

School Streets: A Pilot

Presentation to Traffic Safety Council

June 23 2021



Who I Am

Laura Zeglen

**Active Transportation Coordinator,
City of Mississauga**

BPHE, BEd, MA (Education and Public Health Policy)

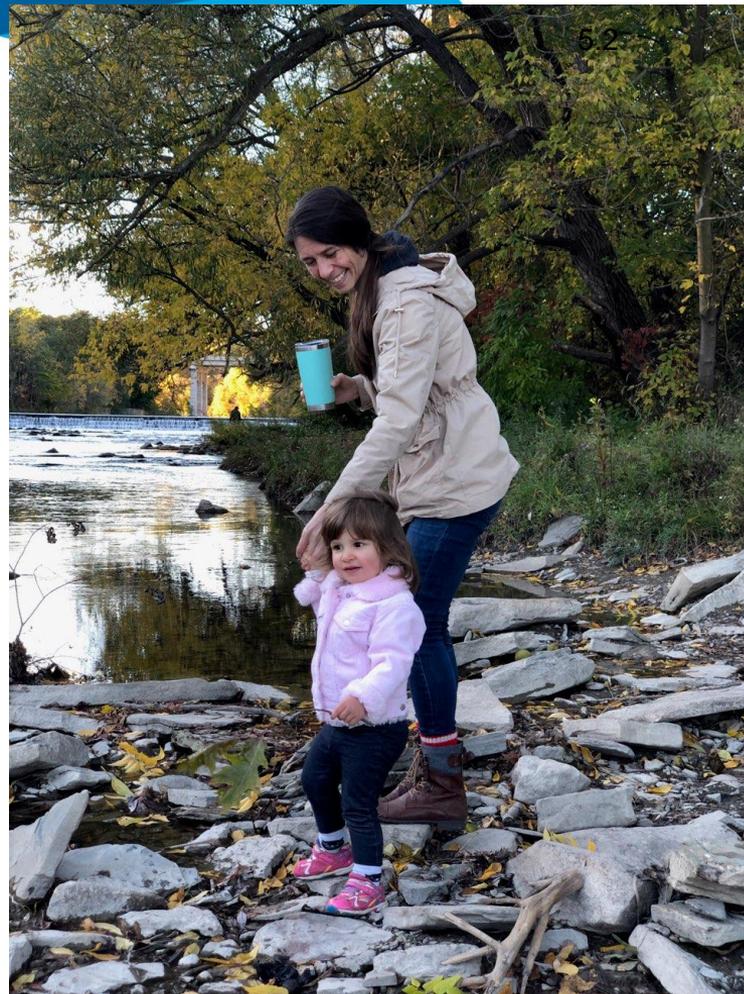
- School Travel Planner
- Researcher
- Teacher



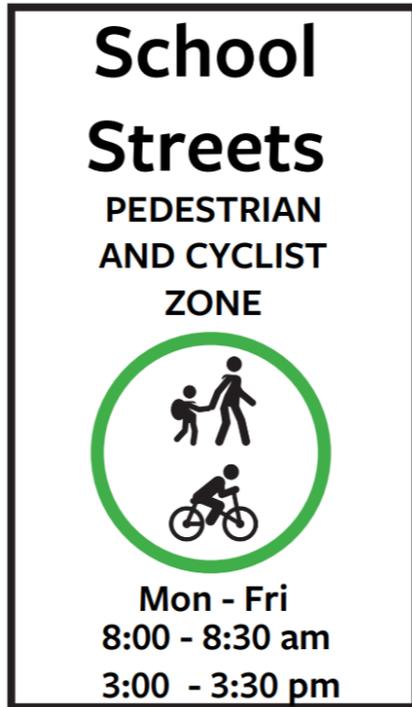
Who I Am

Laura Zeglen (Pronoun: she/her)

- Mother
- Grew up in Mississauga
- Active transportation enthusiast



Project Overview



- What are School Streets?
 - Creating car-free environments in front of schools at start and end of school day
 - Exemptions: Emergency vehicles, immediate residents, those who need additional mobility support
 - Making space and prioritizing safe conditions for walking and other active travel
 - Design reflects the needs of the local community

Project Overview



- What other examples exist?
 - Originated in Italy; broadly adopted across the UK and Denmark
 - Also: Seattle, Victoria, Toronto
 - Evidence of increased rates of AST/decreased driving, as well as broad community support where implemented
 - Can borrow lessons learned

Project Overview

- How are School Streets enforced?
 - Short term: Physical barriers, signs and volunteers
 - Residents within the zone, and those with accessibility concerns, receive special permits



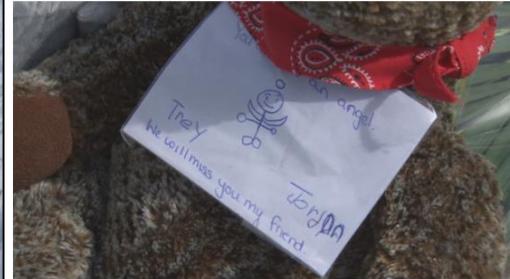
Project Overview



'We will miss you': Community grieves after boy, 6, struck and killed near school

Flowers, toys and handwritten notes marked the site where the child died Friday

CBC News | Posted: Apr 22, 2017 7:57 PM ET | Last Updated: Apr 22, 2017 7:57 PM ET



A hand-written note bidding farewell to a friend at the scene of a crash that claimed the life of a six-year-old boy Friday. (CBC)

Weather

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
1°C	4°C	5°C	3°C

More Weather

ADVERTISEMENT

Dailies Total1 90 P...
Stawick Price Drop
Contact Lenses | No
Minimum Purchase

\$87

- Why School Streets?
– Safety

Project Overview



- Why School Streets?
 - Safety
 - Community
 - Health
 - Environment

Project Overview

- Pilot project across 3 municipalities launching in Spring 2022
- Funding from Ontario Active School Travel grant
- Coordinated by 8-80 Cities

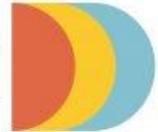


Hamilton



MISSISSAUGA

Ontario Active
School Travel



Green
Communities
CANADA



Project Overview

Phase i: Project Documentation
May 2021

Key Tasks

- ✓ Funding Agreement
- **Letters of Support**

Phase 1: Planning
May 2021- March 2022

Key Tasks

- Site Selection
- **Build local team(s)**
- **Community engagement**
- **Baseline data**
- Permits
- Plan local event(s)

Phase 2: Implementation
March - May 2022

Key Tasks

- **Communications**
- Implement local event(s)
- Media event
- **Data collection**

Phase 3: Knowledge Sharing
June 2022

Key Tasks

- Storytelling Project
- **Follow-up data collection**
- Final Report

Site Selection

- To be determined by Advisory Group
- 1-3 Elementary schools
- Local roads
- Higher rates of AST
- Availability of alternate routes
- Equity considerations
- Supportive communities



Community Engagement

- **Engagement with the local school community** is central to the design and success of this pilot
 - Early and Often
 - Targeted
 - Highly Visual
 - Fun



Vision Zero

- This pilot will be an initiative of Mississauga's Vision Zero Plan
- Key points of alignment
 - Prioritizing vulnerable road users
 - Focus on safety



5.2



In a Vision Zero city, people can travel any way they choose without fear of injury or death. Risks will be proactively mitigated with the five 'Es' of road safety:

Engineering: prioritizing the safety of pedestrians, cyclists, and other vulnerable users when designing and operating streets

Education: enabling travellers to learn and follow best practices through road signs, social media, formal training, and other creative outreach and education tactics

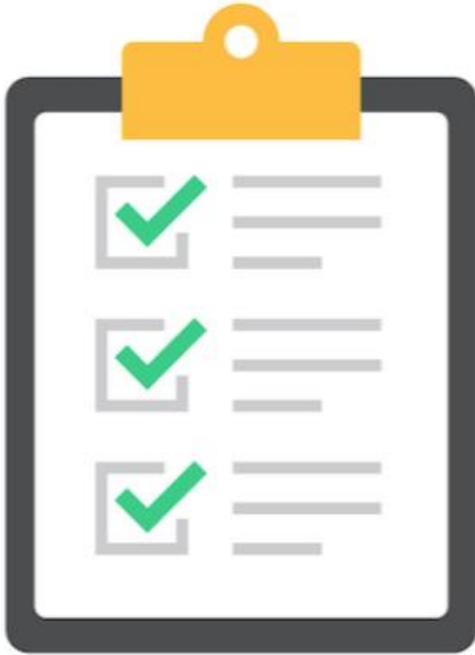
Enforcement: ensuring there are consequences for breaking rules or taking unnecessary risks while travelling

Empathy: fostering concern for community members who are at risk or have been harmed while travelling

Evaluation: tracking and monitoring incidents, learning from the past to improve conditions in the future

People will be more conscious of their travel habits and the potential impact of making mistakes or poor choices. Mississauga will be committed to the Vision Zero principle: no loss of life is acceptable on roads in Mississauga.

Next Steps



- Seek endorsement from Traffic Safety Council
- Site Selection process is underway
- Communications plan to be developed this summer
- Outreach to schools in Fall 2021, for launch in Spring 2022

Your Feedback

- Are there other considerations we need to take into account?
- What potential benefits can you see this having for your local community?

**Thank you, and I'm
looking forward to
working with you!**

Laura Zeglen

Active Transportation
Coordinator

City of Mississauga

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