Eau Claire Area School District Bicycle Rack Audit

October 2020

Prepared for:



Prepared by:



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Introduction

The Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program has its roots in both health and transportation safety. The major program goals are to make the school trip safer for walking and biking and to encourage children to walk and bike to and from school. SRTS strives to reduce congestion around schools, improve the health of school-aged children through increased physical activity, reduce vehicle emissions and fuel consumption, increase community security, enhance community accessibility, increase community involvement, and improve partnerships among schools, local municipalities, parents, and other community groups.

In the early and mid-2000s, the Eau Claire Area School District (ECASD), along with volunteers and City of Eau Claire completed Safe STEPS plans for several schools in ECASD. During 2017 and 2018, ECASD and the city worked with West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (WCWRPC) to complete a new district-wide SRTS plan built around National Safe Routes Partnership strategies. Recommendations in the plan vary by school, but common themes include increasing crossing guard presence, improving safety of intersections, adding school zone signage, and supporting and encouraging students to walk and bike to school.

This document summarizes the status of bicycle parking at schools in ECASD. Recommendations to improve accessibility, ease of use, and changes that will encourage greater participation in biking to school are provided for each school.

EAU CLAIRE's SRTS VISION

The Eau Claire Area School District and the City of Eau Claire are national leaders with an innovative Safe Routes to School program. Safe and enjoyable environments for walking and biking to and from school are available at all schools. To allow walking and biking as viable options for students, the school district and city collaborate with other community stakeholders in enhancing and increasing interconnected walking/biking systems to and at the schools. Safe walking, biking, and driving habits; a family oriented SRTS environment; and development that incorporate SRTS initiatives are common in the city.

Who Bikes to School?

During the ECASD SRTS plan development, classroom tally sheets were used audit the modes of transportation being used by students travelling to and from school over a one-week period (Figure 1). The tally sheets were completed in the first half of May 2017. Of the 18 schools in the district, 13 completed the classroom tally sheets. The audits found that across the district, about 16 percent of students were walking or biking to school. Of that 16 percent, 11 percent were walking and five percent were biking.

According to the National Center for Safe Routes to School, nearly 50 percent of students age 5 to 14 walked or biked to school in 1969. By 2009, this number was just 13 percent, a figure in line with the recent audits of Eau Claire students. In ECASD, an average of 38 percent of students live within the walk and bike zone, which is one mile for elementary students and two miles for middle and high school students. Based on the audit findings, fewer than 50 percent of students in the walk and bike zone are using

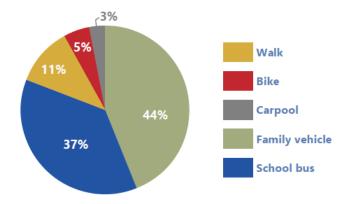


FIGURE 1. ECASD STUDENT TRAVEL MODE TO/FROM SCHOOL, 2017.

those modes of transportation to and from school. This means that a large percentage of students are not getting the benefits of walking and biking to school. This report is one component of the greater Chippewa Valley SRTS partnership that seeks to give more students these opportunities.

What are the Benefits of Biking to School?

Biking to school is a highly beneficial activity for a multitude of reasons. At a most basic level, the exercise provided by walking and biking to school is a critical too to combat the growing obesity epidemic among youth in the United States. Students also gain independence and valuable decision-making skills as they learn to navigate and make choices on their own. Additionally, studies have shown an array of mental health benefits, including improved attention span and being more prepared to learn upon arriving at school. In fact, children who walk or bike to school have been found to have higher academic performance, lower levels of stress, and greater mental clarity¹. In addition to these physical and mental health benefits, there are also environmental benefits to be gained by reducing the number of vehicle trips and fuel use. Greater connection to the community and sense of place can also be realized.



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¹ Iancovich, V. (2015, Sept. 11). Why walking to school is better than driving for your kids. University of Toronto U of T News. https://www.utoronto.ca/news/why-walking-school-better-driving-your-kids.

Why is Bike Parking Important?

Adequate bike parking is a critical component of SRTS plan implementation. Kid and parents prefer not to ride without a safe and obvious place to park that is not over-crowed. By providing adequate bike parking that follows the best practices outlined on the following pages, schools show that biking is a valued and important activity for students. In addition to meeting current parking needs, the SRTS program is building more bicyclists, so room for growth is important.

A Note on the COVID-19 Pandemic

The Covid-19 global pandemic is a unique circumstance affecting everyone in different ways. One obvious trend is the tendency to avoid large gatherings or being in enclosed spaces with those outside one's household. Trends show that alternative transportation rates are up as people shift modes from public transit to biking and walking. As a result, it is expected that fewer students will ride the bus during the pandemic due to concerns about physical distancing. This will lead to an increase in the number of students walking or biking to school, and presents an opportunity for schools to support their students through the SRTS program. This document focuses on improving bike parking facilities at schools as one way to meet the demand.

City of Eau Claire Bicycle Parking Requirements

The City of Eau Claire passed Ordinance 18.25.031, Bicycle Parking Requirements², in 2016 as a part of the Off-Street Parking and Loading Requirements subsection of the city's Title 18: Zoning Code. This ordinance states that elementary schools shall provide "sufficient bicycle spaces to accommodate 10 percent of the school design population," while middle and high schools shall provide "sufficient bicycle spaces to accommodate 5 percent of the school design population." This ordinance applies to new structures and additions, though for the purpose of constancy, school compliance with the ordinance is evaluated for each school in this document despite not being required for preexisting buildings.

Best Practices

Bike parking at schools is often an overlooked amenity treated as a necessity rather than an amenity. The location, style, and condition of bike racks at a school can influence whether a parent chooses to allow their child to bike to school and whether the student is excited about doing so. By implementing the following best practices, schools can show students and parents that biking to school is a fun, safe, and healthy activity. By optimizing bike parking, schools show that biking to school is a common and encouraged method for travelling to and from school.

Location and Ease of Use

School bicycle parking facilities need to be located in a clearly designated, safe, and convenient location. This allows students to easily locate the parking area upon arrival to the school. Further, facilities need

² City of Eau Claire Code of Ordinances, Title 18: Zoning Code, Chapter 25: Off-Street Parking and Loading Requirements, Section 031: Bicycle Parking Requirements. Available at https://www.eauclairewi.gov/home/showdocument?id=30577

to be accessible using a safe route that keeps students protected from vehicle and bus traffic. Rack style, discussed in greater detail in the following subsection, can have a significant impact on ease of use. A sufficiently sized parking area will reduce overcrowding and make it easier for students to properly store their bike during the school day. Finally, locating the racks on a solid surface, such as a concrete pad, keeps weeds, mud, and puddles away from bikes and makes snow removal around the racks possible. This makes biking to school in all weather conditions more appealing, and maintenance of the racks is also made easier.

Rack Style

Rack style controls how many bikes can be parked, how they are parked, and how bikes can be secured/locked. There are many different types of bike racks available on the market. For optimum stability and security, bike racks should support a bicycle upright by its frame in two places and prevent the wheels from tilting or twisting. They should accommodate a U-shaped locking device. The most common styles of bike racks are summarized below, including whether they meet city ordinance.

Grid Racks

Most schools in ECASD use grid style racks, likely due to their abundant availability, low cost, and high capacity. Positive aspects include their ease of use, portability, and low cost. These style racks are not as supportive as other styles described here, and improper use can result in wheel damage. They are a low security rack, as they are incompatible with U-locks, which securely lock both the rear wheel and the frame to the rack. They are also prone to overcrowding. This style rack <u>does not</u> meet the City of Eau Claire bike rack requirements outlined in Ord. 18.25.031.



Wave or Ribbon Racks

Wave or ribbon style racks are similar to grid racks in their style and function. They are also low cost, widely available, and attractive. However, they are not as intuitive as other rack styles such as the inverted U or grid racks, and riders will have to lift their bike up over the "U" portion, which can be difficult for some children. They offer only one touch point for the bicycle, so there can be issues of bikes tipping over with improper use. This style rack does not meet the City of Eau Claire bike rack requirements outlined in Ord. 18.25.031.



Inverted-U Racks

Inverted-U style racks hold two bikes per rack, one on each side. These racks are secured to the ground and support the bike in two locations. They can be used with a variety of lock types. If properly spaced, they provide an orderly and user-friendly bike parking solution. *This style rack does meet City of Eau Claire bike rack requirements outlined in Ord. 18.25.031.*



Hanger-Style Racks

Hanger-style racks have a suspended component to which the bike is attached that offers two touch points. They can usually be accessed from both sides. Care must be taken to order a rack size appropriate to the bike sizes. For example, elementary schools would want to order shorter racks since bikes for that age group are small. The downside is that these racks may then not accommodate adult-sized bikes. These racks also may not be as intuitive for students to use. This style rack does meet City of Eau Claire bike rack requirements outlined in Ord. 18.25.031.



Security

Security is a high priority consideration for planning for bicycle parking at a school. To reduce vandalism and theft, the bike rack facility needs to be located in an area that is visible from within the school. If visibility is an issue, a security camera can provide additional protection. Placing the parking facility in a high traffic area will also deter mischief. In addition to bikes, the bike racks themselves may be subject to vandalism. For this reason, racks should be secured to the concrete at the base. Left-behind bike locks should be regularly removed from the racks. It is also important for students to be trained in how to properly lock their bicycles.

Capacity

Capacity of bike racks should accommodate all students who wish to ride their bike to and from school without over-crowding. Providing a spacious, uncrowded bike parking area may encourage more students to bike to school, as racks that are overcrowded and chaotic will dissuade potential riders from biking to school. Schools may wish to provide a separate parking area for teachers and other school staff who bike to school.

The Eau Claire bike parking ordinance requires that schools provide enough bike parking area for 10 percent of the school design population for elementary schools and 5 percent for middle and high schools. However, in some cases, as with Delong Middle School where nine percent of students (6.6 percent of school design population) reported they bike to school, this is not sufficient. In other cases, as with Robbins Elementary where student attendance geography and road hazards limit the quantity of biking to school, the ordinance required number of parking spaces far exceeds the number of students who would ever bike to school. For this reason, school staff should perform annual classroom and bike rack audits to determine if bike parking capacity is sufficient.

Shelter

Covering the bike parking area provides protection from weather such as extreme heat and rain. Bike shelters also draw attention to the dedicated bike parking area and help students realize that biking can be done in all weather conditions. Sheltered parking is a particularly valuable amenity in Wisconsin, where weather conditions vary during the school year from rainy spring and fall to snowy winters. The following photographs show a few ideas for covered bike parking that could be implemented in Eau Claire.

Example Bike Parking Shelters:



Dual purpose bike shelter covered with solar panels



Cedar bike shelter structure



Steel and glass/acrylic bicycle shelter

Policies

ECASD could consider adding bike parking policies at the school or district level. District-scale bike parking policies may address quantity, placement, installation, and maintenance of racks. At the school level, policies might address student behavior; for example, requiring that students to wear a helmet, walk their bike on sidewalks around the school and in crosswalks, or to sign a letter of commitment to being a safe pedestrian. Elementary age students may be offered a safe biking training as a prerequisite to biking to school on their own. For students who skateboard, rollerblade, or ride a scooter to school, policies may govern storage of these objects during the school day and their use on school property.

Additional Considerations

Whether formal policy or not, all students should be encouraged to wear helmets and other safety gear, such as reflectors and bright clothing, when riding to school. If school lockers are not large enough to store a helmet or are not secure, consider providing helmet storage in an administration office. By dedicating space to helmet storage, the school shows that helmet use is a priority. This also allows the school to monitor and reward student's helmet use.

Other modes of pedestrian transportation to school that have gained popularity are skateboarding and longboarding. If a school has a large population of students who do or wish to skateboard to school, the school should consider installing a specialized skateboard locker. Helmet storage is a consideration for skateboarders as well.

Finally, in addition to providing a safe, sheltered, solid surface for bike parking, schools can further emphasize the value of biking to school by adding signage to the parking area. This can be a fun, encouraging way to place value on biking as a mode of transportation. The example at right shows what such a sign could look like, a fun addition to the bike parking area at any school.



SAMPLE BIKE PARKING AREA DESIGNATION SIGN.

Summary of Bike Parking Audit Findings within ECASD

On the following pages, schools are grouped into three categories according to their level of need and are listed alphabetically within those groups. Each school is described in detail with photographs of the current bike parking situation, a summary of the audit findings, and recommendations to meet the bike parking needs of the school and for improvement of conditions.

In most cases, bike parking at schools in ECASD meets the overall needs of students who bike to school. However, there is room for improvement to encourage more students bike to school, increase safety, and prioritize biking as a great transportation alternative. While existing schools are not required to comply with Eau Claire's bike parking ordinance, it would be an improvement to strive for at any school. Currently three schools, Flynn, Roosevelt, and Sam Davey, are meeting all aspects of the ordinance.

Most racks at ECASD schools are grid-style racks. The number of parking spaces provided by these racks was estimated based on rack length and bar spacing. Each bike is allotted 24 inches of space. For example, a two-sided eight-foot rack can comfortably accommodate eight bikes. Two-sided racks have a horizontal ground bar on both sides for stabilization. If a two sided rack was positioned so only one side is accessible (i.e. up against a fence), it was recorded as a one-sided rack.

Five schools fall into the **Critical Need** category, having a priority need for improvements of bike parking conditions. This may be due to insufficient rack quantity, need for relocation of parking area, and/or needed improvements to safety conditions.

Most schools in ECASD fell within the Moderate Need category. Schools in this category generally provide enough spaces based on perceived need, though annual classroom audits should be performed to confirm. There may be opportunities to improve safety, functionality, or aesthetics at these schools. Bicycle parking at these schools does not meet City of Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031.

Finally, five ECASD schools fall into the **Lower Need** category. Schools in this category either meet the Eau Claire bike parking ordinance or have a minimal number of students who rely on biking as a primary form of transportation due to the geography of their attendance or other factors. Recommendations for these schools focus around implementing best practices to improve functionality, and perhaps more importantly, place a level of esteem on bike parking to increase appeal and encourage more students to bike to school.

Both the audit and the Eau Claire bike ordinance were considered in determining the number of additional bike parking spaces a school needs to add. The number of additional spaces recommended is the difference between the number of existing spaces and the higher of either the audited bike parking need or the ordinance requirement of 10 percent (elementary schools) or 5 percent (secondary schools) of the school design population. While bike parking spaces provided may meet current demand, it is crucial for schools to plan for future need to accommodate growing interest in biking and walking to school as a result of the Safe Routes to School program efforts.





Overview

Bike audits conducted in 2017 indicate that Delong Middle School has the highest number of students biking to school in the district, with 70 students (6.6%) biking to school the week of the audit. The rate of students biking to school exceeds the Eau Claire ordinance required bike parking rate of 5% for secondary schools. For this reason, the number of recommended additional spaces needed at Delong are based on the audit rather than the ordinance.

All bike racks at Delong are located at south corner of school. While there is a concrete pad present, it appears that the racks are not all located on the

Delong Bike Parking Quick Stats

2019-20 Enrollment	1,055
School Capacity	1,200
Rack Style	Grid
Bike Parking Spaces	70
Audit Estimated Need	95
Ordinance Req. Spaces	60
Add'l Spaces Needed	25*

*At least 25 additional spaces are needed to meet existing demand. Ordinance required spaces and actual spaces needed may not align and should be determined through an annual classroom audit of transportation methods.

concrete during normal use (see above photos). The racks are not attached to the concrete and are not visible from inside the school, which increases the possibility of theft and vandalism.

The primary recommendations for Delong are to increase the number of bike parking spaces and to locate bike parking in a location with high visibility with racks secured on to a dedicated concrete pad.

- 1. Increase number of bicycle parking spaces (+25) to meet demand.
- 2. Relocate bike racks to a dedicated concrete pad in a location with visibility from inside the school.
- 3. Update bike rack style to provide better bike support and to meet Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031 requirements.
- 4. Secure racks to concrete.
- 5. Perform a homeroom audit of student transportation methods annually.
- 6. Shelter parking areas to encourage bike riding in all weather conditions.
- 7. Add a bike parking area designation sign such as "Knights Parking Only" to show support for and encourage biking to school (see example on pg. 7).







*At least eight additional spaces are needed to meet existing demand. Ordinance required spaces and actual spaces needed may not align and should be determined through an annual classroom audit of transportation methods.

Overview

The rate of students walking and biking to Manz Elementary is tied with Longfellow for the highest in the district at 27 percent. This makes up 63 percent of the students who live in the walk and bike zone, which is the highest rate in the district (120 students at the time of the audit).

There are three bike parking areas at Manz. Two grid racks are located along the fence at the northeast side of the school. These racks are just a few feet away from the school dumpster, which could deter students from using them due to safety and odor concerns. Although they are two-sided racks, one side of each is against the fence and is therefore not accessible and not included in the number of bike parking spaces available at the school.

On the northwest side of the school are eight inverted U racks on a concrete pad near door nine, providing parking for up to 18 bikes. Two additional grid racks are located in a grassed area along the fence to the southwest of these. These are one-sided grid racks along a fence with one side accessible.

Altogether there are 36 bike parking spaces, however it is estimated from the audit that 42 students bike to school daily, which indicates the racks are overcrowded. Further, the Eau Claire city ordinance would require that at least 47 spaces be provided to serve 10 percent of the school design population.

Manz should immediately increase the amount of bike parking. When coupled with greater consideration on bike parking location, more students will be apt to bike to school regularly.

- 1. Move bike racks away from dumpster on east side of school.
- 2. Pull bike racks away from fence so that both sides can be used.
- 3. Increase number of bicycle parking spaces (+11) to meet demand and Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031.
- 4. Update bike rack style to provide better bike support and to meet Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031 requirements.
- 5. Relocate racks on west side of school to a concrete location.
- 6. Secure racks to concrete.
- 7. Perform a homeroom audit of student transportation methods annually.
- 8. Shelter parking areas to encourage bike riding in all weather conditions.
- 9. Add a bike parking area designation sign such as "Mustang Parking Only" to show support for and encourage biking to school.







Overview

Bike parking at North is located at two entrances to the school. There are three two-sided grid racks at the northeast side of school outside of doors 13A and 13. One two-sided grid rack and one one-sided grid rack are located outside door at northeast side of school. The current quantity of bike racks serves 2.5 percent of the school design population. A walk and bike audit has not been completed at North; however, an additional 40 parking spaces are needed to meet the Eau Claire bike parking ordinance of providing parking for five percent of school design population.

North High Bike Parking Quick Stats

Add'l Spaces Recommended	40*
Ordinance Req. Spaces	85
Audit Estimated Need	Not Audited
Bike Parking Spaces	45
Rack Style	Grid
School Capacity	1,700
2019-20 Enrollment	1,534

*Ordinance required spaces and actual spaces needed may not align and should be determined through an annual classroom audit of transportation methods.

All racks are on grassed areas, and some racks were chained to small trees or to each other. None were secured to the ground or concrete. In addition, bike racks were unkempt, with many left-behind bike locks remaining on the racks. The vertical metal bars were loose on one rack, with some bars laying on the ground around the rack. The bike racks are not highly visible from inside the school.

Overall, the main recommendations for bike parking at North include increasing the number of spaces, improving safety of racks, and improving aesthetics to build greater esteem for biking to school.

- 1. Increase number of bicycle parking spaces (+40) to meet Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031.
- 2. Relocate bike racks to a dedicated concrete pad in a location with visibility from inside the school.
- 3. Update bike rack style to provide better bike support and to meet Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031 requirements.
- 4. Secure racks to concrete.
- 5. Remove old locks left behind on racks.
- 6. Perform a homeroom audit of student transportation methods annually.
- 7. Shelter parking areas to encourage bike riding in all weather conditions.
- 8. Add a bike parking area designation sign such as "Husky Parking Only" to show support for and encourage biking to school (see example on pg. 7).





Overview

Bike racks at Northstar were located along the fence facing the bike trail at the time of the survey (when schools were closed), but it is believed that the racks are normally located on the parking lot surface near the tennis courts based on previous photographs. Their location in the parking lot creates a hazard for student bikers, who may not be expected or seen by cars, and requires that bikers travel through the parking lot to get to the parking area. The bike parking area is also not highly visible from inside the school due to its location adjacent to the gym.

There are four grid style racks in the bike parking area.

Three are two-sided and one is single sided, providing parking space for 35 bicycles. Walk and bike audits performed in 2017 indicate that the number of bike parking spaces is insufficient, leading to overcrowded racks. This deters additional students from riding bikes to school.

The safety concerns and potential overcrowding are the reason Northstar is ranked as "critical" for improvement need. Therefore, the primary needs at Northstar are to increase the racks to accommodate all students who wish to bike to school and to relocate racks away from the parking lot to increase safety.

Recommendations

- 1. Move bike racks to a safer location that is not within a parking lot, is on a dedicated concrete pad, and with visibility from inside the school.
- 2. Increase number of bicycle parking spaces (+5) to meet demand.
- 3. Update bike rack style to provide better bike support and to meet Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031 requirements.
- 4. Secure racks to concrete.
- 5. Perform a homeroom audit of student transportation methods annually.
- 6. Shelter parking areas to encourage bike riding in all weather conditions.

Northstar Bike Parking Quick Stats

2019-20 Enrollment	575
School Capacity	700
Rack Style	Grid
Bike Parking Spaces	35
Audit Estimated Need	40
Ordinance Req. Spaces	35
Add'l Spaces Recommended	5*

*At least five additional spaces are needed to meet existing demand. Ordinance required spaces and actual spaces needed may not align and should be determined through an annual classroom audit of transportation methods.

7.	Add a bike parking area designation sign such as "Polar Bears Parking Only" to show support for and encourage biking to school (see example on pg. 7).





Overview

Sherman elementary has two bike racks that hold up to nine bikes each, a significant shortage when compared with the number of students who live within the walk/bike zone (approximately 140) and the number of spaces required by city ordinance (63 parking spaces). A 2017 audit also indicates that the number of students biking to school exceeds the number of bike parking spaces provided. Therefore, the key recommendations for Sherman to increase the number of parking spaces and to locate the rear parking area on a dedicated concrete pad.

Implementing the strategies identified for Sherman on

page 102 of the ECASD SRTS plan would help to increase the number of students who can comfortably walk and

Sherman Bike Parking Quick Stats

2019-20 Enrollment	484
School Capacity	632
Rack Style	Grid
Bike Parking Spaces	18
Audit Estimated Need	19
Ordinance Req. Spaces	63
Add'l Spaces Recommended	45*

*At least one additional space is needed to meet existing demand. Ordinance required spaces and actual spaces needed may not align and should be determined through an annual classroom audit of transportation methods.

Recommendations

- 1. Increase number of bicycle parking spaces (+45) to meet demand and Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031.
- 2. Update bike rack style to provide better bike support and to meet Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031 requirements.
- 3. Locate bike parking currently at rear of school to a dedicated concrete pad.

bike, particularly for those coming from the neighborhood to the southwest of school.

- 4. Secure racks to concrete.
- 5. Work with city to implement sidewalks as recommended in SRTS plan to make biking to school a safer option for students.
- 6. Perform a homeroom audit of student transportation methods annually.
- 7. Shelter parking areas to encourage bike riding in all weather conditions.
- 8. Add a bike parking area designation sign such as "Stars Parking Only" to show support for and encourage biking to school (see example on pg. 7).





Overview

Currently there is a dedicated bike parking area at the south side of the school near door 6. Two wave-style racks at this location provide parking for 18 bikes. The racks are secured to the concrete and in good shape. Their location near the playground, school entrance, and with visibility from inside the school is excellent. A small grid-style rack at the front entrance provides parking for an additional three bicycles.

Seventeen percent of Lakeshore students live within the walk/bike zone. Of those students, 47 percent walk or bike to school, which is among the higher rates in

Ordinance Req. Spaces......47

Add'l Spaces Needed26*

Lakeshore Bike Parking Quick Stats

*Ordinance required spaces and actual spaces needed may not align and should be determined through an annual classroom audit of transportation methods.

the district, exceeded only by Locust Lane, Manz, and Delong. Of those who do walk and bike, nearly 90 percent walk, while just 10 percent bike. Working with the city to complete improvements recommended in the ECASD SRTS plan for Lakeshore (page 46) could help increase student walk and bike rates further.

- 1. Perform a homeroom audit of student transportation methods annually.
- 2. Review and work with city to implement strategies recommended in the ECASD SRTS plan.
- 3. Encourage students to use safe routes to walk and bike to school.
- 4. Increase number of bicycle parking spaces (+26) to meet Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031.
- 5. Update bike rack style to provide better bike support and to meet Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031 requirements.
- 6. Shelter parking areas to encourage bike riding in all weather conditions.
- 7. Add a bike parking area designation sign such as "Wave Parking Only" to show support for and encourage biking to school (see example on pg. 7).



Locust Lane Bike Parking Quick Stats

Add'l Spaces Needed	7*
Ordinance Req. Spaces	
Audit Estimated Need	_
Bike Parking Spaces	
Rack Style	
School Capacity	474
2019-20 Enrollment	247

*Ordinance required spaces and actual spaces needed may not align and should be determined through an annual classroom audit of transportation methods.

Overview

At Locust Lane, four grid-style bike racks are found along the northeast side of the school, adjacent to the drop off area. There is great visibility of the racks from inside the school. The racks are older but in useable condition, though one rack does not have cross bars to stabilize the front wheel of bikes parked in the rack. Although the racks themselves are located on concrete, one side of each rack requires the user to park on the grass.

Nearly half of students attending Locust Lane live within the walk/bike zone. Of those, a classroom audit determined that 58 percent of students walk or bike to school. This is the second highest walk/bike rate in the district, exceeded only by Manz Elementary. During the SRTS Plan development, parents rated improvement of intersection safety as the main reason they would change their mind about not allowing their child to walk or bike to school. Therefore, improvement to crosswalk conditions as noted in the ECAS SRTS plan for Locust Lane (pg. 50) could lead to higher rates of students walking and biking to school.

- 1. Review and work with city to implement strategies recommended in the ECASD SRTS plan to improve intersection safety.
- 2. Increase number of bicycle parking spaces (+7) to meet Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031.
- 3. Update bike rack style to provide better bike support and to meet Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031 requirements.
- 4. Perform a homeroom audit of student transportation methods annually.
- 5. Shelter parking areas to encourage bike riding in all weather conditions.
- 6. Add a bike parking area designation sign such as "Leopards Parking Only" to show support for and encourage biking to school (see example on pg. 7).





Overview

Longfellow Elementary offers two single-sided grid bike racks near entrance 2A of the school. The racks are in good condition but should be pulled away from the inside corner of the alcove to avoid congestion for bikers parking there. The location adjacent to the playground entrance is ideal, however access to the racks is from Centre St., which is not a designated safe route to school. The racks are not visible from within the school, which could lead to opportunity for theft or vandalism.

In terms of total student enrollment, Longfellow is tied with Manz for the highest percent of students who

Longfellow Bike Parking Quick Stats

2019-20 Enrollment	280
School Capacity	474
Rack Style	Grid
Bike Parking Spaces	16
Audit Estimated Need	3
Ordinance Req. Spaces	47
Add'l Spaces Needed	31*

*Ordinance required spaces and actual spaces needed may not align and should be determined through an annual classroom audit of transportation methods.

walk or bike to school at 27 percent. Of that 27 percent, 26 percent report walking, while only one percent report biking to school. Repeating the audit annually will confirm if these numbers are still accurate. The school should work with the city to implement recommendations from page 54 of the ECASD SRTS plan to potentially increase the number of students biking to school.

- 1. Review and work with city to implement strategies recommended in the ECASD SRTS plan to improve safety of student travel to school and increase biking rate.
- 2. Move racks to a more visible location to deter theft and vandalism.
- 3. Increase number of bicycle parking spaces (+31) to meet Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031.
- 4. Update bike rack style to provide better bike support and to meet Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031 requirements.
- 5. Perform a homeroom audit of student transportation methods annually.
- 6. Shelter parking areas to encourage bike riding in all weather conditions.
- 7. Add "Lions Parking Only" sign to show support and encourage bike parking (see example on pg. 7).





Overview

Meadowview Elementary features two bike parking areas. The larger dedicated parking area is located on the south side of the school. This area features a concrete pad with five grid racks. Although the racks are older and rusty in color, they are functional. A secondary bike parking area can be found on a dedicated concrete pad on the east side of the school. These racks are also older, and one is bent along the bottom as shown in the photo above. Both bike parking areas have high visibility from inside school.

Currently Meadowview provides sufficient parking for the estimated number of students who bike to school

Meadowview Bike Parking Quick Stats

2019-20 Enrollment	454
School Capacity	474
Rack Style	Grid
Bike Parking Spaces	70
Audit Estimated Need	14
Ordinance Req. Spaces	47
Add'l Spaces Needed	0*

*Ordinance required spaces and actual spaces needed may not align and should be determined through an annual classroom audit of transportation methods.

based on a 2017 classroom audit. Although the quantity of bike parking meets the city ordinance, it does not meet the ordinance in terms of style. Improvements to bike parking at Meadowview would include updating rack style to meet city ordinance and securing racks to the concrete. A shelter over the bike parking area would encourage biking in all weather conditions. A "Hawks Parking Only" sign could add an element of encouragement to student bikers.

- 1. Update bike rack style to provide better bike support and to meet Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031 requirements.
- 2. Perform a homeroom audit of student transportation methods annually.
- 3. Shelter parking areas to encourage bike riding in all weather conditions.
- 4. Add a bike parking area designation sign such as "Hawks Parking Only" to show support for and encourage biking to school (see example on pg. 7).







Memorial Bike Parking Quick Stats

2019-20 Enrollment	1,635
School Capacity	1,900
Rack Style	Grid
Bike Parking Spaces	80
Audit Estimated Need	Not Audited
Ordinance Req. Spaces	95
Add'l Spaces Needed	15*

*Ordinance required spaces and actual spaces needed may not align and should be determined through an annual classroom audit of transportation methods.

Overview

Memorial provides bike parking at several locations around the school. The primary parking area is located outside of door 2 at the southwest corner of the school. In this location there are six purple powder-coated grid style racks that are in good condition. The racks are located on a concrete pad but are not secured to the concrete.

An additional purple powder-coated rack is located along the east side of the school on concrete near a school entrance. A third bike parking area is provided on the north end of the school outside door 8, on the grass. This grid-style rack is rusty and older but still functional. All racks are visible from inside the school, though the north rack is likely not viewed as easily.

An audit was not performed at Memorial during the development of the ECASD SRTS plan. An additional 15 bike parking spaces are needed to meet city ordinance. Primary recommendations for Memorial are to increase the number of bike parking spaces, relocation rack at north end of school to concrete, update rack style to meet ordinance, and secure racks to concrete.

Recommendations

1. Increase number of bicycle parking spaces (+15) to meet Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031.

- 2. Update bike rack style to provide better bike support and to meet Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031 requirements.
- 3. Secure racks to concrete.
- 4. Perform a homeroom audit of student transportation methods annually.
- 5. Shelter parking areas to encourage bike riding in all weather conditions.
- 6. Add a bike parking area designation sign such as "Old Abes Parking Only" to show support for and encourage biking to school (see example on pg. 7).





Overview

Due to its attendance geography as well as its location near high speed roads and highways, Northwoods has a much lower walk and bike rate than many schools in ECASD. Just nine percent of students live within the walk/bike zone. A walk/bike classroom audit was not performed at this school during the ECASD SRTS plan development, so it is unknown how many students within the zone bike or walk to school.

Four two-sided grid racks in very good condition are provided at Northwoods. These racks are located inside the playground fenced area with access via the sidewalk along the school parking lot, which is

Northwoods Bike Parking Quick Stats

2019-20 Enrollment	366
School Capacity	474
Rack Style	Grid
Bike Parking Spaces	40
Audit Estimated Need	Not Audited
Ordinance Req. Spaces	47
Add'l Spaces Needed	7*

*Ordinance required spaces and actual spaces needed may not align and should be determined through an annual classroom audit of transportation methods.

identified as a safe route in the ECASD SRTS plan (page 81). Given the small walk zone, this may be an adequate amount of bicycle parking for the school, though it is less than the city ordinance. Northwoods should perform a walk and bike audit annually to determine what methods students use to travel to and from school, and increase bike parking if needed.

To increase the walk/bike zone and therefore the number of students who are able to walk or bike to school, it is recommended that the school encourage the Town of Seymour and the City of Eau Claire to work together to add a pedestrian travel corridor along McKinley Rd.

- 1. Work with the city and town to implement pedestrian corridors as recommended in SRTS plan to make biking to school a safer option for students.
- 2. Increase number of bicycle parking spaces (+7) to meet Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031.
- 3. Update bike rack style to provide better bike support and to meet Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031 requirements.
- 4. Secure racks to concrete.
- 5. Perform a homeroom audit of student transportation methods annually.
- 6. Shelter parking areas to encourage bike riding in all weather conditions.

7.	Add a bike parking area designation sign such as "Eagles Parking Only" to show support for and encourage biking to school (see example on pg. 7).





Overview

Putnam Heights has a dedicated concrete pad with three grid-style bike racks at the northwest side of the school. This is accessible via a sidewalk along the bus drop off area or by crossing in the crosswalk within the parking lot, which is staffed by student crossing guards. The racks are in good condition.

Two additional grid racks can be found at the rear of the school east of the playground on a dedicated concrete pad. These racks are accessible via the W. Tyler Ave. safe route to school and are likely used primarily by students coming from the east. Neither

Putnam Bike Parking Quick Stats

2019-20 Enrollment	433
School Capacity	474
Rack Style	Grid
Bike Parking Spaces	42
Audit Estimated Need	17
Ordinance Req. Spaces	47
Add'l Spaces Needed	5*

*Ordinance required spaces and actual spaces needed may not align and should be determined through an annual classroom audit of transportation methods.

these nor the racks at the front of the school are secured to the concrete.

Overall, Putnam should continue to do annual transportation audits to ensure enough bike parking is being provided. Adding five additional bike parking spaces and replacing the racks with inverted-u racks or other approved styles would meet the city ordinance.

- 1. Increase number of bicycle parking spaces (+5) to meet Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031.
- 2. Update style of bike racks to meet Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031.
- 3. Secure bike racks to concrete pad.
- 4. Perform a homeroom audit of student transportation methods annually.
- 5. Shelter parking areas to encourage bike riding in all weather conditions.
- 6. Add a bike parking area designation sign such as "Panthers Parking Only" to show support for and encourage biking to school (see example on pg. 7).



Robbins Bike Parking Quick Stats

2019-20 Enrollment	498
School Capacity	632
Rack Style	Grid
Bike Parking Spaces	16
Audit Estimated Need	. Not Audited
Ordinance Req. Spaces	63
Add'l Spaces Needed	47*

*Ordinance required spaces and actual spaces needed may not align and should be determined through an annual classroom audit of transportation methods.

Overview

There are two grid racks at Robbins Elementary. They are located on a grassed area just outside the fenced school basketball courts and play area. Access to the bike racks is appropriate as it is via the sidewalk along the parking area, which is a designated safe route. The racks are visible from a few windows inside the school.

The quantity and style of racks do not meet City of Eau Claire Ord. 18.25.031. However, the ordinance required quantity may be excessive for this school given its large attendance area and few students (6%/30 students) who reside in the school's walk zone. The school did not complete a walk and bike audit during the development of the ECASD SRTS plan, so it is unclear how many students take advantage of the opportunity to bike to school.

The key recommendation for Robbins is to relocate the racks to a dedicated concrete pad to Locate racks on a concrete pad. Consider covering the parking areas to encourage bike riding in all weather conditions.

- 1. Relocate and secure bike racks to concrete pad.
- 2. Update style of bike racks to meet Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031.
- 3. Perform a homeroom audit of student transportation methods annually. If needed, increase number of bicycle parking spaces to meet demand or meet Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031 (+47).
- 4. Shelter parking areas to encourage bike riding in all weather conditions.
- 5. Add a bike parking area designation sign such as "Eagles Parking Only" to show support for and encourage biking to school (see example on pg. 7).







South Bike Parking Quick Stats					
2019-20 Enrollment	889				
School Capacity	1,100				
Rack Style	Grid				
Bike Parking Spaces	90				
Audit Estimated Need	Not Audited				
Ordinance Req. Spaces	55				
Add'l Spaces Needed	0*				

*Ordinance required spaces and actual spaces needed may not align and should be determined through an annual classroom audit of transportation methods.

Overview

South Middle School offers bike racks in several locations around the school, at the northwest, northeast, and southwest corners and along the south side of the builder. All are grid racks in older but functional condition, with one exception as seen in the bottom photo above where the bottom of the rack is bent upwards. All racks are located on concrete, though none are secured to the concrete. Most of the racks are visible from at least a few windows of the school except those at the south side, which are adjacent to the windowless gym.

Currently there is bike parking for approximately 90 bicycles. This exceeds the Eau Claire city ordinance requirement of providing parking for five percent of the school design capacity at middle and high schools. Because over 40 percent of students live within the walk/bike zone, a classroom walk and bike audit should be performed annually to determine if rack quantity is sufficient. Additional recommendations are to update the style of bike racks to meet city ordinance, secure the racks to concrete, and cover the bike parking areas to encourage biking in all weather conditions.

- 1. Perform a homeroom audit of student transportation methods annually.
- 2. Update style of bike racks to meet Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031.
- 3. Secure bike racks to the concrete.

- 4. Shelter parking areas to encourage bike riding in all weather conditions.
- 5. Add a bike parking area designation sign such as "Falcons Parking Only" to show support for and encourage biking to school (see example on pg. 7).

Lower Need



Chippewa Valley Montessori Bike Parking Quick Stats

2019-20 Enrollment	287
School Capacity	Unknown
Rack Style	Inverted U
Bike Parking Spaces	8
Audit Estimated Need	Not Audited
Ordinance Reg. Spaces	Unknown
Add'l Spaces Needed	Unknown*

*Ordinance required spaces and actual spaces needed may not align and should be determined through an annual classroom audit of transportation methods.

Overview

There are four green powder-coated inverted-U style bike racks at the Chippewa Valley Montessori School, providing parking for eight bicycles. The racks are secured to the concrete and are visible from within the school.

Although the quantity of spaces is not sufficient to meet the city ordinance, it is likely given the Montessori's wide attendance geography that the quantity is appropriate to meet the need for walking/bike to school. During the development of ECASD SRTS plan, classroom audits were completed by the school and found that about two percent, or five students, were using walking/biking as a transportation method. About six percent of enrolled students live within the walk/bike zone. It is recommended that an annual student audit of school transportation methods be completed to determine if the quantity of racks is sufficient over time.

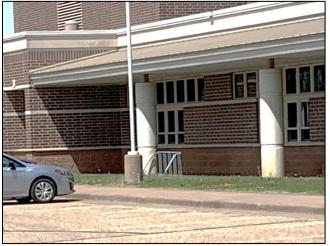
For students where distance was not a factor in their ability to walk or bike to school, safety of intersections was the biggest improvement that could be made to increase walking/bike. For this reason, it is recommended that the school work with the city to implement recommendations from the ECASD SRTS plan (page 70).

- 1. Shelter parking area to encourage bike riding in all weather conditions.
- 2. Look for additional ways to encourage students to bike to school through classroom activities and events.
- 3. Work with city to implement intersection safety improvements recommended in the ECASD SRTS plan.
- 4. Perform a homeroom audit of student transportation methods annually.
- 5. Add a bike parking area designation sign such as "Mountain Lions Parking Only" to show support for and encourage biking to school (see example on pg. 7).

Lower Need







*Ordinance required spaces and actual spaces needed may not align and should be determined through an annual classroom audit of transportation methods.

Overview

Flynn offers 18 inverted-U racks, which provide parking for 36 bikes. This makes Flynn one of three schools in the district to fully meet City of Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031 for quantity and rack type. Additional racks provided include five nine-bike wave-style racks adjacent to the inverted-U racks and one five-bike single-sided grid rack, presumable for faculty use, on the south side of the school. The wave and inverted-U racks are located on the northeast corner of the school and secured to a concrete pad.

The amount of traffic and safety of intersections were cited by parents as the main reasons they chose not to allow their child to walk or bike to school. They also said that they would be more likely to allow their child to walk/bike if safety if intersections was improved. Increasing the number of safety patrols and implementing recommendations from the ECASD SRTS plan (page 42) could increase walk/bike rates.

To encourage more students to bike to school in all weather conditions, shelter could be added to the bike parking area. Another element of fun and encouragement would be to add a "Flyers Parking Only" sign like that described in the Best Practices – Other considerations section of this document. Annual classroom audits of student transportation methods will help track the rate of students walking or biking to school and identify ways to increase the rate.

- 1. Perform a homeroom audit of student transportation methods annually.
- 2. Shelter parking area to encourage bike riding in all weather conditions.
- 3. Look for additional ways to encourage students to bike to school through classroom activities and events
- 4. Work with city to implement intersection safety improvements recommended in the ECASD SRTS plan.
- 5. Add a bike parking area designation sign such as "Flyers Parking Only" to show support for and encourage biking to school (see example on pg. 7).



McKinley Bike Parking Quick Stats

2019-20 Enrollment	177
School Capacity	Unknown
Rack Style	Grid
Bike Parking Spaces	3
Audit Estimated Need	Unknown
Ordinance Req. Spaces	Unknown
Add'l Spaces Needed	Unknown*

*Ordinance required spaces and actual spaces needed may not align and should be determined through an annual classroom audit of transportation methods.

Overview

There is one three-bike grid rack located at the front of McKinley. The rack could hold up to six bikes if it were pulled away from the building front. The rack is located on concrete but is not secured to it.

Although the quantity of spaces is likely not sufficient to meet the city ordinance, it is likely given McKinley's wide attendance geography that the quantity is sufficient to meet the need. It is recommended that a student audit of school transportation methods be completed to confirm this.

Paralleling concerns at nearby Northwoods Elementary, is recommended that the school encourage the Town of Seymour and the City of Eau Claire to work together to add a pedestrian travel corridor along McKinley Rd.

- 1. Shelter parking area to encourage bike riding in all weather conditions.
- 2. Work with the City of Eau Claire and Town of Seymour to add pedestrian corridor along McKinley and improve safety of nearby intersections.
- 3. Perform a homeroom audit of student transportation methods annually.

Lower Need





Overview

Roosevelt offers 22 inverted-U racks, which provide parking for 44 bikes. This makes Roosevelt one of three schools in the district to fully meet City of Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031 for quantity and rack type. An additional older but functional grid rack is provided near the main entrance to the school on the lawn.

Of the schools that did the classroom tally sheet during the development of the ECASD SRST plan, Roosevelt has the lowest elementary school percentage of walkers/bikers compared to students that live in the walk zone. The inverted-U racks bike parking was

Roosevelt Bike Parking Quick Stats

2019-20 Enrollment	276
School Capacity	316
Rack Style	Inverted U, Grid
Bike Parking Spaces	49
Audit Estimated Need	17
Ordinance Req. Spaces	32
Add'l Spaces Needed	0*

*Ordinance required spaces and actual spaces needed may not align and should be determined through an annual classroom audit of transportation methods.

added after the audit, so a repeat audit would determine if this improvement increased rates of bike to school.

Parents cited safety of intersections as the primary reason they did not let their child walk/bike to school. Increasing the number of safety patrols and implementing recommendations from the ECASD SRTS plan (page 94) may also increase walk/bike rates.

To encourage more students to bike to school in all weather conditions, shelter could be added to the bike parking area. Another element of fun and encouragement would be to add a "Tiger Parking Only" sign like that described in the Best Practices – Other considerations section of this document.

- 1. Shelter parking area to encourage bike riding in all weather conditions.
- 2. Look for additional ways to encourage students to bike to school through classroom activities and events.
- 3. Perform a homeroom audit of student transportation methods annually.
- 4. Work with city to implement intersection safety improvements recommended in the ECASD SRTS plan.
- 5. Add a bike parking area designation sign such as "Tigers Parking Only" to show support for and encourage biking to school (see example on pg. 7).

Lower Need



Sam Davey Bike Parking Quick Stats 2019-20 Enrollment 335 School Capacity 474 Rack Style Inverted U Bike Parking Spaces 130 Audit Estimated Need 23 Ordinance Req. Spaces 47 Add'I Spaces Needed 0

*Ordinance required spaces and actual spaces needed may not align and should be determined through an annual classroom audit of transportation methods.

Overview

Sam Davey offers 65 inverted-U racks, which provide parking for 130 bikes. This makes Sam Davey one of three schools in the district to fully meet City of Eau Claire Ordinance 18.25.031 for quantity and rack type. The racks are in great condition and are located inside the fenced schoolyard on a dedicated concrete parking area. Access to the parking area is from designated safe routes.

Parents cited safety of intersections as the primary reason they did not let their child walk/bike to school. Increasing the number of safety patrols and implementing recommendations from the ECASD SRTS plan (page 98) may also increase walk/bike rates.

To encourage more students to bike to school in all weather conditions, shelter could be added to the bike parking area. Another element of fun and encouragement would be to add a "Dolphins Parking Only" sign like that described in the Best Practices – Other considerations section of this document. Annual classroom audits of student transportation methods will help track the rate of students walking or biking to school and identify ways to increase the rate.

- 1. Shelter parking area to encourage bike riding in all weather conditions.
- 2. Look for additional ways to encourage students to bike to school through classroom activities and events
- 3. Perform a homeroom audit of student transportation methods annually.
- 4. Work with city to implement intersection safety improvements recommended in the ECASD SRTS plan.
- 5. Add a bike parking area designation sign such as "Dolphins Parking Only" to show support for and encourage biking to school (see example on pg. 7).

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL STUDENT ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TALLY SHEET

School Name:	Grade:	# of students enrolled in class
Teacher:		Monday's Date:

Teachers, here are simple instructions for using this form:

- Please conduct these counts each of the five days of the assigned week.
- Before asking your students to raise their hands to indicate the *one answer* that is correct for them, read through all potential answers so they will know what the choices are.
- Ask your students as a group the question "How did you arrive at school today?"
- Read each answer and record the number of students that raised their hands for each.
- Follow the same procedure for the question "How do you plan to leave for home after school?"
- Please conduct this count regardless of weather conditions (i.e., ask these questions on rainy days, too).

Step 1 . Fill in the weather conditions and number of students in class each day		Step 2. Ask students "How did you arrive at school today?" and "How do you plan to leave for home after school?" (record number of hands for each answer)						
	Weather S= sunny R= rainy C= cloudy Sn= snow	Number of Students (present when count made)	Walk	Bike	School Bus	Parent's Car (only with children from your family)	Carpool (riding with children from other families)	Other (skateboard, scooter, inline skates, etc.)
Mon AM								
Mon PM								
Tues AM								
Tues PM								Į.
Wed AM								
Wed PM			F					
Thur AM								
Thur PM							l	
Fri AM								
Fri PM								

Comments (Please list any disruptions to these counts or any unusual travel conditions to/from the school on the days of the tally):

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL STUDENT ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TALLY SHEET HIGH SCHOOL

School Name:	Grade:	# of students enrolled in class
Teacher:		Monday's Date:

Teachers, here are simple instructions for using this form:

- Please conduct these counts each of the five days of the assigned week.
- Before asking your students to raise their hands to indicate the *one answer* that is correct for them, read through all potential answers so they will know what the choices are.
- Ask your students as a group the question "How did you arrive at school today?"
- Read each answer and record the number of students that raised their hands for each.
- Follow the same procedure for the question "How do you plan to leave for home after school?"
- Please conduct this count regardless of weather conditions (i.e., ask these questions on rainy days, too).

Step 1. Fill in the weather conditions and number of students in class each day		Step 2. Ask students "How did you arrive at school today?" and "How do you plan to leave for home after school?" (record number of hands for each answer)							
	Weather S= sunny R= rainy C= cloudy Sn= snow	Number of Students (present when count made)	Walk	Bike	School Bus	Family Member's Car (only with children from your family)	Carpool (riding with children from other families)	Drove Self in Own Car (vehicle stayed at school all day)	Other (skateboard, scooter, inline skates, etc.)
Mon AM									
Mon PM									
Tues AM									
Tues PM									
Wed AM									
Wed PM									
Thur AM									
Thur PM									
Fri AM									
Fri PM									

Comments (*Please list any disruptions to these counts or any unusual travel conditions to/from the school on the days of the tally*):

Eau Claire Safe Routes to School is a program to create safer environments for students walking and biking to and from school.