

Sir John Franklin Elementary

Year 1 Initial Report

School Active Travel Planning

Table of Contents

1	School Active Travel Planning
2	School Profile
3	School Travel Patterns
4	Action Plan and Next Steps
	Appendix A: Action Plan
	Appendix B: Map Package
	Appendix C: Surveys

1 School Active Travel Planning

In 2018, Sir John Franklin Elementary (Franklin) began the City of Vancouver's School Active Travel Planning (SATP) program. This program is a partnership between the City and the Vancouver School Board.

The SATP program encourages and promotes walking, cycling, and rolling to school. The program's focus is to:

- Improve the safety and comfort of walking, cycling, and rolling infrastructure around schools
- Increase education and awareness around active travel

The program is supported by the City of Vancouver's long-range Transportation 2040 Plan. This document includes policies to support the encouragement, promotion and education of sustainable travel in school and to move towards zero traffic fatalities and serious injuries. Transportation 2040 also sets a target that at least two-thirds of all trips will be made by foot, bike, and transit.

The SATP program is a community-based model for implementing school travel planning. Known collectively as the 5E's, the program takes a comprehensive approach to support active and sustainable travel to and from school. The 5Es are:

- **Evaluation**: Collect information to understand context and monitor changes.
- **Engineering**: Improve infrastructure near the school.
- Enforcement: Increase compliance with traffic laws and parking regulations.
- **Education**: Change perceptions of active travel and support programs to improve safety and reduce conflicts between modes.
- **Encouragement**: Promote active travel as a fun, easy and exciting way to get to school.

The SATP process is defined by four phases of implementation over two to three years (see Figure 1).

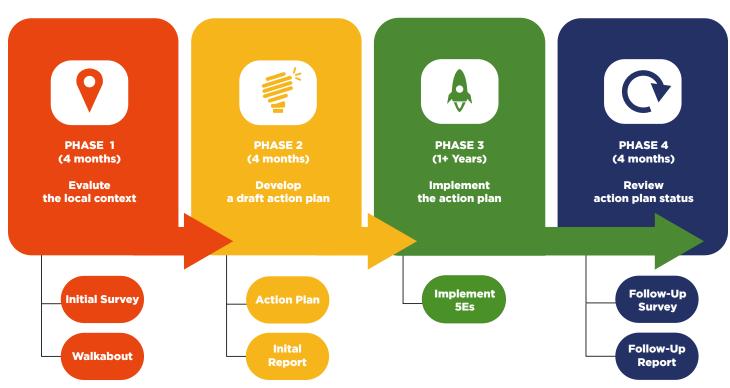


Figure 1. School Active Travel Planning Process

The City of Vancouver, the Vancouver School Board, the Principal and the Parent Advisory Council (PAC) are the key partners in this process. Other stakeholders may be involved in the program, such as the Vancouver Police Department (VPD), Insurance Corporation of B.C. (ICBC), Translink's TravelSmart and other community organizers or agencies. Please see Appendix A for each stakeholder's action item moving forward. Franklin's current catchment area is bordered by Edinburgh St to the north, Cassiar St to the east, Napier St to the south and Boundary Rd to the west (see map in Appendix B). In 2018, Franklin had 198 enrolled students. The school offers a diverse set of programs from Reading Recovery to an in-school challenge program.

During phase 1 (September 2018-January 2019), City staff collected information and engaged with parents and school staff to learn about the school. Figure 2 summarizes the public engagement and data collection conducted in this phase.





Take-home surveys, in class hands-up surveys, visits to the school site and meetings with parents and staff helped generate a better understanding of the transportation challenges and opportunities at Franklin Elementary.

Walking: Franklin is bordered by four local streets, Pandora St, Kootenay, Skeena St, and Franklin St; all of which have sidewalks on both sides of the street. Students arrive at the school from every direction of the neighbourhood. Improving safety along Skeena St was identified as a key concern for parents. This was due to the fact that many vehicles were turning onto the street from Hastings St, especially during rush hours. Additionally, parents also cited many vehicles either 1) heading northbound on Skeena St and turning left onto Hastings St or 2) heading westbound on E Pender St turning right onto Skeena St. Other concerns mentioned by school adminstrators and families included:

- Traffic volumes along E Hastings St
- Vehicles blocking crossings along Hastings st due to congestion
- Missing street curb on the east side of the 200 block of Kootenay St
- Vegetation in traffic circles along Franklin St at Triumph St and Skeena St blocking visibility of pedestrian
- Vehicles shortcutting through the neighbourhood

Biking and Rolling (wheelchairs, skateboards and scooters): The closest bike routes around Franklin include the Cassiar St local bike route, Hastings Park bike route, and Portside bike route. The percentage of students that cycle to and from school is low with steep grade changes along Pandora St and Skeena St as a potential barriers. Many parents cited age as a barrier for them to allow their child to cycle to school. Additional concerns included:

- Potential conflict between cyclists and vehicles especially with heavier traffic volumes during rush hour
- Children cycling to school with others
- The need for secure bike racks

Taking Transit: The closest transit routes to the school are along Boundary Rd, Hastings St, Kootenany St, and Cassisar St. A small number of students take transit to or from school.

Driving: Pandora St is the primary pick-up and drop-off location. People driving to and from the school are encouraged to travel in a counter-clockwise direction to use designated pick-up and drop-off areas. Observations found this behaviour was not consistent. Drivers not abiding by signage, performing illegal maneuvers such as u-turns increase chances for conflict and injury.

During phase 1, of the program, an in-class hands-up survey and a take-home survey for parents were used to learn about families travel patterns. These surveys give every student and family a chance to provide feedback. The collection process is summarized in the table below and the survey questions can be found in Appendix C.

Hands-Up Survey						
Number of Divisions (Student Trips)	10 out of 10 divisions participated (1, 465 Trips Recorded)					
Hands-Up Survey dates	October 15-18, 2018					
Take-Home Survey						
Approximate Response Rate (Students Enrolled)	40% (of 198 students)					
Number of Surveys	80 surveys					
Take-Home Survey Dates	October 15 - 26, 2018					

In the hands-up survey, an average of 58% of students reported walking to school and 35% reported being driven (see Figure 3). Students also carpooled (1%), cycled (about 1%), walked part-way (3%), took the school bus (about 3%) and took transit (1% - 2%).

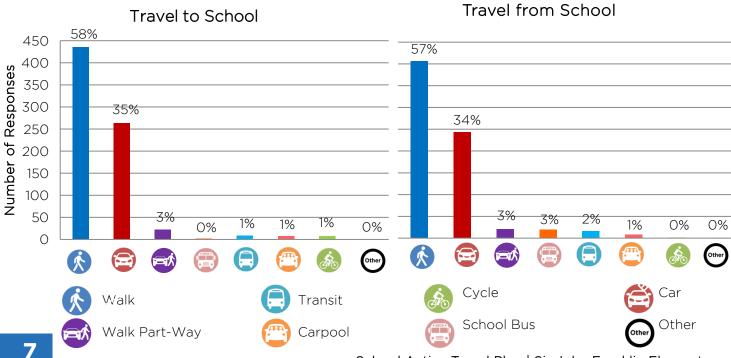
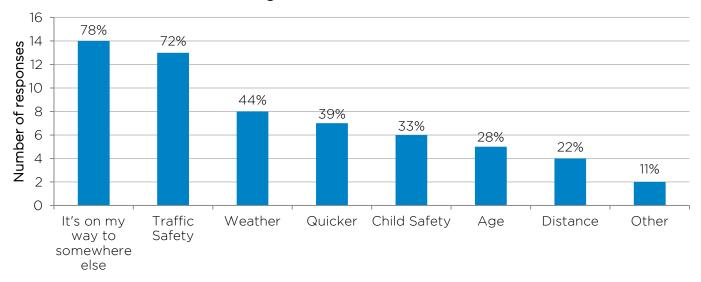


Figure 3. Hands Up Survey - Transportation Modes

School Active Travel Plan | Sir John Franklin Elementary

In the take-home survey, families reported on their travel patterns and barriers to active travel. The majority of parents reported that convenience ("on the way to somewhere else" and "quicker") and weather were the primary reasons they drove (see Figure 4). Travel promotion campaigns and group travel initiatives (like walking school buses) may be useful at the school.



Figre 4. Reasons to drive

Barriers that prevent their youngest child to walk to and from school include age, lack of travel buddies and distance. Group travel would likely help families who felt they would allow their youngest to walk if they were older or walked with others (see Figure 5). For families who want to live closer, biking may bridge the distance gap. walked regularly Additional survey results can be found in Appendix C.

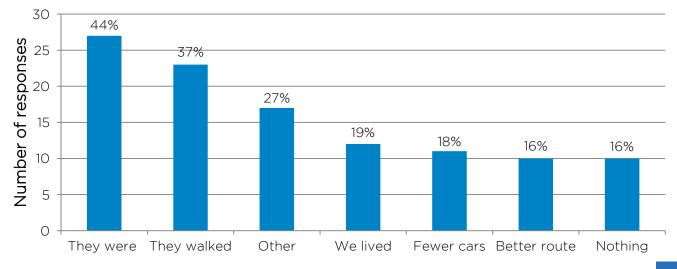


Figure 5. Parents Would Allow Youngest Child to Walk More If..

School Active Travel Plan | Sir John Franklin Elementary

An action plan for the school has been created through collaboration and consultation with the school administration, the PAC, VSB staff, City staff and other local stakeholders. This plan will guide the implementation of the 5 E's in the coming years. A summary of the infrastructure improvements can be found in the map below (Figure 6) and a detailed action plan and implementation can be found in Appendix A.

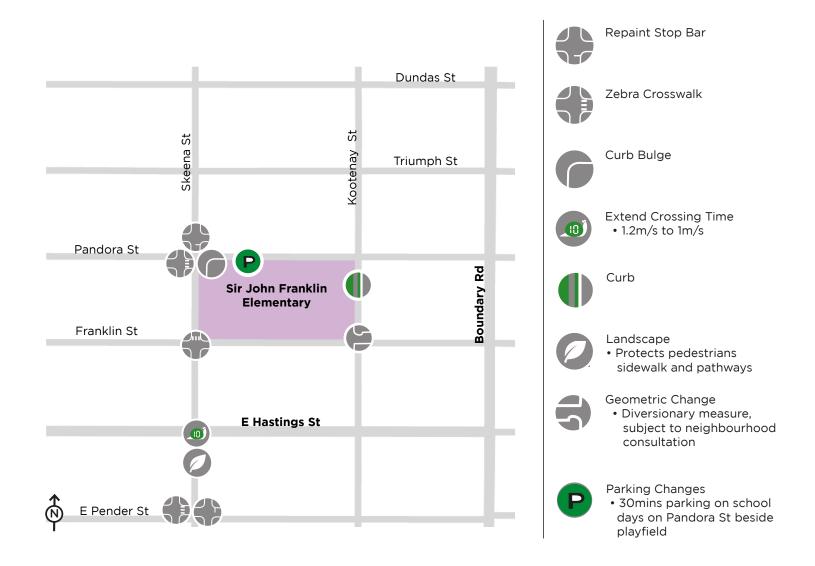


Figure. 6 Proposed Infrastructure Upgrades

These infrastructure improvements are targeted at areas where students are walking and biking. The improvements above:

- Create more comfortable facilities
- Increase the visibility of students using facilities
- Communicate clearly to students where they should cross

Beyond the scope of the action plan, the school community and City will continue to look for continual educational resources to support school active travel such as:

- Partnering with award winning children's entertainers Will Stroet of Will's Jams and Charollette Diamond to inspire road behaviour through the following:
 - "Grandma On the Move" traffic safety song and music video
 - "Grandma On the Move" children activity book
 - School concert
- Collaborating with school adminstrators and the PAC to develop "active travel signage" designed by students to highlight their school as active travel zones
- Encourage school adminstrators to apply for the City of Vancouver's Walk +Bike + Roll mini grants to support active travel events such as "Bike to School Week" or "Walk to School Week"
- VPD pedestrian safety talks

The City of Vancouver looks after action items related to evaluation and engineering. The City, the SATP partners and other organizations work together to provide the 3Es.

- **Enforcement**: VPD, ICBC and City of Vancouver Parking Enforcement
- Education & Encouragement: The school, PAC, VPD, ICBC, Translink, City of Vancouver and community organizations

Details of these actions are also provided in the Action Plan in Appendix A. Additional resources in the appendices include:

- A transportation infrastructure map for families planning their active travel routes to school (Appendix B).
- A parking map to promote safe pick-up and drop-off behaviour around the school (Appendix B).
- Extended survey results for use by the school community (Appendix C).

In phase 4, the City will lead another data collection process to measure the success of the initial action plan and as a check-in point to update the plan.

Appendices

Item	Details	Complete	Comments
City of Vancouver			
School Active	Initial Report	Fall 2019	
Travel Planning Report	Follow-Up Report	Anticipated 2021	
Hands-Up and	Baseline Surveys	Fall 2018	
Take-Home School Travel Surveys	Follow-Up Surveys	Anticipated 2020-2021	
	Мар	Fall 2019	For distribution by school.
Infrastructure Map	Map Update	Anticipated 2021	
Daulin v Mau	Мар	Fall 2019	For distribution by school.
Parking Map	Map Update	Anticipated 2021	
Parking Changes Near School	Install "30 min parking" zone on the western portion of Pandora St	Anticipated Fall 2019	Monitor and review as needed. Replacing. Parking changes will support safe pick-up and drop off behaviour.

Item	Details	Complete	Comments	
E Pender St & Skeena St.	Install marked zebra crossing	Anticipated 2020	To improve connectivity, safety,	
Crossing	Repaint stop bars	Anticipated 2020	and pedestrian comfort.	
E Hastings St & Skeena St. Countdown Timer	Retime pedestrian signal from 1.2m/s to 1m/s	Completed	To improved safety and pedestrian comfort.	
Skeena St & Pandora St.	Install marked zebra crossing with curb bulge on east leg to suport north-south crossing	Anticipated 2020-2021	To improve safety, visibility, and pedestrian comfort.	
Crossing	Repaint stop bars			
	Repaint stop bars.		To improve connectivity estaty	
Kootenay St. Curb	Install curb on Kootenay St along school property	Anticipated 2020-2021	To improve connectivity, safety, and pedestrian comfort.	
Franklin St	Repaint crossing on north leg to support west-east crossing	Anticipated 2020	To improve connectivity, safety,	
& Skeena St. Crossing	Install curb ramps on north leg to support west-east crossing	Anticipated 2020	and pedestrian comfort.	
Franklin St & Kootenay St Geometric Change		TBD	To improve connectivity and pedestrian comfort.	

ltem	Details	Complete	Comments
Laneway South of 3400 Block of E Hastings St	Landscape on the eastern access point of the laneway prevent vehicles from parking and cutting onto the sidewalk.	TBD	To improve connectivity, safety, and pedestrian comfort.
Print Student- Designed Sign	Weather-proof sign will promote Franklin as an active travel school.	Anticipated 2019-2020	Design and installation to be lead by school staff.
Traffic Safety Campaign	Commission JUNO-nominated children musician Will Stroet to write and perform "Grandma on the Move" featuring Charlotte Diamond and other traffic safety songs.	May 2019	Completed
	Children Activity Book - teaching road safety through a fun and child friendly experience		
Enforcement. Parking Violations			To encourage safe pick up and drop off behaviours
Franklin Elementary	School		
Organize Student- Designed Sign Franklin as an active travel school.		Anticipated 2019-2021	City to provide dimensions and print weather-proof sign.
Active Travel SpeakersSchool to invite speakers educating students about active travel.		Anticipated 2019-2021	Speakers include VPD and TravelSmart
Regular Travel Event	Consider regular (weekly or monthly) active travel event or celebration	Ongoing	Examples include "Walking Wednesday" or "Fitness Friday"

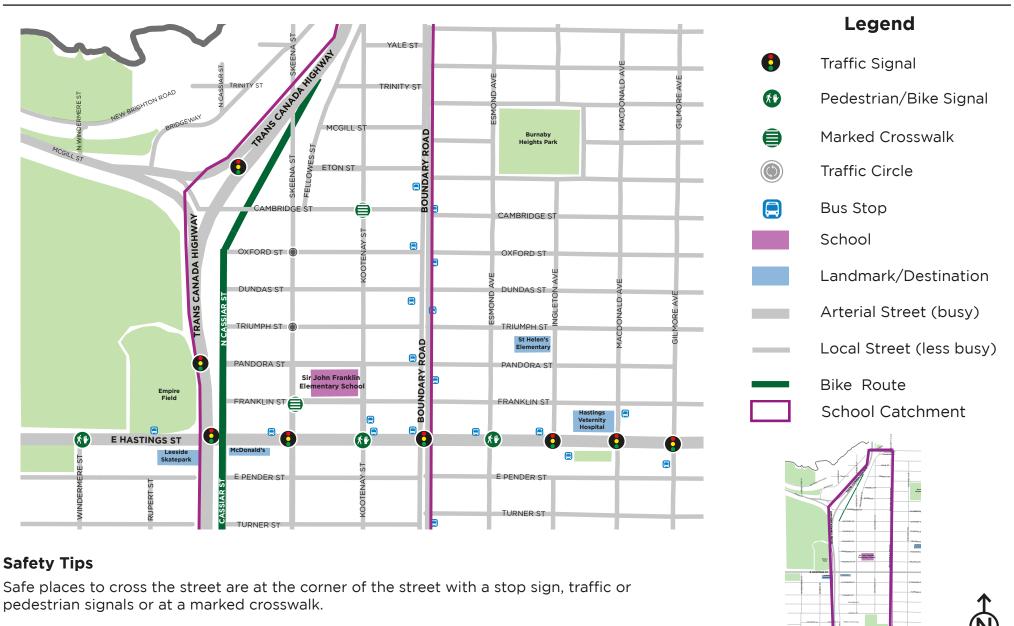
ltem	Details	Complete	Comments				
Walking School Bus	Explore the feasbility of having a walking school bus	Ongoing	Walking school bus may include key intersection crossings or a walking route appropriate for student needs.				
Franklin Elementary	Parent Advisory Council (PAC)						
Active Travel Weeks	Register for HUB's Bike to School Week and Dash BC's Walk and Wheel to School Week	Anticipated 2019 and ongoing	These annual events promote and encourage active travel.				
Walking School Bus	Explore the feasbility of having a walking school bus	Ongoing	Walking school bus may include key intersection crossings or a walking route appropriate for student needs.				
Vancouver School Bo	Vancouver School Board (VSB)						
Improve Infrastructure For Bicycle Parking	Infrastructure For installation of 2 additional bike racks if		Principal to use the VSB maintenance system to log the request. Connect with Sustainability department to have the cost transfer arranged.				
Vancouver Police Department (VPD)							
Pedestrian Safety Presentation			To encourage safe walking behaviour.				
Enforcement. Moving Violations	Enforce any moving violations as requested by the school	Ongoing	To encourage safe pick up and drop off behaviours				

Item	Details	Complete	Comments
TravelSmart			
Present Transit 101	Present to grade 6 and 7 students on sustainable travel choices	Anticipated 2019-2020	To increase student's awareness of active travel options in Vancouver.

The following package is intended to provide all families at the school with the information to plan their route to school however they travel. Both maps can be sent home and posted within the school for review.

The infrastructure map (and accompanying back page) helps families make the best decision about their active travel route to school. The map of parking (and accompanying back page) near the school lays out the different types of parking available for parents.

Sir John Franklin Elementary ~ Active Travel Infrastructure Map



Ó

100

200

300

Always make eye contact with others before crossing the street.

Traffic Circles - Cars or bikes should yield to the right and stop for people walking.

Disclaimer: This map is produced as a public resource for general information purposes only. The City, it's employees, officers, directors and representatives do not guarantee the accuracy of the information contained therein nor warrant the safety of any route, highway, road, street, designated cycling route or other shown in the map information.



September 2019

400m

Active School Travel



Walking, cycling, and rolling benefits students, the community, and the environment.



Environment

Reduces car travel to school, in turn decreasing traffic congestion, greenhouse gas emissions, and air pollution.



Community

Creates opportunities to engage with neighbours and socialize on the way to and from school.



Student

Leads to healthier, happier and more alert learners through increased physical activity.



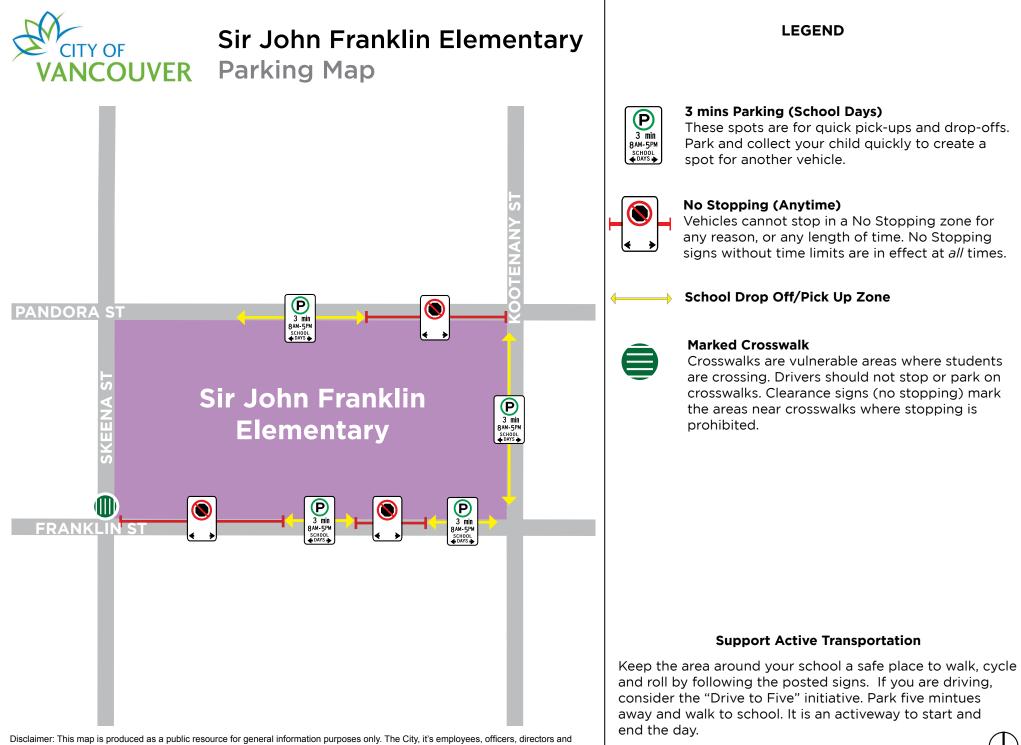
Health

Inspires actve travel habits early in life that carry into adulthood.





Walk+Bike+Roll Getting Around the Vancouver Way



Disclaimer: This map is produced as a public resource for general information purposes only. The City, it's employees, officers, directors and representatives do not guarantee the accuracy of the information contained therein nor warrant the safety of any route, highway, road, street, designated cycling route or other shown in the map information.

Sept 2019

<u>Walk+Bike+Roll Safety Tips</u>

following the posted signs. If you are driving, consider parking several blocks away and walking to the school. It's an active way to start and end the day. Keep the area around your school a safe place to walk, cycle and roll by



Drivers must yield to School Crosswalk

stopped at every marked and unmarked intersection until they reach the other curb. pedestrians and remain



School Zone

are entering a school zone and they should be alert. This sign reminds drivers they



Speed Humps

reduce the speed of traffic and Speed humps are installed to calm the street. Slow down around the school.

8 AM - 5 PM

km/h

m



No Stopping (School days)

No vehicles are allowed here between 8 AM - 5 PM. This keeps sightlines clear and gives emergency vehicles somewhere to park.



No Parking (School days)

Drivers may stop for no more than five minutes to drop-off spot should be found to wait and pick-up. A legal parking longer or enter the school.



down to 30 km/hr between zone, drivers need to slow 8 AM to 5 PM.

On local streets in the school

School Zone Speed Limit

Bus Zone

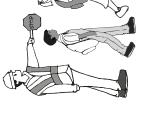
Only buses may park here.



3 Minute Parking (School days) and collect your child quickly pick-ups and drop-offs. Park These spots are for quick

to create a spot for another

vehicle.



Safety Patrols

Vancouver. Children are still learning the rules of the road and may not do as directed or expected. Be prepared to react. school. Please respect all safety patrols around schools in Patrols direct and help students at intersections near the

Be mindful about how you travel on our city streets, sidewalks, paths and bike facilities. Learn more: vancouver.ca/streets-transportation/school-active-travel-planning.aspx





Appendix C contains additional surveys results as well as the hands-up survey form distributed to classrooms and take-home survey distributed to families.

The results in the figures below are a continuation of those in Figure 3. The surveys asked parents how their youngest child travels to school and their relationship with active travel. Comparing the hands-up survey (Figure 3 on page 7) with the take-home survey (Figure 7 below), active travel mode share is greater in the take-home survey results. This may be related to the difference in wording in the survey questions ("how did you travel to school" vs. "how does your youngest child *usually* travel to school") however it is likely related to self selection for the survey. Families that choose active travel may be more likely to fill out a survey on active travel.

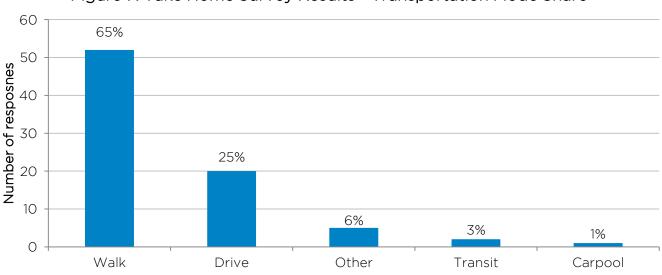


Figure 7. Take Home Survey Results - Transportation Mode Share

Families were also able to give details about how often their youngest child walks or bikes as well as how often these trips took (Figure 8 to Figure 11). These results show the majority of students walking do so regularly ("almost everyday" and "2-3 days a week").

Students do not cycle to or from school. Parents felt that they would allow their child to cycle more often to or from school if they were older or cycled with others (Figure 12). Participation in active travel events such as "Bike to School Week" may assist in promoting cycling as an active travel mode to or from school.

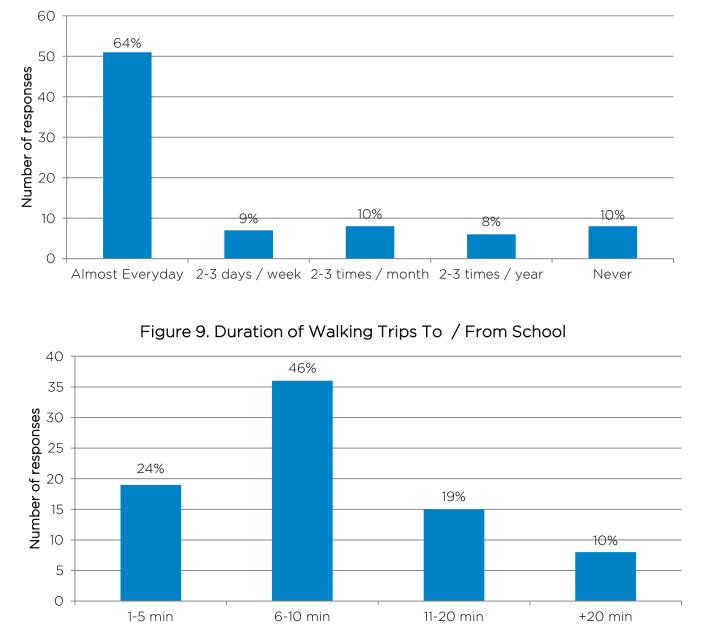
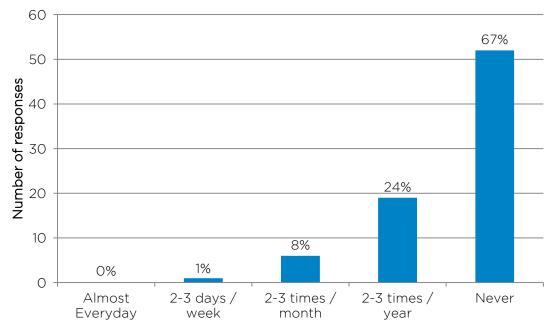
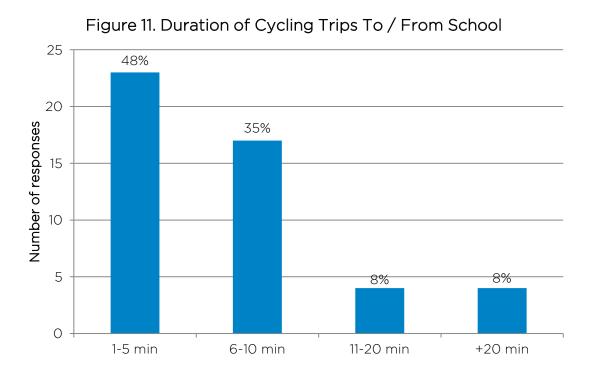


Figure 8. Frequency of Walking Trips To / From School

At Franklin, the majority of parents expressed interest in safety improvements to Skeena St (Figure 13). The school community has expressed their desire for enforcement due to the heavy traffic volumes off of arterial streets such as E Hastings St. The City of Vancouver, school and VPD will work closely during the school year to monitor and enforce safe driving behaviours especially during pick up and drop off periods.







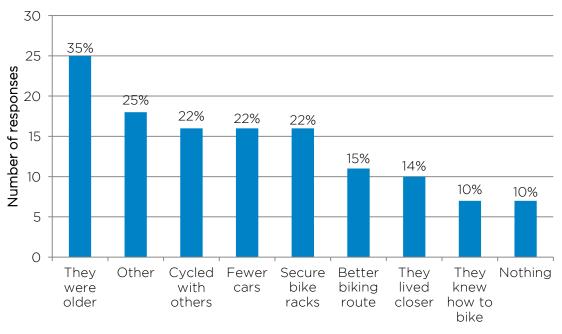


Figure 12. Parents would allow their child to bike more if...

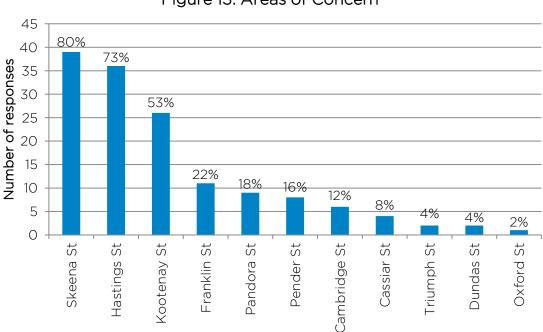


Figure 13. Areas of Concern

Sir John Franklin Elementary School Classroom Transportation Survey



Please complete this survey by asking students to raise their hands for the week of:

Monday, Oct 15, 2017 to Thursday, Oct 18 2018

Teacher	:	Gra	ade:		Divisic	on #:	# of \$	Students:	
"How o	"How did you travel <u>to</u> school this morning?"								
	x L	×	Ś					Other	
	Walk/ Scooter	Walk part-way¹	Bicycle	School Bus	Public Transit	Carpool ²	Car ³	Other	Total
Mon									
Tues									
Wed									
Thurs									

"How will you travel <u>from</u> school today?"



	Walk/ Scooter	Walk part-way¹	Bicycle	School Bus	Public Transit	Carpool ²	Car ³	Other	Total
Mon									
Tues									
Wed									
Thurs									

- 1. Walked part-way = Walk at least one entire block
- 2. Carpool = 2 or more families together
- 3. Car = Just my family

If you or your students have any questions, please email: schoolactivetravel@vancouver.ca.





This notice contains important information that may affect you. Please ask someone to translate it for you.

此通告刊載有可能影響閣下的重要資 料。請找人為你翻譯。 ਇਸ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਵਿਚ ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਹੈ ਜੋ ਕਿ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਲਈ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਹੋ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੈ। ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਕਿਸੇ ਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਦਾ ਉਲੱਥਾ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਆਖੋ।

Thông báo này có tin tức quan trọng có thể ảnh hưởng đến quý vị. Xin nhờ người phiên dịch hộ. Este aviso contiene información importante que puede afectarle personalmente. Pídale a alguien que se lo traduzca.

Ce document contient des renseignements importants qui pourraient vous concerner. Veuillez demander à quelqu'un de vous le traduire.

Dear Sir John Franklin Elementary Parent:

Franklin Elementary is participating in the City of Vancouver's School Active Travel Planning Program to encourage and promote walking, cycling and rolling to school. The program takes place over two years and includes several types of projects to address barriers to active travel such as:

- Gathering information from students and families about their travel choices.
- Creating a school travel action plan.
- Upgrading transportation infrastructure near the school.

Studies have shown that active travel has many benefits for students, the community, and the environment, including: increasing physical activity among students, leading to healthier, happier, and more alert learners, reducing car travel to school, in turn decreasing traffic congestion, greenhouse gas emissions, and air pollution and inspiring active travel habits early in life to carry into adulthood.

To learn more about the program, please visit vancouver.ca/school-active-travel.

Your feedback is important to the success of the program. Please take 10 minutes to complete the survey found here:

survey.vancouver.ca/s3/School-Active-Travel-Franklin.

Please complete ONE survey per family by Friday, October 26, 2018.

If you have any questions about the survey or the School Active Travel Program, please contact our team at <u>schoolactivetravel@vancouver.ca</u>.

Thank you,

Liliana Quintero Transportation Engineer Engineering Services City of Vancouver <u>schoolactivetravel@vancouver.ca</u>



School Active Transportation Planning Transportation Survey

This survey is part of the City of Vancouver's School Active Travel Planning program which seeks to improve the safety and comfort of walking, cycling, and rolling to school. **Your input is vital** to the success of this program.

Div:

Please fill out ONE survey per family and return it with your youngest child by Oct 26, 2018.

Tell us about your family...

1. How old are your children attending Sir John Franklin School?

Child	Age	Child	Age
1		4	
2		5	
3		6	

- 2. What is your postal code?
- 3. Do you live in the school's catchment?
 - Yes
 - No

Tell us about how your family travels...

- How does your **youngest** child usually get <u>TO</u> school? (Select one)
 - Walk
 - Bike
 - Roll (e.g. wheelchair, skateboard, scooter)
 - Bus or Skytrain
 - Carpool (Your children travelling with other children)
 - Car (Your children only)
 - Other:

- If you usually drive your youngest child <u>TO</u> school, what are the most important reasons why? (Select top three)
 - I'm worried about traffic safety (e.g. traffic volume, speed of vehicles)
 - I'm worried about my child's safety (e.g. being alone, getting lost)
 - It's too far for my child to walk, bike, or roll
 - □ It's quicker for me to drive them
 - It's on my way to somewhere else
 - **□** Weather
 - My child is too young to travel to school by walking, cycling, or rolling
 - **D** Other:



Tell us about walking and biking to school...



- How often does your youngest child walk <u>TO</u> school?
 - Almost everyday
 - 2-3 days per week
 - 2-3 times per month
 - 2-3 times per year
 - Never
- How long does it take your youngest child <u>TO</u> walk to or from school?
 - 1-5 minutes
 - **G** 6-10 minutes
 - 11-20 minutes
 - +20 minutes
- 8. I would allow my **youngest** child **to walk** to and from school more if (Select top three)
 - We lived closer
 - □ They were older
 - □ They walk with others
 - There was a better walking route
 - There were fewer cars around the school during pick-up & drop-off
 - Nothing I can think of would make a difference
 - Other

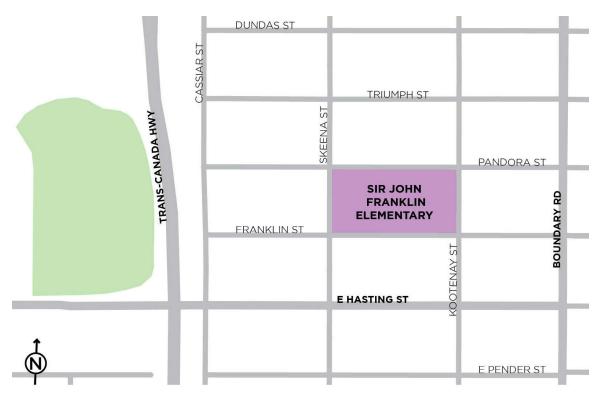


- How often does your youngest child bike <u>TO</u> school?
 - Almost everyday
 - 2-3 days per week
 - 2-3 times per month
 - 2-3 times per year
 - Never
- 10. How long does it take your **youngest** child **TO bike** to or from school?
 - 1-5 minutes
 - **G** 6-10 minutes
 - 11-20 minutes
 - +20 minutes
- I would allow my **youngest** child **to bike** to and from school more if (Select top three)
 - We lived closer
 - They were older
 - They cycle with others
 - **D** There was a better biking route
 - There were fewer cars around the school during pick-up & drop-off
 - There were secure bike racks
 - They knew how to bike
 - Nothing I can think of would make a difference
 - Other





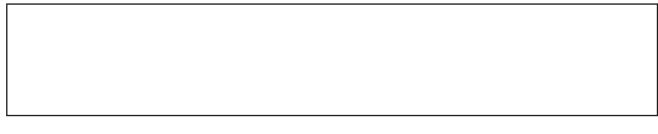
Here is a map of your child's school and surrounding area



12. Please tell us about one or two areas, if any, you are concerned about near the school.

Location	Concern
1	
2	

13. Do you have any other comments about your child's journey to school?



Thank you for completing this survey!

More information about the City of Vancouver's School Active Travel Program is available on our website at vancouver.ca/school-active-travel.

Your personal data and responses will remain confidential. Any personal information is collected in accordance to BC's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.



