



Tecumseh Annex Elementary

Year 1 Initial Report

School Active Travel Planning

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1 School Active Travel Planning

In 2018, Tecumseh Annex Elementary (Tecumseh) 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

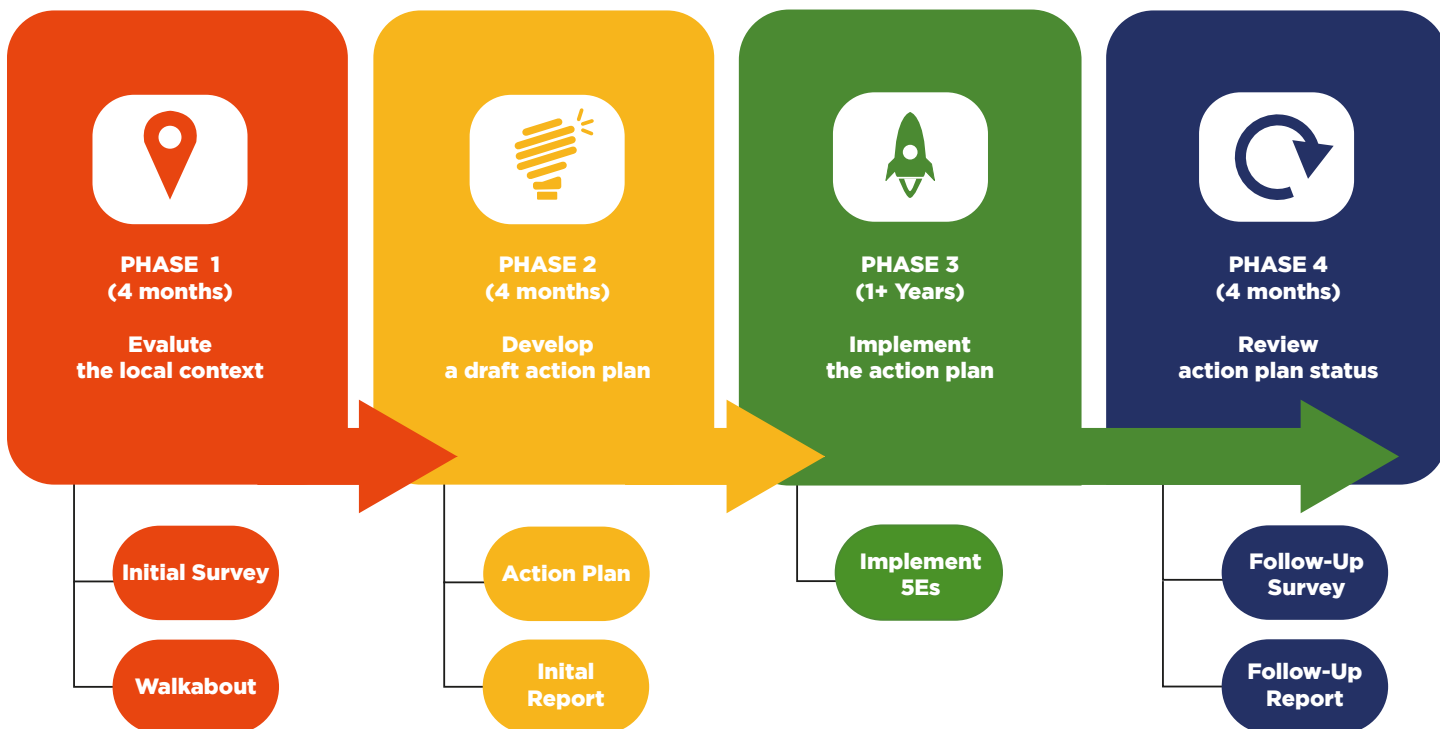
The program is supported by the City of Vancouver's long-range Transportation 2040 Plan. This document includes policies to support the encouragement, promotion and education of sustainable travel in school and to move towards zero traffic fatalities and serious injuries. Transportation 2040 also sets 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



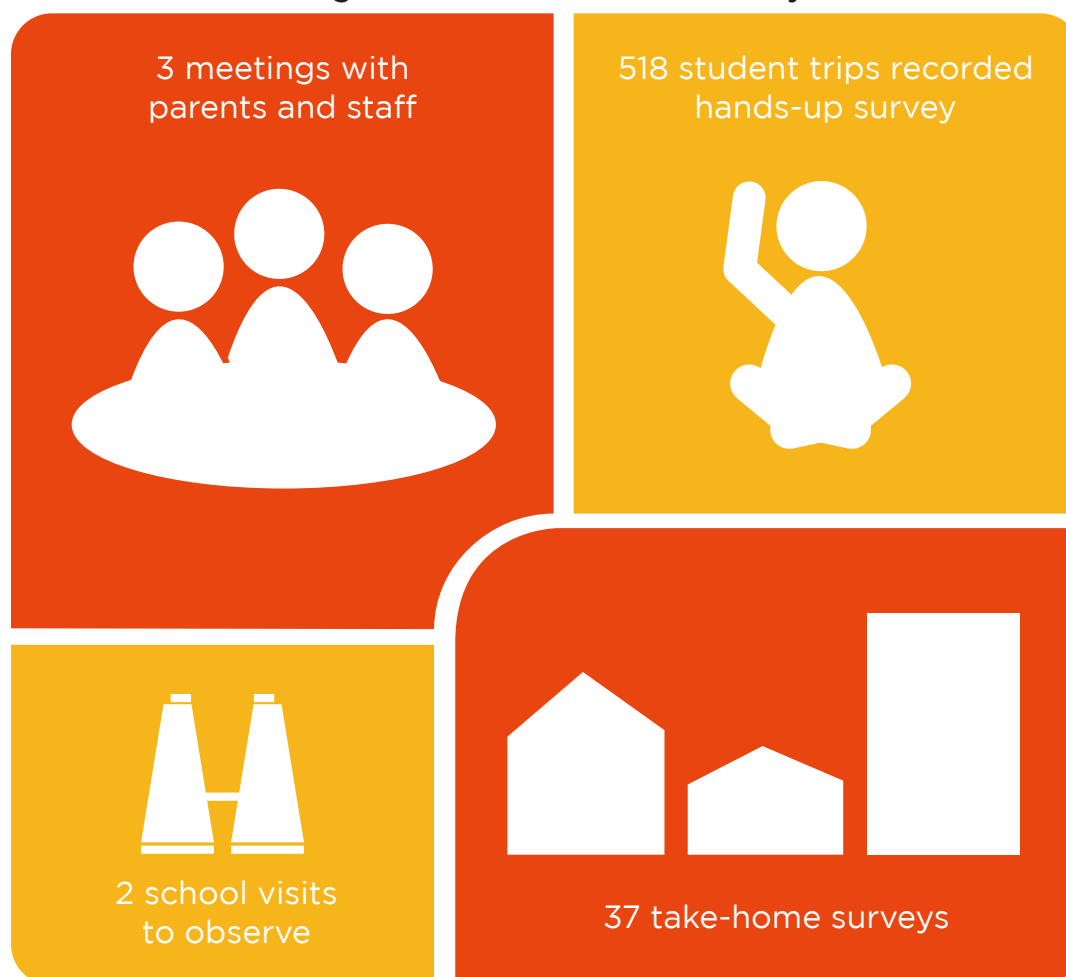
The City of Vancouver, the Vancouver School Board, the Principal and the Parent Advisory Council (PAC) are the key partners in this process. Other stakeholders may be involved in the program, such as the Vancouver Police Department (VPD), Insurance Corporation of B.C. (ICBC), Translink’s TravelSmart and other community organizers or agencies. Please see Appendix A for each stakeholder’s action item moving forward.

2 School Profile

Tecumseh's current catchment area is bordered by E 33rd Av to the north, Victoria Dr to the east, E 49th Av and E 45th Av to the south and Knight St and Argyle St to the west (see map in Appendix B). In 2018, Tecumseh had 69 students enrolled. The student population is diverse, with English, Cantonese, Madnarin, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Japanese, Spanish, Korean, Portuguese, Tamil, Thai and Nepali spoken at home.

During phase 1 of the program (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.

Figure 2. Evaluation Summary



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 Tecumseh.

Walking: Tecumseh is bordered by two local streets and two local bike routes; 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 E 37th Av was identified as a top concern. Additional concerns included the following:

- Enforcement of moving and parking violations especially during pick up / drop off along the perimeter of the school
- Improving the crossing at Fleming St and E 37th Av
- Improving the crossing at Lanark St and E 37th Av

Biking and Rolling (wheelchairs, skateboards and scooters): Tecumseh borders onto two local street bike routes - Dumfries St and 37th Av. Based on our survey results currently students do not cycle to or from school. However, the school is making active strides to promote cycling. This included applying for the City of Vancouver's Walk + Bike + Roll Grant which was awarded to the school to participate in "Bike to School Week" in May. Some concerns families have in regards to cycling include the following

- Cyclists speeding and yielding to pedestrians
- Conflicts with pedestrians, vehicles, and cyclists especially along E 37th Av
- Age and ability of students to cycle to and from school

Taking Transit: The closest transit routes to the school are along Knight St, E 33rd Av, E 41st Av, and Victoria Dr. A small number of students, about 3% based on the take home surveys, take transit to or from school.

Driving: E 37th Av is the primary pick-up and drop-off locations for the school. 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.

A school infrastructure map is included in the report to help students and families plan a comfortable and convenient route to school (see Appendix B) .

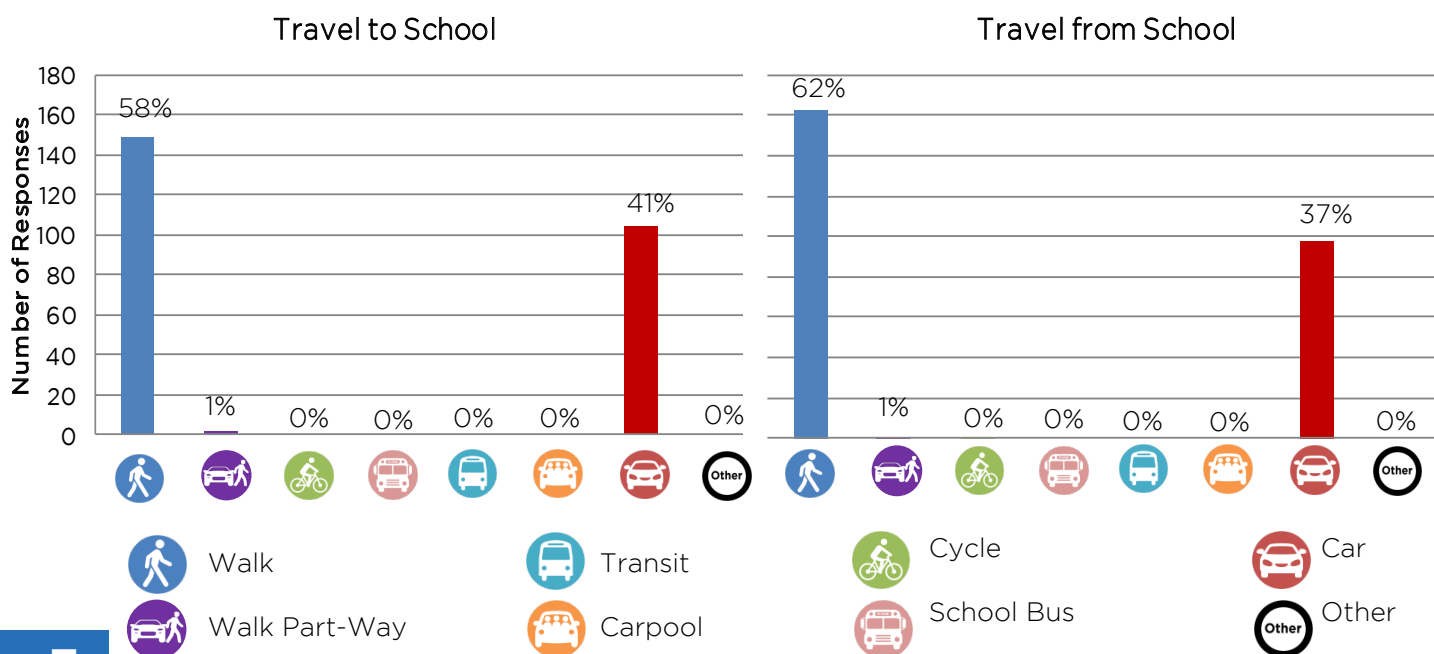
3 School Travel Patterns

During phase 1, 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 (Students Trips)	4 out of 4 divisions participated (518 Trips Recorded)
Hands-Up Survey dates	October 15 - 18, 2018
Take-Home Survey	
Approximate Response Rate (Students Enrolled)	53% (of 69 students)
Number of Surveys	37 surveys
Take-Home Survey Dates	October 15 - 26, 2017

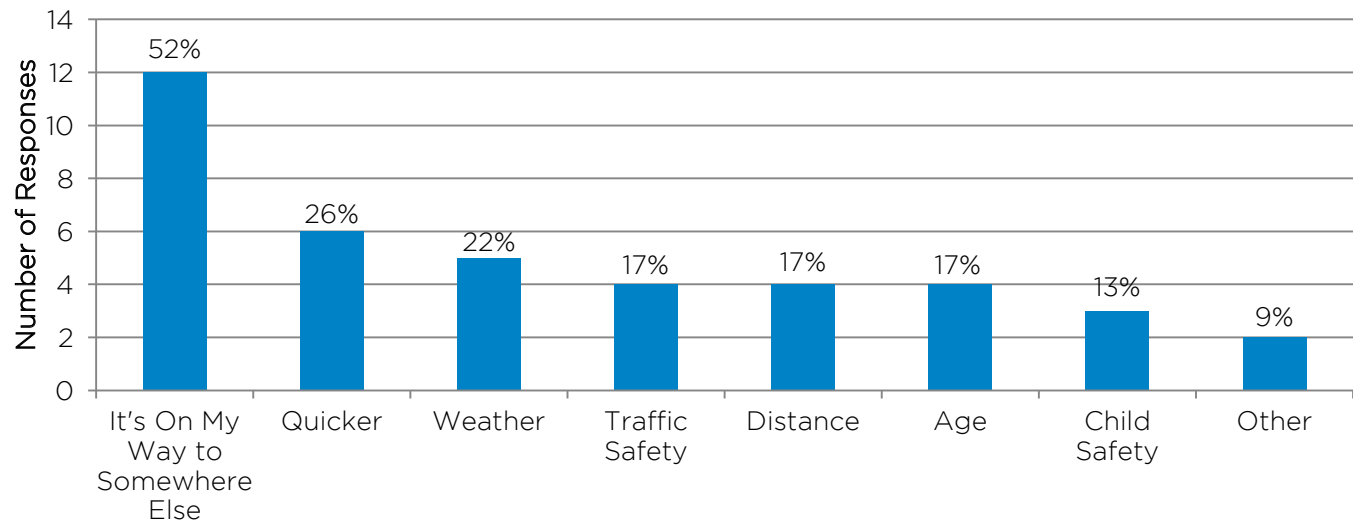
In the hands-up survey, an average of 60% of students reported walking to school and 39% reported being driven (see Figure 3). Students also carpooled with other families (1%).

Figure 3. Hands Up Survey - Transportation Modes



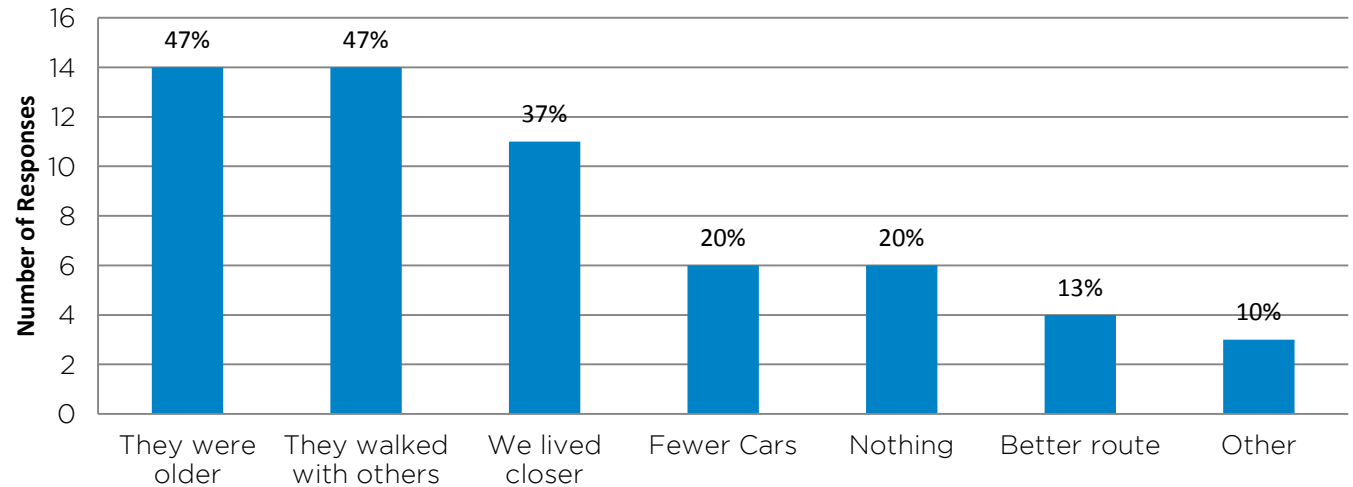
In the take-home survey, families reported on their travel patterns and barriers to active travel. The majority of parents reported that weather and convenience (“on the way to somewhere else” and “quicker”) were the primary reasons they drove (see Figure 4). Initiatives that target these issues, such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

Figure 4. Reasons To Drive



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.

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

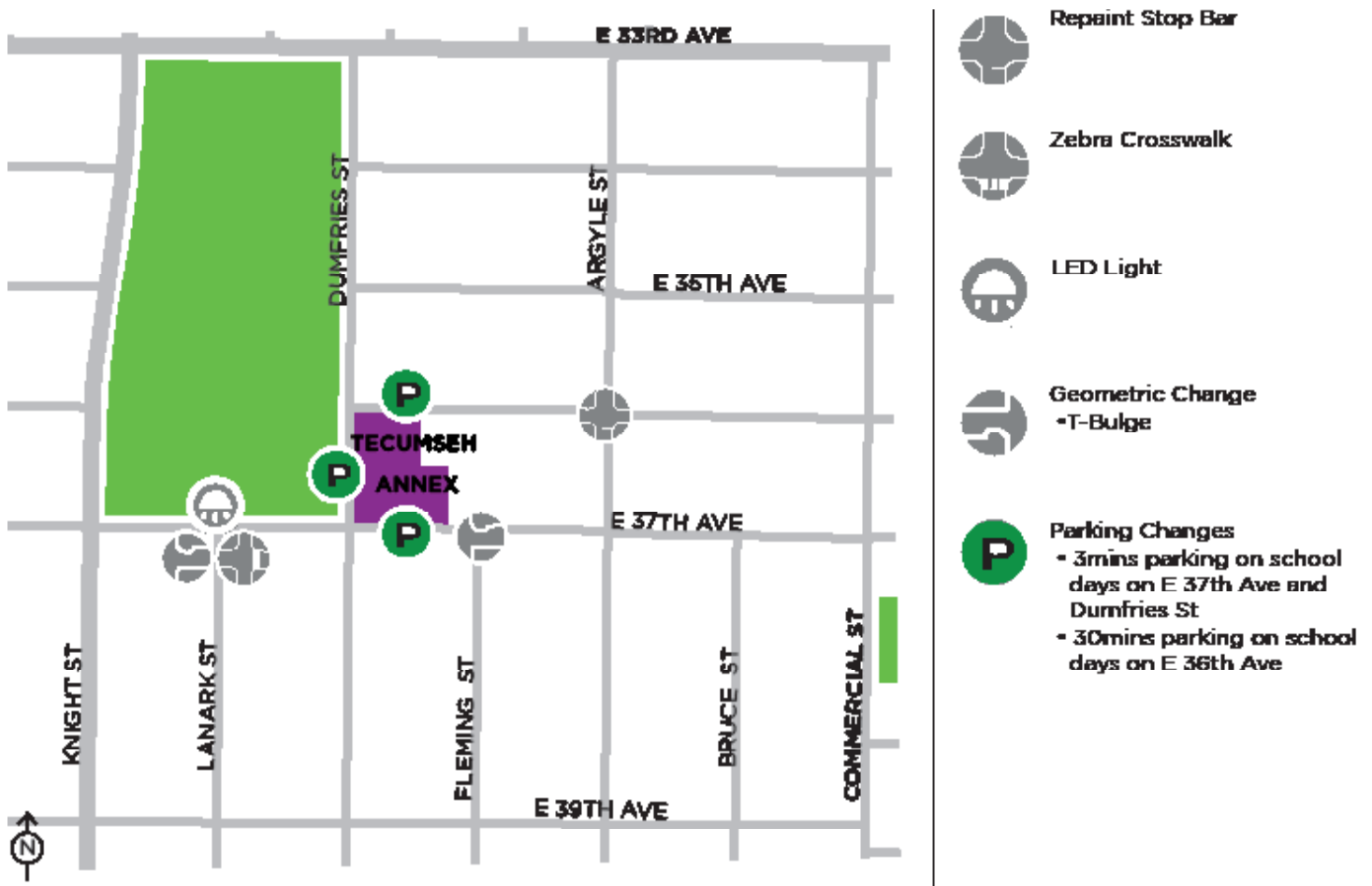


Additional survey results can be found in Appendix C.

4 Action Plan and Next Steps

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 5Es 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 additional long-term opportunities:

- 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 administrators and the PAC to develop “active travel signage” designed by students to highlight their school as active travel zones
- Encourage school administrators 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

Appendix A: Action Plan

Item	Details	Complete	Comments
City of Vancouver			
School Active Travel Planning Report	Initial Report	Fall 2019	
	Follow-Up Report	Anticipated 2021	
Hands-Up and Take-Home School Travel Surveys	Baseline Surveys	Fall 2018	
	Follow-Up Surveys	Anticipated 2020-2021	
Infrastructure Map	Map	Fall 2019	For distribution by school.
	Map Update	Anticipated 2021	
Parking Map	Map	Fall 2019	For distribution by school.
	Map Update	Anticipated 2021	
Parking Changes Near School	Install “3 min parking” zone on E 37th Ave and Dumfries St	Anticipated Fall 2019	Monitor and review as needed. Replacing. Parking changes will support safe pick-up and drop off behaviour.
	Install “30 min parking” zone on E 36th Ave		
Argyle St & E 35th Ave. Stop Bars	Repaint Stop Bars	Summer 2019	

Item	Details	Complete	Comments
Fleming St and E 37th Ave. Crossing	Install T bulge on north-south crossing.	Anticipated 2020-2021	To improve safety, visibility and comfort of pedestrians by shortening the crossing distance.
Lanark St and E 37th Ave. Crossing	Install north-south marked zebra crossing with T bulge on E leg	Anticipated 2020-21	To improve safety and comfort of pedestrians.
	Install LED lighting		
Print Student-Designed Sign	Weather-proof sign will promote Tecumseh 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 traffic safety song "Grandma on the Move" featuring Charlotte Diamond	May 2019	Completed
	Provide Children Activity Book (Online) - teaching road safety through a fun and child friendly experience		
Enforcement. Parking Violations	Enforce any parking violations as requested by the school	Ongoing	To encourage safe pick up and drop off behaviours
Tecumseh Annex Elementary School			
Organize Student-Designed Sign	Students will create sign promoting Tecumseh as an active travel school.	Anticipated 2019-2021	City to provide dimensions and print weather-proof sign.
Active Travel Speakers	School to invite speakers educating students about active travel.	Anticipated 2019-2021	Speakers include VPD and TravelSmart

Item	Details	Complete	Comments
Regular Travel Event	Consider regular (weekly or monthly) active travel event or celebration	Ongoing	Examples include “Walking Wednesday” or “Fitness Friday”
Walking School Bus	Explore the feasibility of having a walking school bus	Ongoing	Walking school bus may include key intersection crossings or a walking route appropriate for student needs.
Tecumseh Annex 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 feasibility 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 Board (VSB)			
Improve Infrastructure For Bicycle Parking	The VSB can support costs for installation of 2 additional bike racks if desired by the school	Completed 2019	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	Present to students on walking safety	Anticipated 2019-2020	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.

Appendix B: Map Package












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.

Tecumseh Annex ~ Active Travel Infrastructure Map



Legend

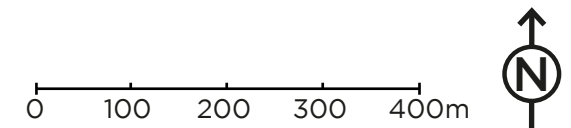
-  Traffic Signal
-  Pedestrian/Bike Signal
-  Marked Crosswalk
-  Traffic Circle
-  Bus Stop
-  School
-  Landmark/Destination
-  Arterial Street (busy)
-  Local Street (less busy)
-  Bike Route
-  School Catchment

Safety Tips

Safe places to cross the street are at the corner of the street with a stop sign, traffic or pedestrian signals or at a marked crosswalk.

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.

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.



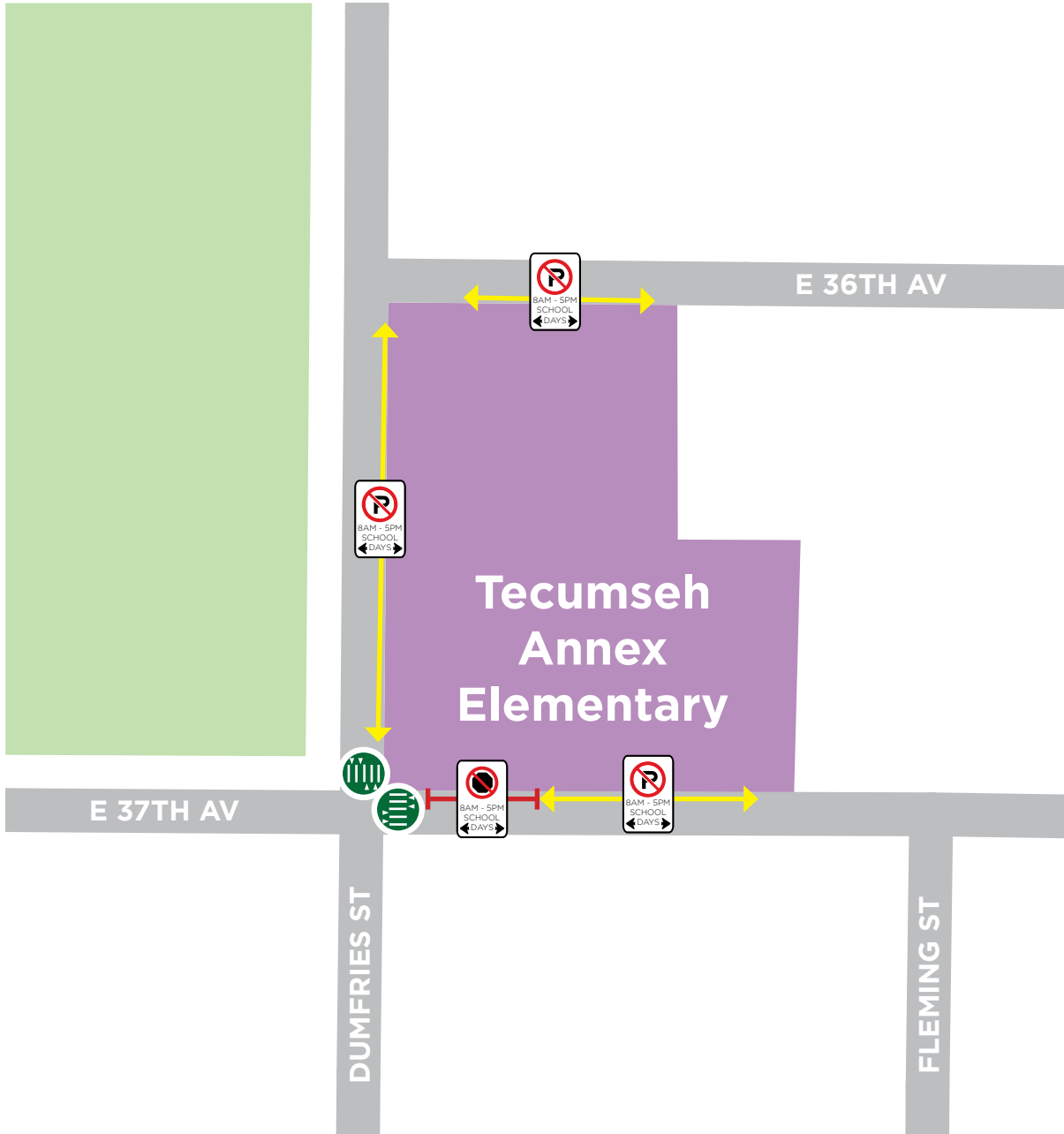
Health

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



Walk+Bike+Roll
Getting Around the
Vancouver Way

Tecumseh Annex Elementary Parking Map



LEGEND



No Parking (School Days)

Drivers may stop for no more than 5 mins to drop-off and pick-up. A legal parking spot should be found to wait longer or enter the school.



No Stopping (School Days)

Vehicles cannot stop in a No Stopping zone for any reason, or any length of time. This gives emergency vehicles somewhere to park during school hours.



School Drop Off/Pick Up Zone



Raised Crosswalk

Crosswalks are vulnerable areas where students are crossing. Drivers should not stop or park on crosswalks. Clearance signs (no stopping) mark the areas near crosswalks where stopping is prohibited.

Support Active Transportation

Keep the area around your school a safe place to walk, cycle and roll by following the posted signs. If you are driving, consider the "Drive to Five" initiative. Park five minutes away and walk to school. It is an active way to start and end the day.



Walk+Bike+Roll Safety Tips

Keep the area around your school a safe place to walk, cycle and roll by 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.



School Crosswalk

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



School Zone

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



Speed Humps

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



School Zone Speed Limit

On local streets in the school zone, drivers need to slow down to 30 km/hr between 8 AM to 5 PM.



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.



Bus Zone

Only buses may park here.



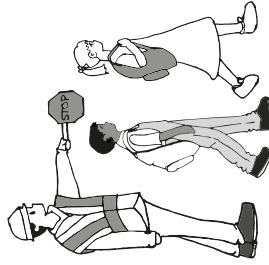
No Parking (School days)

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



3 Minute Parking (School days)

These spots are for quick pick-ups and drop-offs. Park and collect your child quickly to create a spot for another vehicle.



Safety Patrols

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

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

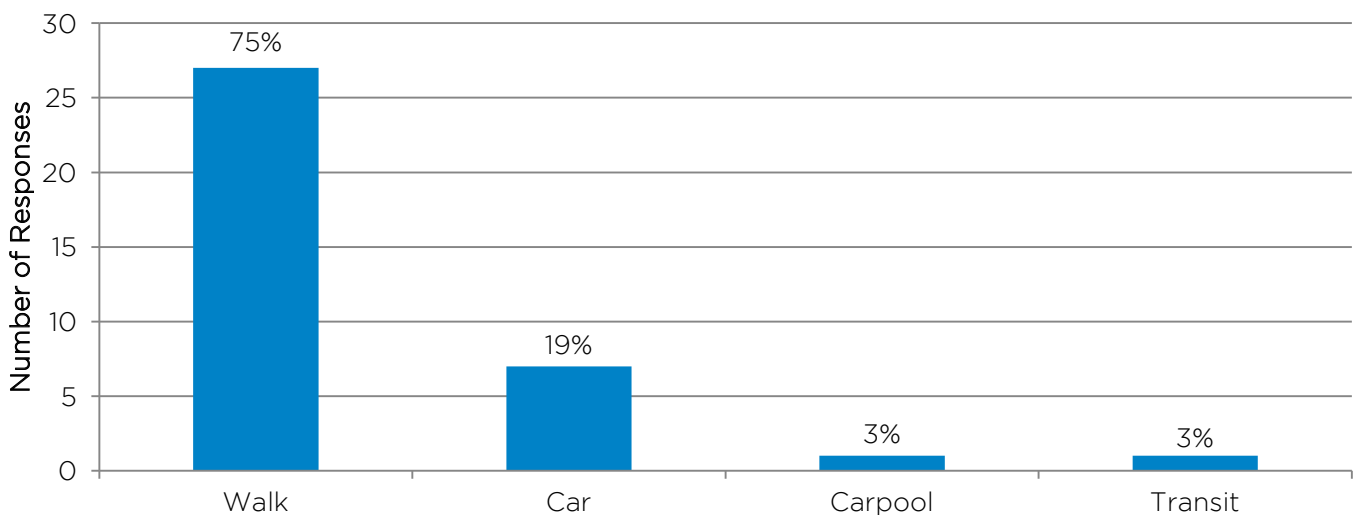
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Appendix C: Surveys

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



* 0% of students cycled to school during the survey period

Families were also able to give details about how often their youngest child walks or bikes as well as how often these journeys take (Figure 8 to Figure 11). These results show the majority of students walk regularly (“almost everyday” and “2-3 days a week”).

The majority of 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, lived closer, 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

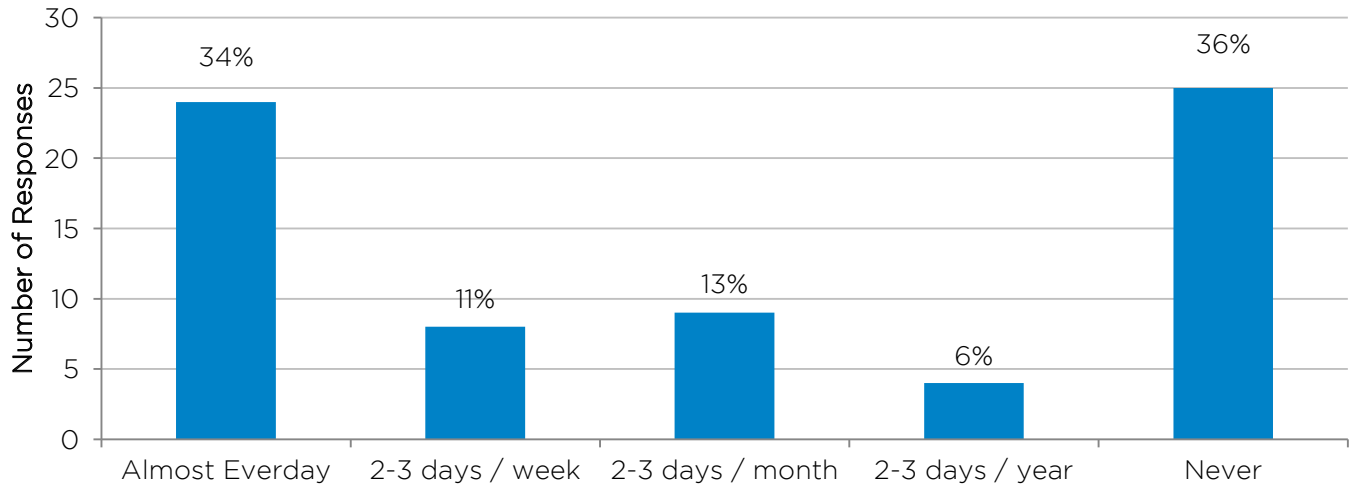
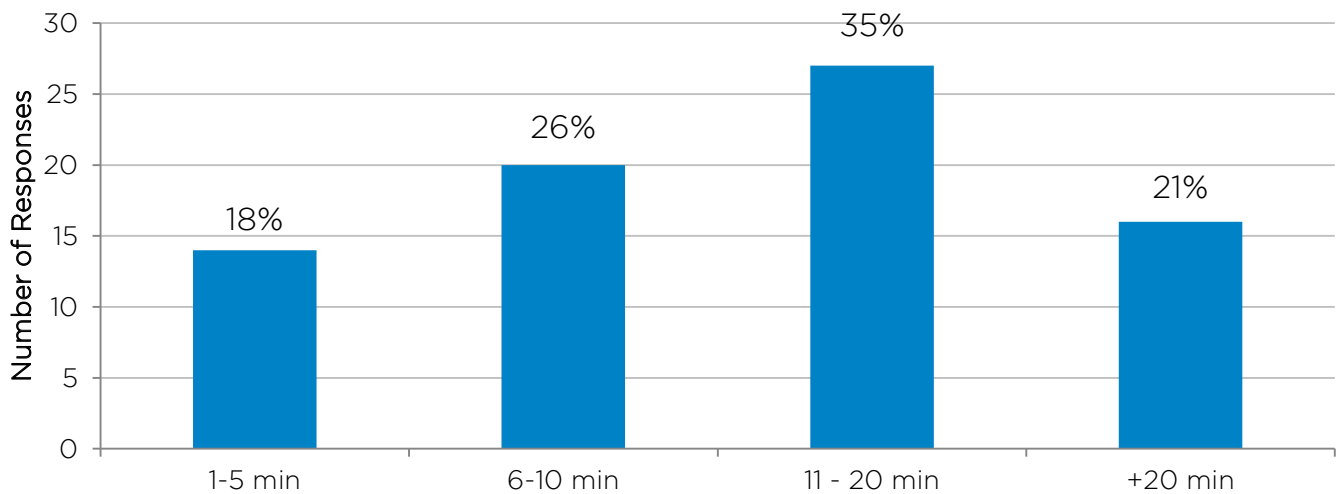


Figure 9. Duration of Walking Trips To / From School



At Tecumseh, the majority of parents are most concerned about safety improvements to E 37th Av (Figure 13). This is largely due to the fact that the majority of students are picked up and dropped off along E 37th Ave, where the main entrance of the school faces onto.

Figure 10. Frequency of Cycling Trips To / From School

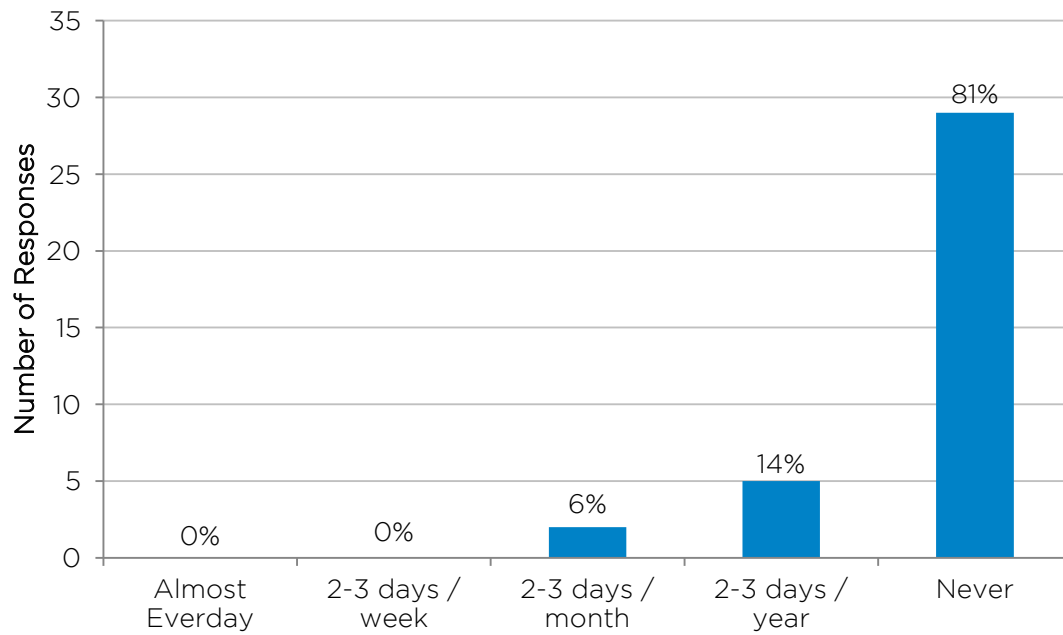


Figure 11. Duration of Cycling Trips To / From School

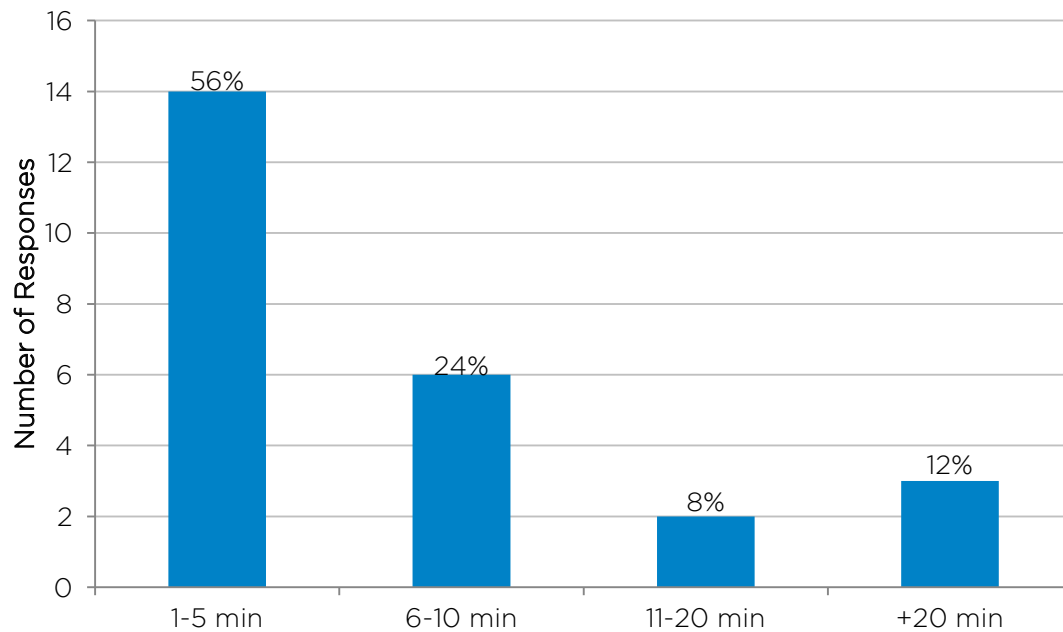


Figure 12. Parents would allow child to bike more if...

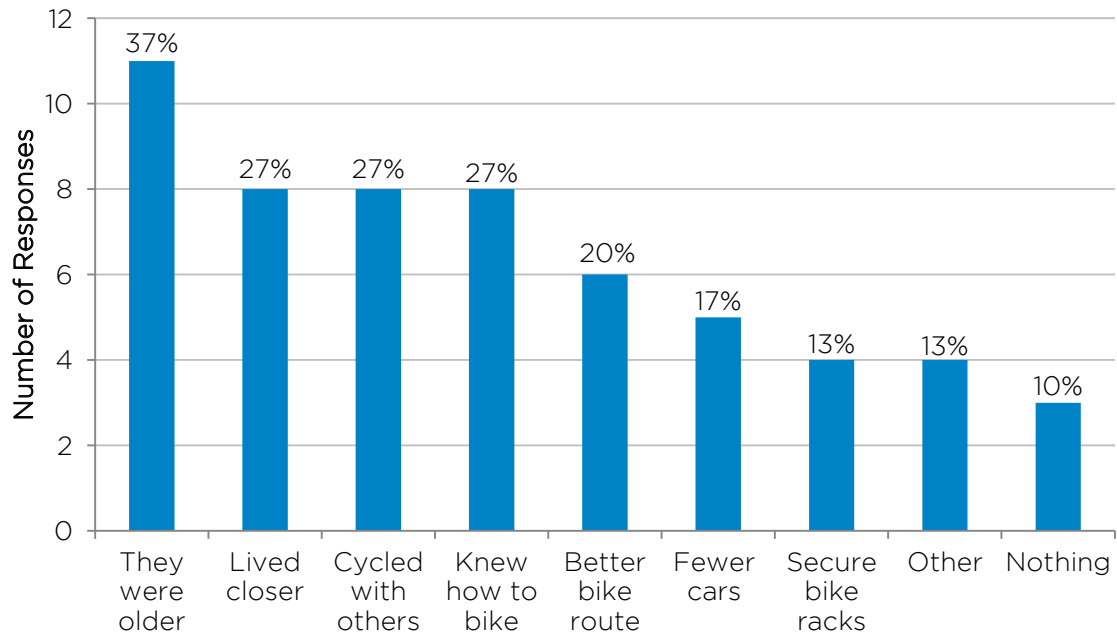
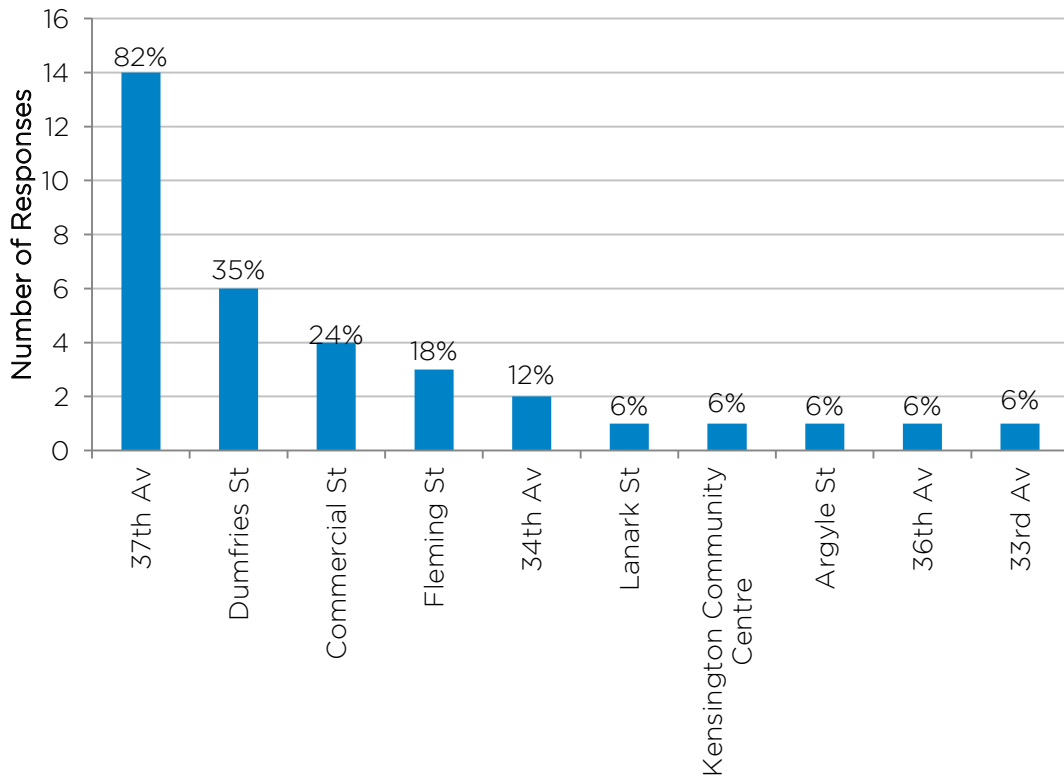


Figure 13. Areas of Concern



Tecumseh Annex Elementary School Classroom Transportation Survey



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

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

Teacher: _____ Grade: _____ Division #: _____ # of Students: _____

"How did you travel to school this morning?"



	Walk/ Scooter	Walk part-way ¹	Bicycle	School Bus	Public Transit	Carpool ²	Car ³	Other	Total
Mon									
Tues									
Wed									
Thurs									

"How will you travel from school today?"



	Walk/ Scooter	Walk part-way ¹	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 ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਲਈ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਹੋ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੈ। ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਕਿਸੇ ਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਦਾ ਉਲੰਘਾ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਅਧੇ।

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 Tecumseh Annex Elementary School Parent:

Tecumseh 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 attached survey and tell us about your family's travel choices. This information will help us create a school travel plan that considers the needs of the school's students and families.

Please return 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 schoolactivetravel@vancouver.ca.

Thank you,

Liliana Quintero
Transportation Engineer
Engineering Services
City of Vancouver
schoolactivetravel@vancouver.ca



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 Tecumseh Annex 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...

4. How does your **youngest** child usually get **TO 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:

5. If you usually drive your **youngest** child **TO 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
☐ Other:



6. How often does your **youngest** child **walk TO** school?
- ☐ Almost everyday
 - ☐ 2-3 days per week
 - ☐ 2-3 times per month
 - ☐ 2-3 times per year
 - ☐ Never
7. How long does it take your **youngest** child **TO walk** to or from school?
- ☐ 1-5 minutes
 - ☐ 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
-



9. How often does your **youngest** child **bike TO** 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
 - ☐ 6-10 minutes
 - ☐ 11-20 minutes
 - ☐ +20 minutes
11. 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
 - ☐ 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.