



Sir Wilfrid Laurier Elementary

YEAR 2 FOLLOW-UP REPORT
SCHOOL ACTIVE TRAVEL PLANNING

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2012, Sir Wilfrid Laurier Elementary School (Laurier) participated in the City of Vancouver's School Active Travel Planning (SATP) program. This program is a partnership between the City and the Vancouver School Board and involves other local stakeholders including the Vancouver Police Department, Parking Enforcement, HUB, and HASTe. The SATP program directly supports the goals of the City of Vancouver's long-term transportation plan, Transportation 2040. The plan seeks a city-wide shift towards sustainable travel modes, with an overarching target of 2/3rd of all trips by 2040 to be made on foot, bike or transit. To support this, Transportation 2040 sets out a series of actions to achieve this target, including school-related actions to:

1. Provide high quality walking and cycling routes to and from school; and
2. Educate and encourage active and safe travel to school.

This report is the second document produced as part of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Elementary School Active Travel Planning (SATP) program. During Year 1 (the 2012 school year), an initial report and an Action Plan (**Appendix A**) were developed to gather information and guide Laurier's SATP process. During Year 2, the documents were updated to incorporate new information and to create this supplementary follow-up report.

School Travel Patterns

- Around one third of students walk to/from school.
- Driving remains the main transportation mode, with approximately 58% of students being driven to/from school.
- Travel patterns before and after the SATP process have changed slightly. Walking decreased 9% (from 41% to 32%), while driving increased 10% (from 48% to 58%). These results may reflect the increase in families living further from the school who responded to the survey.

Transportation Challenges

The Year 1 travel plan identified the following transportation challenges in this area:

- Driver behavior on Laurel Street in front of school main entrance.
- Speeding behavior around the school zone on W 59th Avenue and Laurel Street.

Key Action Items

To address the identified challenges and achieve the SATP goals, the City of Vancouver has completed or is planning the following infrastructure improvements around the school (to be complemented by ongoing education and monitoring programs) (see **Figure ES1**):

- Install speed humps on Laurel Street between W 57th Avenue and W 59th Avenue (Completed).
- Replant the curb bulges and traffic circle on W 59th Avenue and Heather Street (Completed).
- Install a "No Turn Around" sign at Laurel Street at the entrance of the lane across from the school main entrance (Completed).
- Install sidewalk on the west side of Fremlin Street between W 63rd Avenue and W 64th Avenue (Completed).
- Install curb and gutter on west side of Heather Street between W 57th Avenue and W 59th Avenue (Anticipated).

Figure ES1 - Map of Infrastructure Improvements



Parents Comments

- “Would like to walk more but it’s hard to be motivated in the winter time” - Parent of a 10 year-old
- “My son walks to school if it’s not rainy. When it’s rainy we drive him to school” - Parent of a 9 year-old
- “We feel more comfortable for them to walk in the summertime if walking with classmates. In winter, it’s too dark to walk to school” - Parent of an 11 and 7 year-old
- “In winter, it is dangerous in the morning because it’s too dark, so I prefer to drive her to school and walk home after school” - Parent of a 10 year-old

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