School Walking Routes Program Update: Safety Audit Walks

Presentation to Mississauga School Traffic Safety Action Committee January 28 2025





- Up to 8 schools/year (mix of repeat and new schools)
- New this year: Full year program (vs half year)
- Participating schools:
 - St. Dominic CES (Ward 1)
 - St. Alfred CES and Brian W. Fleming PS (Ward 3)
 - Fairwind Sr PS (Ward 5)
 - Fairview PS (Ward 7)
 - St. Margaret of Scotland CES and Brookmede PS (Ward 8)



Mississauga School Walking Routes Program

Let's Walk and Roll to School!

Supports & Resources for your School

1. Program Launch

We'll kick off your program with a celebration of walking and rolling to school!

We'll also provide materials for you to share with families to explain the goals of the program.



2. School Routes

We'll review and install signed walking routes to your school. This involves:

- · A short Travel Survey for families
- A Safety Audit Walk to identify possible improvements the City can make to the local streetscape.

Bonus: We'll also create a custom map of your School Walking Routes to share with your school community.



3. Promote Active Travel

We'll lead activities at your school to help get students and families excited about walking and rolling. Choose 2 activities, then plan how you will use your prize pack!







Launch Events

- Giveaway packages delivered to schools
- Collaboration with Public Health
 Nurses from Peel Public Health
- Celebrating active and sustainable school travel





What is the Purpose of a Safety Audit Walk?

- Improve: Opportunity to improve safety and accessibility of new and existing active travel routes
- Standardize: Make school routes look similar across the City
- Streamline: City staff can plan work for the upcoming year
- Engage: Show local communities that we are working to improve opportunities for active school travel





What we are looking for on Safety Audit Walks:

- Walk a section of the existing or proposed School Walking Routes
- Areas of focus:
 - Checklist Items for City staff teams (new this year)
 - Review concerns raised by community members in the Family Travel Survey
 - Any other deficiencies/ concerns noted on the walk





Positives Noted

- Curb cuts in place for all existing pedestrian crossings
- All routes have sidewalks
- Bike racks for both schools
- Many busy crossings, including the intersection of Bloor at Havenwood, have crossing guards in place
- Park paths receive winter maintenance





Areas for Improvement Noted

- More visible crosswalk markings needed at some crossings
- Longer "walk" phase / automatic "walk" signal needed at some intersections
- Accessible pedestrian signals and pedestrian head start signals missing at some intersections





Areas for Improvement Noted

- Requests for traffic calming, new all-way stop controls, improved streetlighting and crossing guards
- Request for better delineation of school/park properties
- Concerns about unofficial pathways through private property to Burnhamdale Park





Areas for Improvement Noted

- Dog poop on park trails
- Drivers reportedly do not stop at midblock pedestrian signals





Next Steps for Safety Audit Walks

- All walks for the 2024/2025 school year are complete
- Summary emails sent to all schools following the walks
- Formal reports in progress
- Follow up on action items is ongoing (short, medium and long-term items)





Next steps for School Walking Routes Program

- Winter and spring programming
 - Winter Wonderland Walks (February)
 - Pedestrian Skills and Drills (April-May)
 - Bike Skills and Drills (May-June)
 - Bike Safety Workshops (May-June)
 - Bike Repair Workshops (May-June)





Thank You!

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