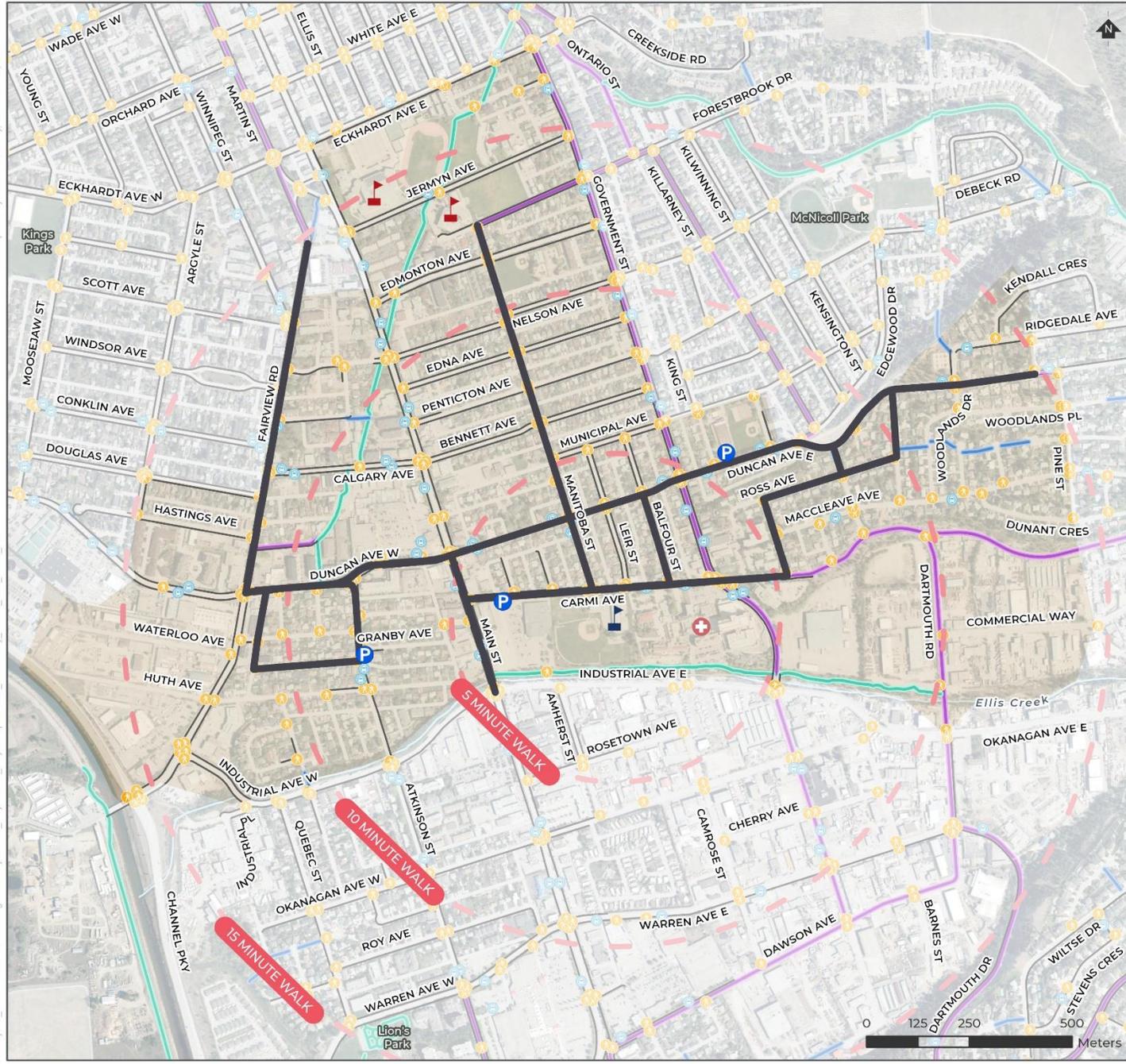
Through annual surveys, Carmi Elementary will measure the modes by which students access school to determine if initiatives rolled out through this plan create an increase in active travel.

6 Best Routes to School Map

A Routes to School Map, as shown on the following page, illustrates the network of streets and trails in the neighbourhood surrounding a school, and highlights routes that students can safely walk and cycle. It also highlights other useful information such as walking times, the location of traffic lights and pedestrian crossings, bike lanes, transit stops and Drive to Five+ locations. The best routes to school map demonstrates proposed routes that have been informed through the community walkabout, survey results and the PAC meeting.

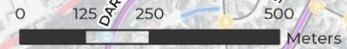
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**CARMI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
TRANSPORTATION OVERVIEW**

-  Proposed Drive to Five Parking Site
-  Best Route
-  Carmi Elementary School
-  Other School
-  Bus Stop
-  Crosswalk
-  Penticton Regional Hospital
-  Bike Route
-  Sidewalk
-  Walkway
-  Trail
-  Roads
-  School Catchment
-  Walkshed



7 Action Plan

The purpose of the Action Plan is to identify steps for addressing identified transportation issues and achieving the school travel vision for Carmi Elementary. It outlines a list of tasks and activities as well as timelines and who is responsible for implementing the actions. The Action Plan is a living document that should be reviewed and updated by project partners on a regular basis to ensure it stays current and relevant.

The Action Plan has been broken down into four sections:

- Engineering
- Education and Encouragement
- Enforcement
- Evaluation

7.1 Engineering Action Items

The City of Penticton's Transportation Master Plan seeks to create and manage a safe transportation system that supports all ages, abilities and modes of transportation. A key goal identified in the TMP is to ensure residents and workers throughout Penticton have the opportunity to walk to parks, schools, shopping, jobs and other destinations in safety and comfort. This means reducing negative impacts of vehicle traffic and encouraging active travel (walking, cycling, rolling). It should be noted that this approach will contribute to the broader aims of the City of Penticton to enhance the health, livability, and sustainability of our community and therefore aims to reduce congestion and improve safety for those travelling by active means. The following actions are focused on infrastructure for students and caregivers travelling to and from school by walking, rolling, or cycling.

The City of Penticton is primarily responsible for implementing the following recommended engineering actions as they mostly fall within road rights of way. Those actions on the school grounds are to be championed by the School District.

Studies to explore the feasibility or warrant processes for each of the actions are considered in the "resources" and "costs" columns. Changes should come with understanding of traffic impacts to support safe and sustainable transportation options for students and caregivers. The actions below should be considered through a City-wide prioritization process, and align with priorities identified in the City's Transportation Master Plan. Actions identified below suggest solutions for long-term improvements that may require capital planning based on the City's budget and resources available.

The City may consider interim rapid implementation solutions to mitigate some existing challenges that still provide safety improvements. Treatments could include pavement marking delineation, physical separation with parking curbs or bollards to provide space for people walking, or placing planters or other objects on local streets for a traffic calming effect. This approach can also allow the community to get involved through public art programs that beautify the temporary infrastructure, such as intersection murals.

Location	Issue	Recommendation	Responsibility	Cost (\$,\$\$, \$\$\$)
Implement Drive to Five+ locations	PUDO near school is congested and causes road safety concerns.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formalize Drive to Five+ Locations to encourage PUDO away from school frontage and supported by Walking School Bus program. Drive to Five+ Locations: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> WholeSale Club Parking Lot (moved up closer to Carmi Ave) McLaren Arena Granby Park (long-term implementation) 	City of Penticton and PAC	\$
Intersections and pedestrian crossings in school proximity	Pedestrian safety at intersection crossings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review side streets along Best Routes to Carmi Elementary and implement traffic calming, which could include stop signs at all intersections, leading pedestrian interval at major intersections, turn restrictions and speed reductions 	City of Penticton	\$ - \$\$
Leir Ave	Caregivers illegally using residential-only street parking for PUDO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore a pilot 15-minute parking for all non-residents to allow legal PUDO 	City of Penticton	\$
School bus parking zone	School bus zone is underutilized and does not require the full amount of space.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review a consolidation of the school bus zone with the existing City bus stop at the school frontage. 	City of Penticton & BC Transit	\$
School Parking Lot	Lack of safe pedestrian facilities to travel from Carmi Avenue to back of school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove parallel parking in school parking lot and install barriers to create a walking lane. 	School District	\$
School Parking Lot	Safety of vehicles pulling in and out of parking lot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review access restrictions of right-in, right-out only for parking lot accessthrough signage and/or delineators. 	School District	\$
Carmi Elementary	Bike theft on-site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install new bike racks that have better security features in high visibility locations (City of Penticton is offering inverted-U bike racks for free with application) 	School District and City of Penticton	\$

Location	Issue	Recommendation	Responsibility	Cost (\$,\$\$, \$\$\$)
Carmi Elementary	Lack of diverse active transportation parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore options to provide indoor scooter and skateboard parking 	School District and School Administration	\$
Cross-walks at school frontage	Safety concern of students using the crosswalks in front of school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore the feasibility of installing RRFBs and/or raising crosswalks in front of Carmi Elementary 	City of Penticton	\$\$
Carmi Avenue (past school frontage)	Employees in the area parking along Carmi all day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install 2-hour parking signage along all of Carmi Avenue 	City of Penticton	\$
Carmi Avenue and Manitoba Street	Challenge to enforce speeds in school zones.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement permanent 30km/hr speed zone along Carmi Avenue (Main to Government) and Manitoba Street (Bennett Ave to Carmi Avenue) with consideration for the broader neighborhood as well, reinforced with appropriate traffic calming measures 	City of Penticton	\$\$-
Carmi Avenue at Manitoba Street	Safety concerns at intersection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore feasibility to raise intersection in consultation with Penticton Regional Hospital Emergency Services to ensure new traffic calming is not problematic. Work with School Administration to consider implementing through a tactical urbanism activation with students 	City of Penticton, School Administration and PAC	\$\$
Manitoba Street	Congestion and road safety concerns.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore feasibility to reduce vehicle use and speeds along corridor and support active transportation facilities, including bikeways and improved sidewalk facilities. 	City of Penticton	\$\$
Carmi Avenue at Main Street	Pedestrian safety at intersection and using slip lanes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve crossing upgrades at intersection and shorten the pedestrian crossing distance, by removing the island restricting left turns off Main Street (right-in, right-out). 	City of Penticton	\$\$

Manitoba Street has been identified as a high-priority that the City will develop a conceptual improvement plan for.

Location	Issue	Recommendation	Responsibility	Cost (\$,\$\$, \$\$\$)
Main Street at Carmi Ave	Pedestrian safety concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve pedestrian safety experience by exploring mechanisms to divert or slow vehicles through curb extensions or traffic diversions. 	City of Penticton	\$ - \$\$
Duncan Avenue (Main Street to Manitoba Street)	Sidewalk gaps and speeds along corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore speed reduction along corridor. Through direction in the TMP, implement sidewalk upgrades on Duncan Avenue to fill gaps and separated bike facilities. 	City of Penticton	\$\$
Duncan Avenue at Edgewood Drive	Awkward intersection with dangerous crossing conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore a short-term solution to improve safety and add a pedestrian crosswalk at the intersection with rapid implementation treatments. In the long-term, Duncan Avenue is scheduled for reconstruction and the City will work to incorporate safety into the permanent design. 	City of Penticton	\$\$
Granby Avenue & Granby Place	Lack of easy connections to school from west side of Main Street.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore opportunities to implement a crossing on Main Street between Duncan Avenue and Industrial Avenue to facilitate students traveling west of Main Street. 	City of Penticton	\$\$\$
Ross Avenue	Sidewalk gaps for students east of Carmi Elementary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore feasibility of supporting pedestrian facilities on Ross Avenue from Halifax Avenue to Montreal Street 	City of Penticton	\$\$
Industrial Avenue (Main Street to Atkinson Street)	Concerns with safety along corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore the feasibility to add lighting to the pathway. 	City of Penticton	\$\$ - \$\$\$

7.2 Education & Encouragement Action Items

The education and encouragement action items provided below are primarily intended to be put into practice by school administration, working in cooperation with essential external collaborators such as the City of Penticton, SD67, and ICBC. Moreover, the Parent Advisory Council (PAC) should play a key role in ensuring that the school community remains engaged and involved.

These action points can be customized to suit the evolving requirements of the school as a culture of active transportation takes root. The subsequent actions are designed to foster awareness, excitement and comprehension of the advantages associated with active transportation, as well as how students and households at Carmi Elementary can seamlessly integrate it into their daily routines.

Action	Resources	Priority	Responsibility
Organize Walking School Bus groups to facilitate group travel from Drive to Five Locations to Carmi Elementary.	City of Vancouver Walking School Bus Safe Routes to School National Partnership: How to Start a Walking School Bus at Your School	High	PAC & School Administration
Offer “bike lock up” education to teach students how to properly lock bike, what lock type to use, etc. Explore partnership with Project 529 or Bylaw.	The Bicycle Valet Bike Security Resources Project 529	Medium	PAC & School Administration
Collaborate with ICBC to incorporate educational materials and programs related to active transportation into coursework and school events.	ICBC Road Safety for Educators	Medium	PAC & School Administration
Work with teachers to add active and sustainable transportation-related content into regular coursework and lectures, as well as utilize active and sustainable transportation whenever possible when travelling for school field trips.	City of Toronto - Active and Safe Routes to School: Teachers Kit Metrolinx – Active and Sustainable School Transportation - Lesson Plans for Ontario Curriculum	Medium	School District & School Administration
Work with a third-party provider that specializes in skills training for youth. Provide instruction for the use and benefits of various active modes and road safety lessons as they relate to active transportation.	Safe Routes to School National Partnership: Roll Bicycle Education into your Physical Education Program Safe Routes to School National Partnership: Bike Rodeos	High	City of Penticton, School District & School Administration

Incorporate BC Transit’s Ready to Roll transit education program into lessons and special events (such as Earth Day or other environmental events)	BC Transit – Bus Ready	High	School Administration
Make regular announcements and mount posters at school encouraging students to walk, bike, and take transit to school and related events to keep active and sustainable transportation top of mind and highlight its benefits.	Green Communities Canada – School Safety Zone I Spy Card School Travel Planning: Sample School Newsletter	High	School Administration and PAC
Participate in active transportation events and programs including Go By Bike Week.	Go By Bike Week	High	City of Penticton, School Administration and PAC

7.3 Enforcement Action Items

The enforcement action items below are primarily meant to be implemented by the RCMP and ICBC. Carmi administration should coordinate with the RCMP to plan visits and indicate problem locations that should be investigated. It is also important that Carmi emphasize the education component of enforcement by communication with students and parents about enforcement issues.

Action	Priority	Responsibility
Work with RCMP to conduct safety blitz to enforce speeds and other road safety concerns in the school area. A safety blitz should be programmed at least twice a year, including at the start of the school year	High	RCMP
Conduct quarterly community safety audits along Best Routes.	High	RCMP & Bylaw
Monitor and collect speed data, motor vehicle volumes, and safety compliance to evaluate engineering improvements annually.	High	City of Penticton & RCMP

7.4 Evaluation Action Items

The evaluation action items below are primarily intended to be implemented by Carmi Elementary in collaboration with the City of Penticton. It is now up to Carmi Elementary and the City to champion this process, evaluate progress, and update the Action Plan accordingly.

Action	Responsibility
Establish regular communication check-ins between the school and City staff to discuss implementation efforts and opportunities.	City of Penticton, School District, School Administration
Conduct annual Hands-Up surveys and share results with partners to understand travel behaviour.	School Administration
Participate in annual Bike Walk Roll Week for data collection and benchmarking.	City of Penticton, School Administration
Identify metrics such as speeds, hands up survey results, number of events hosted, resources used by educators, etc. to capture a change, if any, in school travel behaviour initiatives.	School District, School Administration and PAC
Conduct survey with school community after one-year of implementation to understand issues and successes.	City of Penticton
Review and update action plan annually to reflect accomplishments, gaps and new opportunities.	City of Penticton

APPENDIX A:

Classroom and Community Survey Forms

School Travel Survey

INTRODUCTION

We want to hear from you!

Your child's (or children's) school is participating in the City of Penticton's School Travel Planning process. This program works with the City, school district, school administration, caregivers, and students to create a safe and comfortable environment for students to walk, wheel, and roll to school wherever possible.

The purpose of this survey is to better understand your family's school travel choices and identify any existing transportation challenges and opportunities for improvement. The survey results will inform the development of an action plan and help to ensure that this plan considers the needs of all members of the school community.

This survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete. Please complete only one survey per family.

Personal Information Notice:

To protect your privacy, all information collected in this survey will remain strictly confidential. You are not required to provide your name or contact information.

ABOUT YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

1. Which school does your child (or children) attend?

- Carmi Elementary School
- Uplands Elementary School

2. How many children in your family attend this school?

- One
- Two
- Three or more

3. What grade is your child in?

If you have multiple children at the school, you may select multiple grades.

- Pre-school
- Kindergarten
- Grade 1
- Grade 2
- Grade 3
- Grade 4
- Grade 5

TRAVEL CHOICES

4. How does your child (or children) typically get to and from school?

If the trip involves more than one mode (e.g. drive part way and walk part way), choose the mode that is used for the majority of the trip. Choose one from each column.

To School

- Walk
- Bicycle
- Scooter or skateboard
- School bus
- Public transit
- Car (just your family)
- Carpool (2 or more families)

From School

- Walk
- Bicycle
- Scooter or skateboard
- School bus
- Public transit
- Car (just your family)
- Carpool (2 or more families)

5. During the last year, did your child (or children) at this school travel to/from school at least one time by any of the modes below? Please select all that apply.

- Walk
- Bicycle
- Scooter or skateboard
- School bus
- Public transit
- Car (just your family)
- Carpool (2 or more families)

6. Approximately, how far away do you live from the school?

- Less than 200 metres
- 200 – 500 metres
- 500m – 1km
- 1 – 2km
- 2 – 5km
- Over 5km

7. Who is usually involved in your child(s) journey to school (i.e., deciding on mode, accompanying them on the journey, coordinating their journey, etc.)? Please select all that apply.

- Child decides for themselves
- Sibling(s)
- Parents or caregivers
- Before and/or after school care
- Extended family
- Friends
- Community volunteers
- Other

8. What are the factors that contribute to your child(s) travel mode to/from school?

Check all that apply.

- Age (e.g., child is too young/old enough to travel alone)
- Air pollution (e.g., idling vehicles)
- Comfort (e.g., seating at bus stop, quiet streets, etc.)
- Convenience
- Distance (to school)
- Enjoyment
- Health (e.g., exercise)
- Physical ability (e.g., disability of child and/or caregiver)
- Personal safety (e.g., bullying, crime, etc.)
- Schedule (e.g., extra-curriculars, care, employment, etc.)
- Social (e.g., connecting with your child/neighbours, your child connecting with friends, etc.)
- Traffic safety (e.g., speeding, distracted driving, etc.)
- Travel time
- Weather
- Other

If other, please specify: [open text]

DRIVING TO SCHOOL

9. If/when you drive your child (or children) to/from school, what are your primary reasons? Please select up to three (3) responses.

- Distance is too far for walking or cycling
- Personal safety concerns (e.g. bullying, strangers, crime)
- Traffic safety concerns (e.g. too much traffic or speeding vehicles)
- Lack of safe or accessible walking/cycling routes
- Lack of safe street crossings
- Lack of equipment (bike, bike lock, scooter, or skateboard)
- Lack of interest in walking/cycling
- Lack of secure bike parking and amenities
- Poor weather
- Convenience/time pressures (e.g. parent on the way to work or other activities)

- Student has before or after school activities (e.g. sports, daycare, band)
- Age of child (too young to walk/bike)
- N/A - we do not drive to/from school
- Other (please specify): _____

10. If/when you drive your child (or children) to/from school, where do you typically drop them off and pick them up?

- In a pick-up/drop-off area outside the school
- Within one block of the school
- One or more blocks away from the school

WALKING, BIKING, AND ROLLING TO SCHOOL

11. If/when your child (or children) walk, bike, or roll to school, what motivates them?

Please select up to three (3) responses.

- Getting physical activity and exercise
- Opportunity to spend time outside
- Opportunity to spend time with others (family and/or friends)
- Good for the environment
- More fun than driving or transit
- More convenient than driving or transit (avoid traffic, don't have to park, etc.)
- Cheaper than driving or transit
- Don't have access to a car
- N/A - we do not walk/bike/roll to/from school
- Other (please specify): _____

12. I would encourage my child (or children) to walk, bike or roll (using a scooter, skateboard, or wheelchair) to school if...

Please select up to three (3) responses.

- They lived closer to school
- They were older
- They were with another child
- They were with an adult

- They had a working bike, scooter or skateboard
- They had a secure place to store or lock their bike, scooter or skateboard
- There were slower vehicle speeds and/or less traffic on the route to school
- There were safer places to walk, bike, scoot, and skateboard (more sidewalks or paths)
- There were safer places to cross the street
- There was better street lighting
- I am not willing to encourage them to walk, bike or roll to school
- Other (please specify): _____

13. In your opinion, is your neighbourhood safe for children to walk, bike, or roll (using a scooter, skateboard, or wheelchair) to school?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

14. I am willing to help support my child (or children) to walk, bike, or roll to/from school by...

Please select all that apply.

- Identifying the most appropriate route to school
- Practicing walking or biking with my child to school on a weekend
- Ensuring my child's bike, scooter, or skateboard is in good working condition
- Making sure my child has proper clothing to walk or ride in the rain or cold
- Parking at least five minutes away from school and walking the rest of the way
- Volunteering to organize events such as Walking Wednesdays
- Registering for a bike skills course
- I do not have capacity or am unable to support development and implementation of the School Travel Plan
- Other (please specify): _____

15. Please provide any additional information or concerns that you would like to share or that may not have been mentioned in the previous questions.

THANK YOU!



Carmi Elementary



Classroom Hands-Up Student Survey

Purpose: The City of Penticton is conducting a School Travel Plan at Carmi Elementary. The purpose of a School Travel Planning process is to empower individuals and groups to work with their school community to plan initiatives that increase safety for students traveling to school, and to increase the number of students traveling to school in a physically active manner (e.g. walking, cycling, riding a scooter, etc.). This survey will help gather baseline data to determine how students are currently travelling to school.

School Name: _____

Grade: _____ **Room/Class #:** _____ **# of Students:** _____

Teacher: _____ **Dates:** Day 1 _____ to Day 4 _____

Ask Students: “How did you travel to school this morning?” Ask them to raise their hand if they:

Day	Weather Today's weather (e.g. rainy)	Mode of Transportation								Total
		Walked	Biked	Rolled (Skateboard, scooter, wheelchair, etc.)	School Bus	Public Transit	Car with just my family	Car with my friends	Other? (can include more than one mode)	
1										
2										
3										
4										
Total										



Carmi Elementary



Ask Students: “How will you travel from school today?” Ask them to raise their hand if they:

Day	Weather	Mode of Transportation								Total
		Walked	Biked	Rolled (Skateboard, scooter, wheelchair, etc.)	School Bus	Public Transit	Car with just my family	Car with my friends	Other? (can include more than one mode)	
1	Today's weather									
2										
3										
4										
Total										