



Sir Sandford Fleming Elementary

YEAR 2 FOLLOW-UP REPORT
SCHOOL ACTIVE TRAVEL PLANNING

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2013, Sir Sandford Fleming Elementary School (Fleming) 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 Fleming Elementary School Active Travel Planning (SATP) program. During Year 1 (2013-2014 school year), an initial report and an Action Plan (**Appendix A**) were developed to gather information and guide Fleming'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

- Walking remains the main transportation mode, with approximately half of students walking to/from school.
- Travel patterns before and after the SATP process have changed slightly. Walking decreased 3% (from 54% to 50%), while driving increased 3% (from 35% to 38%).

Transportation Challenges

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

- Pedestrian safety concerns at E 49th Avenue & Knight Street, and at E 47th Avenue & Knight Street.
- Parents concerns about the safety of drop-offs on Lanark St. as well as driver behaviors during morning drop-off.

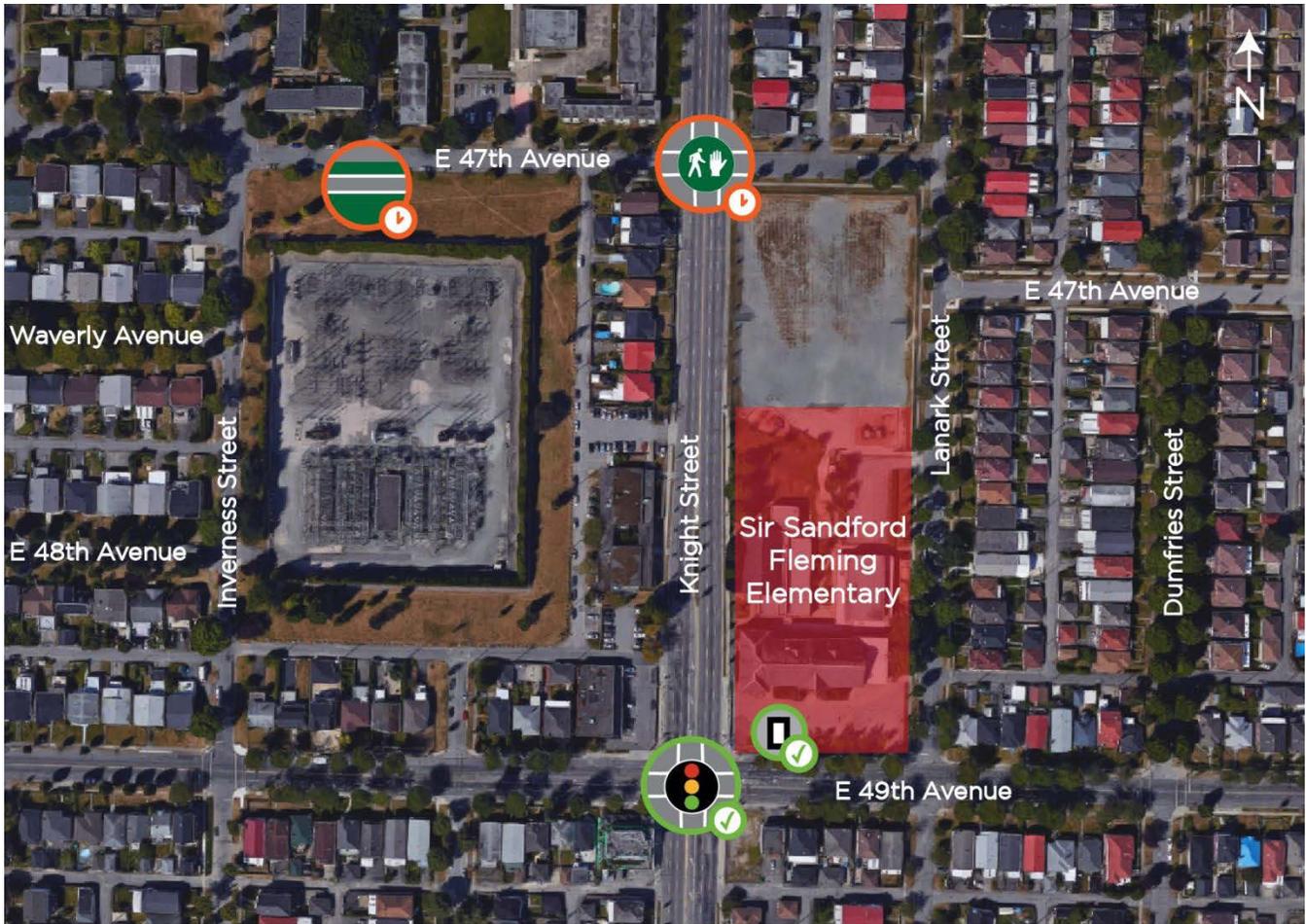
Key Action Items

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 pedestrian countdown timers and retiming of pedestrian crossing times to accommodate children's walking speed (changed from 1.2 m/sec to 1.0 m/sec) at E 49th Avenue and Knight Street (Completed).
- Automatic activation of pedestrian signal phase between 8am and 8pm at E 49th Avenue and Knight Street. The automatic activation eliminates the need for pedestrians to press the push button to activate the pedestrian signal phase (Completed).
- Install signs explaining automatic activation of walk signal on the fence in front of the school at E 49th Avenue and Knight Street (Completed).
- Install pedestrian countdown timers and retiming of pedestrian crossing times at E 47th Avenue and Knight Street (Anticipated).
- Complete sidewalk on the south side of E 47th Avenue adjacent to BC Hydro electrical station between Inverness Street and Knight Street (Anticipated).

In addition, the school is undergoing seismic upgrading and relocation, which will result in a new school building and main entrance, facing E 47th Avenue. Remaining infrastructure upgrades anticipated for the school are to be implemented in coordination with school relocation and seismic upgrade.

Figure ES1 - Map of Infrastructure Improvements



Legend:

- | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|---|----------------------|---|---|
|  | Completed improvements |  | Sidewalk completion |  | Existing full signal improvements |
|  | Anticipated improvements |  | Signage improvements |  | Existing Pedestrian Activated signal improvements |

Parents Comments

- “My children enjoyed walking to and from the school because it is one way of exercise & being physically healthy.” – Parent of a 7 and 10 year-old
- “My children live quite close to the school so they walk to and from school every day since Kindergarten. It’s always great to see signs to remind drivers to slow down in school zones. And hope they will have a bit of patience in waiting for kids to cross the road before moving on.” – Parent of 6 and 10 year-old
- “Actually we have fun walking together. We do a bit exercise by doing a bit of running, stretching and jumping along the way to school.” - Parent of a 5 year-old
- “My child finds something fun when he is walking to/from school.” – Parent of 12 year-old