

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The purpose of the SRTS program is to provide safe pedestrian and bicycle facilities that encourage healthier lifestyles. Programs can be established to educate students, parents, and the community on the benefits of walking and bicycling to school and provide tips to do so safely. Major SRTS goals are:

- 1. To enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bike to school.
- 2. To make bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, thereby encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age.
- 3. To facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity of schools.

SRTS Planning efforts assess the facilities and conditions near school, examine how students are currently traveling to/from school, and identify safety concerns/issues raised by parents and the community. Infrastructure and non-infrastructure recommendations are then created and implemented, sometimes with grant funding assistance, by the SRTS Task Force and other community members. SRTS Plans focus on projects within two miles of an elementary or middle school (Kindergarten-8th grade) and address the 5 E's:

Engineering Enforcement Education Encouragement Evaluation

HORTONVILLE ELEMENTARY BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Hortonville Elementary School is located in the Village of Hortonville on Warner St., just north of Hortonville Middle & High Schools. Given their close proximity, these schools share a bus loading zone located between the elementary and middle schools. The majority of elementary school students, approximately 65 percent, travel to and from school via school bus. In comparison, an average of only 3 percent of students travel by foot or bike (even though about 14 percent of students live within one mile of school). For parents of children that do not walk or bike to/from school, their top three concerns deal with the speed of traffic, distance from school, and amount of traffic. In 2010, STH 15 / E. Main St. and CTH M / N. Nash St. had average daily traffic counts of 10,700 and 2,100 vehicles respectively. Nearly all students wishing to walk or bike to/from school must cross one of these roadways. There are sidewalks on most of the nearby streets, but on Warner St., they are only located on the side opposite of school (west side).



SCHOOL DEMOGRAPHICS

| Enrollment: | 502 students |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Grades: | K - 4 |
| Principal: | Larry Sikowski |
| Start Time: | 8:00 a.m. |
| End Time: | 3:10 p.m. |
| Task Force Rep.: | Janice Zuege |



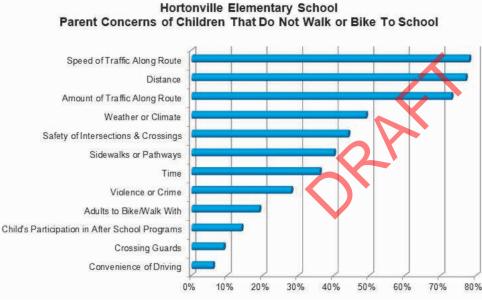


PARENT & STUDENT SURVEY RESULTS

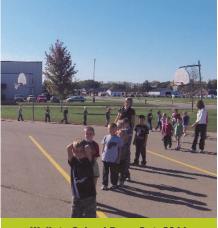
Hortonville Elementary School Student Survey Results Morning and Afternoon Comparison 70% 60% 50% AM 40% **P**PM 30% 20% 10% 0% Walk Bike School Family Carpool Transit Other Bus Vehicle Mode of Transportation

Survey Data Collected in Spring 2010

Percentage (%)



Survey Data Collected in Fall 2009



Walk to School Day - Oct. 2011



Walk to School Day - Oct. 2011

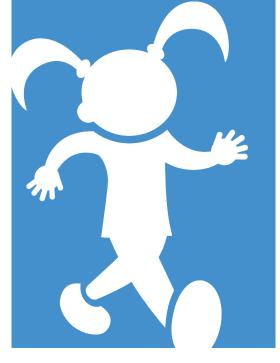
Background Information

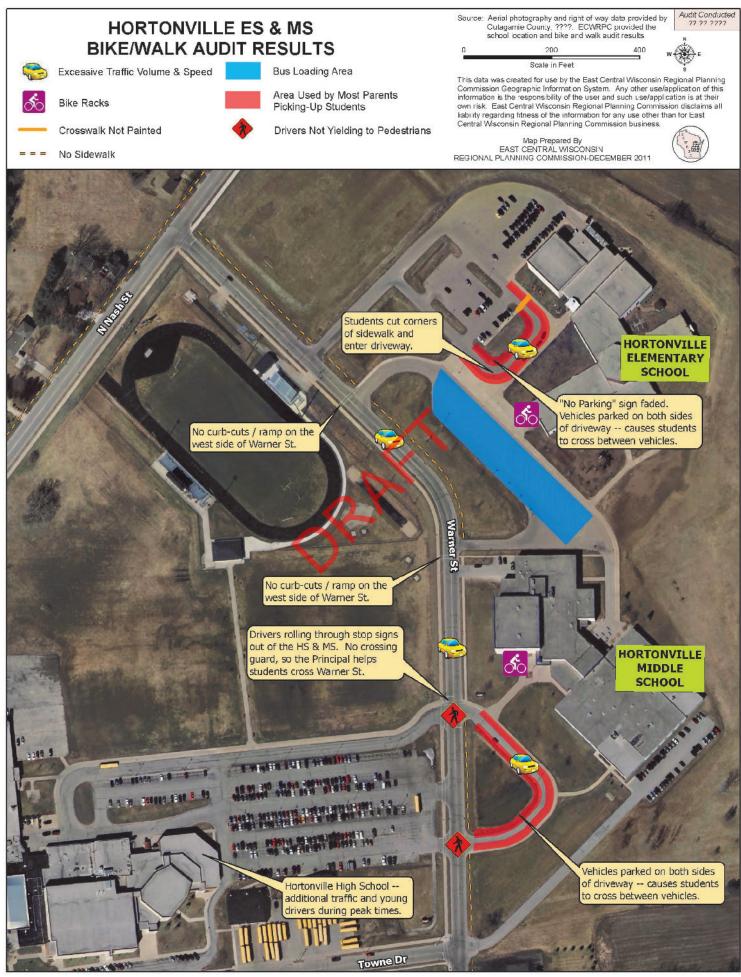
The Village of Hortonville and Town of Greenville are growing communities located west of the Fox Cities. Both are divided by one or more state highways – STH 15 & 76. Although two safe tunnel crossings have been built, these high traffic/speed roads still present a "barrier" to walking and biking. Few sidewalks are located in either municipality, except in the central part of Hortonville. Instead, multi-use trails serve as the primary nonmotorized transportation facilities, including:

- WIOUWASH State Trail
- STH 76 Trail
- STH 15 Trail
- Lily of the Valley Trail

WORK IN PROGRESS

The Hortonville SRTS Task Force has been meeting regularly since 2009 to address safety concerns and promote walking and biking to school safely. Schools continue to take part SRTSrelated activities, including Walk to School Day and Bike Safety Day. In 2010, the Task Force applied for SRTS grant funding to create a trail extension, install signage, increase law enforcement, and add bicycle curriculum. Although these projects were not awarded, they still have merit and can be pursued in the future.





EXAMPLES



The street design elements shown above help increase connectivity and provide a buffer between pedestrians and vehicles. This same approach could be used on streets near Hortonville ES.





East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission 400 Ahnaip Street, Suite 100 Menasha, WI 54952 920.751.4770 www.eastcentralsrts.org

SRTS Action Plan prepared by East Central Wisconsin Regional Safe Routes to School Program, April 2012. For additional information, please contact Melissa Kraemer Badtke, Regional SRTS Coordinator, at 920.751.4770 or visit www.eastcentralsrts.org.

RECOMMENDATIONS

~ Engineering ~

- High Visibility Crosswalks Emphasize the recommended path for crossing an intersection.
 - Traffic Calming Measures Include traffic calming measures (i.e. pedestrian refuge island, curb bump-outs, etc.) when reconstructing roadways near schools or on routes that students use to walk/bike to school.
- Sidewalk Fill in gaps in the sidewalk network on the east side of Warner St.
- Curb-cut/Ramp Create a ramp at the sidewalk crossings on the west side of Warner St.
- Crosswalk Add a ladder-style crosswalk across the driveway leading from school to the parking lot.
- Install School Zone Signs on Warner St.
- Update "No Parking" Signs within the Parking Lot

~ Enforcement ~

- Law Enforcement Presence Increase the presence of law enforcement near school during arrival/dismissal times (possible opportunity to partner with the FVTC Law Enforcement Program).
- Speed Trailers Place these at or near schools to show passing motorists the speed at which they are traveling.
- School Zone Campaign First Week: parents and students hold banners to remind drivers to slow down in school zones. Second Week: parent volunteers use radar guns to track drivers who are speeding in school zones and they receive a letter in the mail. Third Week: a law enforcement officer writes citations to speeding drivers.

~ Education ~

- **Parent Pledge Program** Continue participating in the Regional SRTS Parent Pledge Program.
- Bike Rodeo/Safety Course Coordinate bike rodeos featuring bike safety lessons and tuneups.
- Classroom Activities Add bicycle/pedestrian safety to the curriculum (i.e. bike education in P.E. class, poster contest in Art class, etc.).
- Media Campaign Create signage and public service announcements (PSAs) focused on pedestrian awareness and safety in school zones.
- Pick-Up & Drop-off Procedures Educate high school students and parents on the pick-up, drop-off, and parking procedures at and around the school.

~ Encouragement ~

- Frequent Walker Card/Frequent Rider Miles Have faculty members check students' punch cards every time they walk/bike to school. Once their card is full, students will receive a reward.
- Golden Sneaker Award A competition between classrooms to have the greatest number of students walking/biking to school.
- Walking School Bus Program or Cycle Train Students meet at a designated location and walk or bike to school together (accompanied by at least one adult).
- No Idling Policy Encourage bus drivers and parents to turn off the engines of their vehicles while waiting for students.

~ Evaluation ~

- Student and Parent Surveys Conduct periodic parent and student surveys in conjunction with the Regional SRTS Program.
- **Geography Class** Have students put a push pin on a map where they live and color code the push pin to match the mode of transportation the use to get to and from school.
- **Bike/Walk Audits** Continue annual audits to assess safety concerns at and around the school.