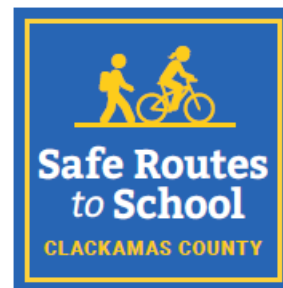

School Action Plan for River Grove Elementary School



Principal: Dan Draper, Ed.D.

Enrollment: 539

First bell: 8:20 a.m., 8:30 a.m.

Last bell: 2:50 p.m. (Early release Thursdays
2:10 p.m.)

Grades: K-5

Address: 5850 McEwan Rd.
Lake Oswego, OR 97035

This report summarizes existing conditions, observations, and recommended improvements and programs for River Grove Elementary School resulting from the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) walk audit conducted on March 14, 2018. A summary map on page 12 illustrates the audit location, area characteristics, and locations of infrastructure recommendations.

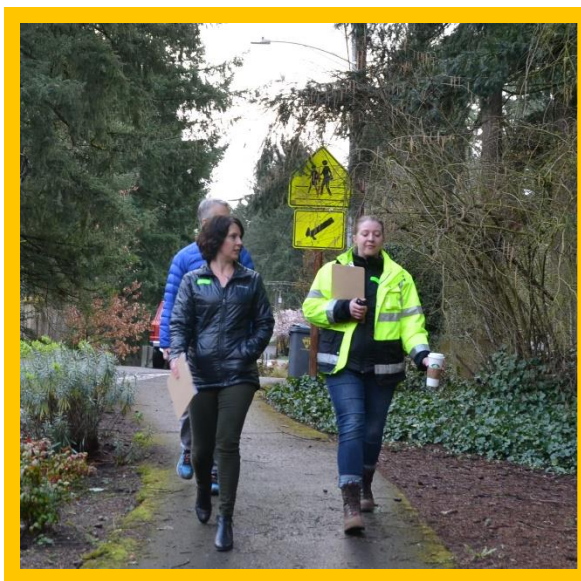
This audit supports the county-wide SRTS efforts of Clackamas County. For more information on the program, visit: www.clackamas.us/engineering/srts.html.

What is Safe Routes to School (SRTS)?

SRTS is a comprehensive program to **make school communities safer** by combining engineering tools and enforcement with education about safety and activities to enable and encourage students to **walk and bicycle to school**. SRTS programs typically involve partnerships among municipalities, school districts, community members, parent volunteers, and law enforcement.

Although most students in the United States walked or biked to school before the 1980s, the number of students walking or bicycling to school since has sharply declined in both urban and suburban areas.

The benefits of implementing a SRTS plan are far-reaching and include improving safety, encouraging physical activity, and reducing traffic congestion and motor vehicle emissions near schools. Implementing SRTS programs and projects benefit adjacent neighborhoods as well as students and their families.

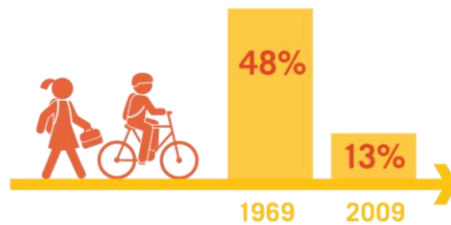


Clackamas County SRTS has a Program Handbook that outlines activities and local resources that school and community members can use to encourage walking and biking and promote traffic safety in school areas. See www.clackamas.us/engineering/srts.html for more information.



Why Safe Routes to School for Clackamas County?

Within the span of one generation, the percentage of children walking or bicycling to school has dropped to 13%.



Fewer students walking & biking to school

More parents driving children to school

Rising concerns about safety of walking & biking

Increased traffic at and around school

This movement away from active transportation is a self-perpetuating cycle.

Roads near schools are congested, decreasing safety and air quality



SRTS education & encouragement programs can result in a **25%** increase in walking and biking over 5 years.

A comprehensive SRTS program addresses reductions in walking and biking through a multi-pronged approach that uses education, encouragement, engineering and enforcement efforts to develop attitudes, behaviors, and physical infrastructure that improve the walking and biking environment.

SRTS programs provide many benefits for communities!



Healthy Living



Less Traffic



Better Educational Achievement



Increased Social Interactions



Cleaner Air and Water



Cost-Effective

How Do Students Get to School Now?

As part of the Clackamas SRTS program, River Grove Elementary students and families participated in student hand tallies and parent surveys in March 2018.

Student Hand Tallies

Hand tallies are a standard way of tracking the different ways (modes) students used to get to school. Students are asked how they traveled to and from school over a 2-3 day period. Students raise their hand when the mode they took is called out, and the teacher or a volunteer records the findings. Twenty-two classrooms' hand tallies are included in this Action Plan.

Figure 1 shows the results of the March 2018 hand tallies. In the morning, most students get dropped off in a family vehicle (46%), while 40% take the school bus. In the afternoon, most students ride the school bus (58%) and 28% get picked up in a family vehicle. Consistently, about 10% of students walks to school and 1% rides their bike.

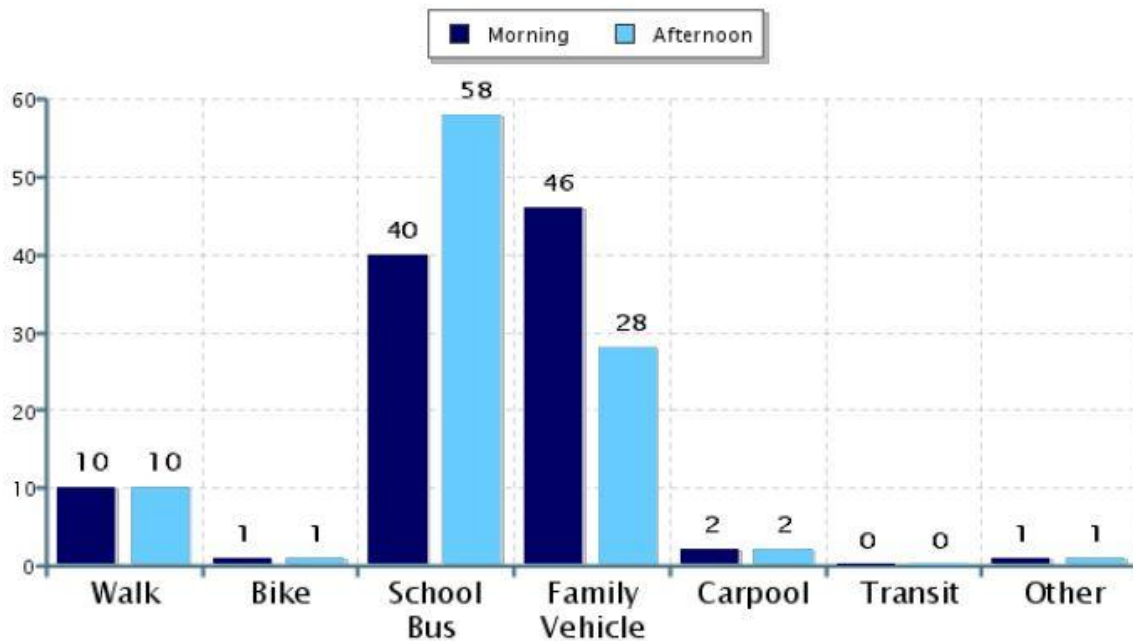


Figure 1. March 2018 Student Hand Tally Results, Morning and Afternoon Mode Split

Tracking the change in mode over time can indicate how successful the SRTS program is at addressing concerns and promoting walking and bicycling. Resources and best practice programs for conducting hand tallies include:

- ◆ The Oregon SRTS website provides [evaluation resources](#).
- ◆ The [National Center for SRTS](#) has forms, data collection guidelines, data center, and automatically-generated reports.

Parent Surveys

Parent surveys ask families about the barriers to walking or biking to/from school, health information, how children travel to and from school, and perception of crime and other social behaviors.

The Clackamas SRTS program collected 118 parent surveys in March 2018, from families with students in Kindergarten through 5th grade. The majority of respondents (67%) live under a mile from River Grove Elementary. Families who live under a ¼ miles from school generally walk to school (57% morning, 50% afternoon). Families who live ¼ to ½ miles from school are by far the most likely to bike to school (12% morning and afternoon).

Figure 2 shows the main barriers for parents of students who did not walk or bike. Safety concerns for intersections and crossings are the most common barrier for students walking to school, followed by a lack of sidewalks or pathways and traffic. These findings indicate that infrastructure improvements would likely encourage more families to bike and walk.

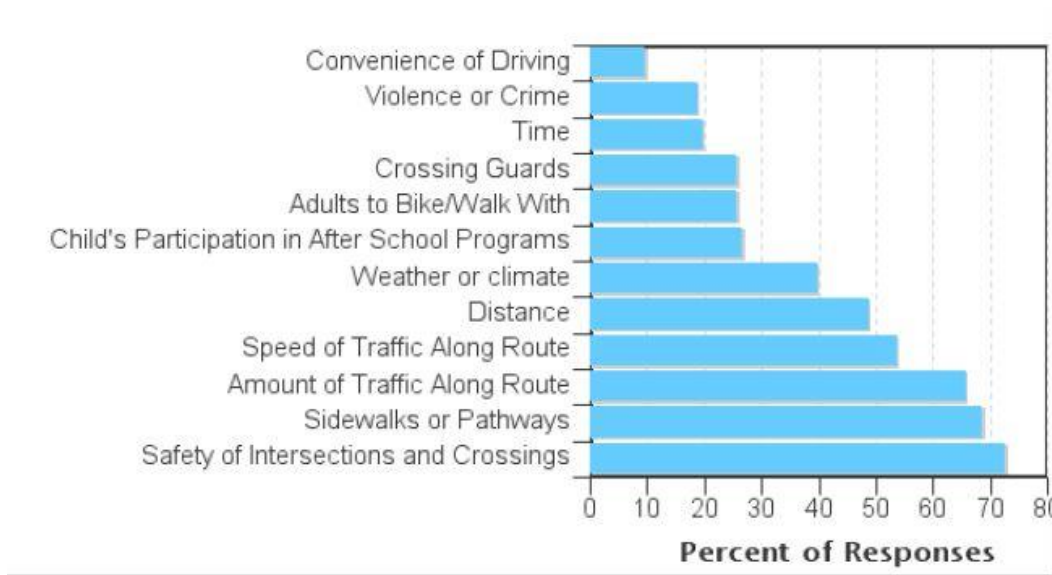


Figure 2. Barriers to Allowing a Child to Walk or Bike to/from School

Resources and best practice programs for conducting parent surveys include:

- ◆ The Oregon SRTS website provides [evaluation resources](#).
- ◆ The [National Center for SRTS](#) has forms, data collection guidelines, and data center.

Walk Audit Summary

Walk Audit March 14, 2018

Meeting Time: 7:30-9:00 a.m.

Date:

Day of Week: Wednesday

Weather: Cold and cloudy

Attendees:

- Mallorie McDowell, Clackamas County
- Carolyn Bahrman, City of Rivergrove
- Nicole Perry, The Street Trust
- Scott Hoelscher, Clackamas County
- Christian Snuffin, Clackamas County
- Shaun Wanford, parent
- Alice Bayless, parent
- Hannah Day-Kapell, Alta Planning + Design
- Maria Sipin, Alta Planning + Design

Existing Conditions

School Layout

River Grove Elementary School is located on SW McEwan Road in the City of Lake Oswego, in the Lake Oswego School District. The campus has a playground and is mostly enclosed by fences and trees. On the southern end, a fence separates the school from Pilkington Park.

Students enter the school through two main entrances: at the front of the school and the southeast gate at Pilkington Park.

SITE CIRCULATION

Vehicles: Students are primarily dropped off at the front of the school. To get closest to the school door, vehicles enter the driveway at SW McEwan Road. Vehicles can enter this area only after the buses have left. The Pilkington Park lot is another drop-off area. Students are dropped off then walk along a path to the back of the school.

School Buses: Buses load and unload students in the parking lot on SW McEwan Road, north of River Grove Elementary School at the main entrance.

Pedestrians: Most students walking to River Grove Elementary School must cross SW McEwan Road, Pilkington Road, SW 65th Avenue, and SW Childs Road. Crossing guards are stationed along SW McEwan at several crosswalks: Kristi Way, Benfield Avenue, Reao Court, and Pilkington Road.

Bicyclists: Pilkington Road is a collector street with intermittent pavement sharrows. The nearest bike lane is about a half-mile west on SW McEwan Road. Ample bike parking is available at the front of the school.

Walk Audit Observations and Infrastructure Recommendations

Key locations at and near River Grove Elementary are described below, including issues identified during audit observations and discussions. Project numbering refers to the Improvements Map on page 12. The party responsible for implementing each recommendation is in parentheses (i.e., City of Rivergrove or Lake Oswego School District).

1. School Parking Lot and Grounds

Student drop-off and pick-up circulation operates relatively smoothly. Buses drop students off in front of the main doors. Families dropping students off from vehicles face minimal congestion on school grounds or at Pilkington Park. Teachers stationed near the school entrance direct traffic and help students cross the parking lot from vehicles to the school entrance. There is a wide sidewalk where students are dropped off at the entrance, which is lined with ample bike parking. However, the bike parking is an older style, which does not support a bicycle with two points of contact, and when bikes are parked properly they can block the sidewalk.



The school has a back gate off of Benfield Avenue and some families walk from there or from the Pilkington Road parking lot through the park to the school. Parents expressed concerns about personal safety and lack of lighting throughout the park.

RECOMMENDATION

- a. Replace old bike racks and reposition to eliminate sidewalk obstruction when bikes are parked.
- b. Install lighting in Pilkington Park from the school to Benfield Avenue and to Pilkington Road.
- c. Upgrade existing dirt path at northeast corner of school grounds from SE McEwan Road to school parking lot.

2. SW McEwan Road

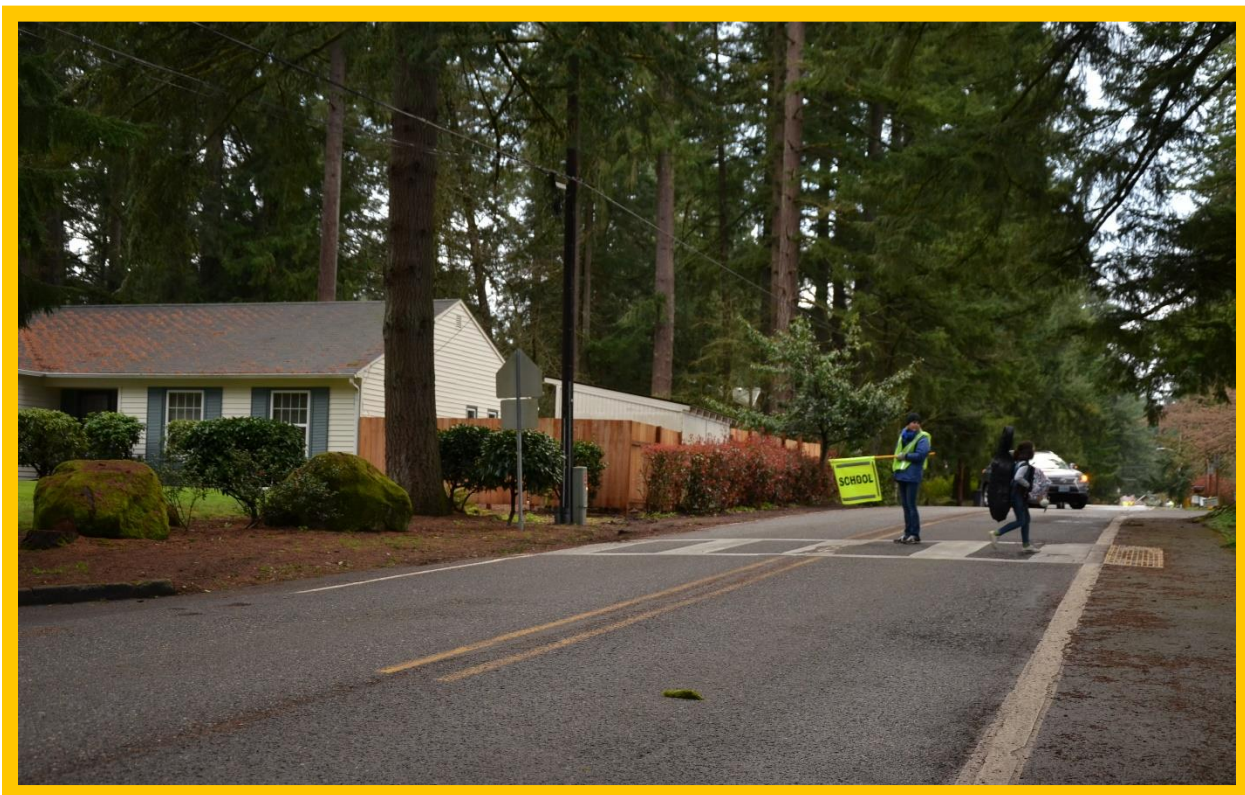
Along the front of the school, SW McEwan Road is an entry point to the main driveway. Students are dropped off at several unofficial locations along the road. Although SW McEwan Road has school zone



signs and speed humps, speeding and low visibility of crossing students are safety concerns. Crossing guards are stationed at crossings near Kristi, SW Benfield Avenue, and Pilkington Road. Much of the road lacks sidewalks, so families walk along the roadway shoulder.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. Install sidewalks on the south side of McEwan Road from the school driveway (west of Kristi Way) to Longfellow Avenue.
- b. Install sidewalks on the south side of McEwan Road from Longfellow Avenue to SW 65th Avenue.
- c. Install sidewalks on the north side of McEwan Road from SW 65th Avenue to SW Benfield Avenue.
- d. Restripe crosswalks at Benfield Avenue and at Kristi Way.
- e. Post “Do not Block Driveway” sign at the school driveway egress.
- f. Install a three-way stop at Kristi Way with advance stop bars.



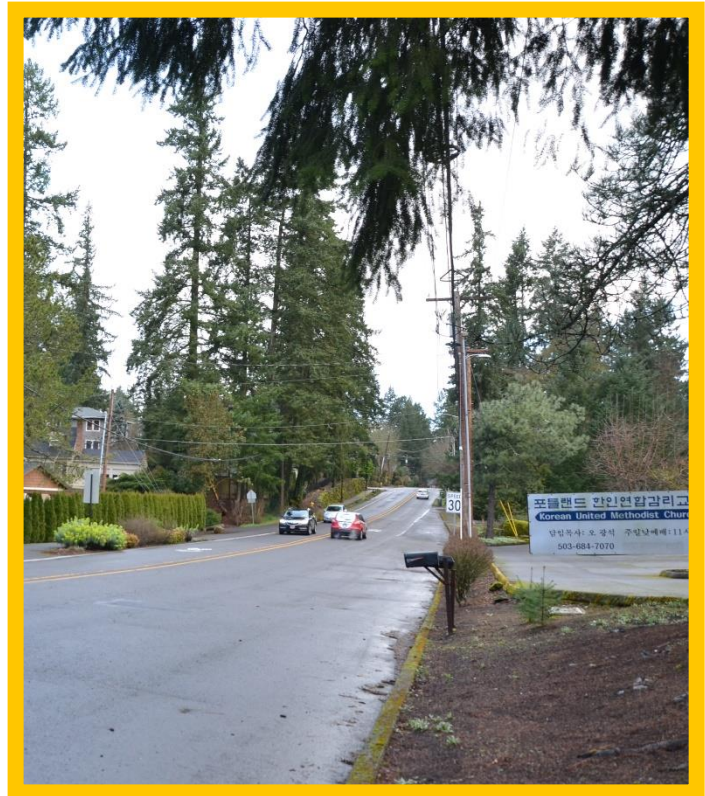
RIVER GROVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REPORT

3. Pilkington Road

Pilkington Road is a two-lane road with a mostly-complete pedestrian walkway on the west side and shared lane markings. The road is posted at 30 mph but poor vehicle speed compliance was observed on Pilkington Road. Crossing guards are present at SW McEwan Road. A Korean United Methodist Church just north of SW McEwan Road could potentially serve as a temporary drop-off area for students, with a shared use agreement for the parking lot.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. Construct sidewalk from Korean United Methodist Church to crosswalk at SW McEwan Road and consider parking lot as additional drop-off/loading zone.
- b. Post radar speed signs between SW Dawn Street and Red Leaf Street, and between SW Fernbrook Way and Red Leaf Street.
- c. Install a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) across Pilkington Road at McEwan Road.
- d. Install sidewalks on east side of Pilkington Road from Jean Road to SW Childs Road.
- e. Stripe crosswalk at Kenny Street with advance pedestrian warning signs.
- f. Install a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) across Pilkington Road at SW Dawn St.
- g. Pave path through Pilkington Park.
- h. Construct pedestrian pathway on west side of Pilkington Road from SW Childs Rd. to Dawn St.



4. SW Childs Road

There are speed enforcement concerns along SW Childs Road and safety issues associated with the absence of sidewalks and poor visibility of stop signs. The intersection with Pilkington Avenue has a three-way stop and a crosswalk is marked on the west leg, leading to a sidewalk on the south side of the road. The City of River Grove plans to install a speed reader board on SW Childs Road near Pilkington Avenue. At 65th Avenue, a bush blocks visibility of the stop sign.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. Trim vegetation to improve stop sign visibility at 65th Ave.

- b. Stripe crosswalk on SW Childs Rd. at Indian Creek Ave.
- c. Install a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) at Megly Ct. and Woodcrest Lane.
- d. Formalize existing pedway (current wide shoulder with no parking signs) from SW 65th Ave. to SW Terry Ave into a raised sidewalk with curb and gutter or a separated pedestrian path.
- e. Reconstruct existing pedway from SW Terry Ave. to Pilkington Rd into a raised sidewalk with curb and gutter.
- f. Consider installing a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) across SW Childs Road at SW Benfield Ave.



5. SW 65th Avenue

SW 65th Avenue and SW McEwan Road is one of the busier intersections surrounding the school, with nearby businesses generating traffic here in addition to school drop-off and pick-up activity passing through. The intersection has a four-way stop, although a slight skew of the roads results in inconsistent sign and stop bar placement. SW 65th Avenue lacks pedestrian facilities and is not currently a comfortable environment for people walking. In the future, as volumes of people walking, biking, and driving along 65th increase, pedestrians should be accommodated via a raised sidewalk with curb and gutter or a formalized pedway.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. Relocate stop signs at SW McEwan Road to improve visibility and straighten intersection.
- b. Stripe crosswalks across all lanes and adjust stop bars to tighten turning radius.

Cost Estimates

Table 1 summarizes recommendations for River Grove Elementary School, provides order-of-magnitude cost estimates, and places the projects in priority tiers.

Table 1. River Grove Elementary School Recommended Improvements

RECOMMENDATIONS	LEAD AGENCY	PLANNING –LEVEL COST	PRIORITY
1. School Parking Lot and Grounds			
a. Replace old bike racks and reposition to eliminate sidewalk obstruction when bikes are parked.	Lake Oswego School District	\$	Medium
b. Install lighting in Pilkington Park from the school to Benfield Avenue and to Pilkington Road.	City of Lake Oswego	\$	High

RIVER GROVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REPORT

RECOMMENDATIONS	LEAD AGENCY	PLANNING -LEVEL COST	PRIORITY
c. Upgrade existing dirt path at northeast corner of school grounds from SE McEwan Road to school parking lot.	Lake Oswego School District	\$\$	Low
2. SW McEwan Road			
a. Install sidewalks on the south side of McEwan Road from the school driveway (west of Kristi Way) to Longfellow Avenue.	City of Lake Oswego	\$\$\$	High
b. Install sidewalks on the south side of McEwan Road from Longfellow Avenue to SW 65 th Avenue.	City of Lake Oswego	\$\$\$	Medium
c. Install sidewalks on the north side of McEwan Road from SW 65 th Avenue to SW Benfield Avenue.	City of Lake Oswego	\$\$	Low
d. Restripe crosswalks at Benfield Avenue and at Kristi Way.	City of Lake Oswego	\$\$	High
e. Post “Do Not Block Driveway” sign at the school driveway egress.	City of Lake Oswego	\$	High
f. Install a three-way stop at Kristi Way with advance stop bars.	City of Lake Oswego	\$\$	Medium
3. Pilkington Road			
a. Construct a sidewalk from Korean Methodist Church to crosswalk at SW McEwan Road consider parking lot as additional drop-off/loading zone.	City of Lake Oswego	\$\$	High
b. Post radar speed signs between SW Dawn Street and Red Leaf Street, and between SW Fernbrook Way and Red Leaf Street.	City of Lake Oswego	\$\$	High
c. Install Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) across Pilkington Road at McEwan Road.	City of Lake Oswego	\$\$	Medium
d. Install sidewalks on east side of Pilkington Road from Jean Road to SW Childs Road.	City of Lake Oswego and Clackamas County	\$\$\$	High
e. Stripe crosswalk at Kenny Street with advance pedestrian warning signs.	City of Lake Oswego	\$\$	High
f. Install a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) across Pilkington Road across at SW Dawn St.	City of Lake Oswego	\$	High
g. Pave path through Pilkington Park	City of Lake Oswego	\$	Low
h. Construct pedestrian pathway on west side of Pilkington Road from SW Childs Rd. to Dawn St.	City of Lake Oswego	\$\$	Medium
4. SW Childs Road			
a. Trim vegetation to improve stop sign visibility at 65 th Ave.	Clackamas County	\$	High
b. Stripe crosswalk on SW Childs Rd. at Indian Creek Ave.	Clackamas County	\$	Low
c. Install a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) at Megly Ct. and Woodcrest Lane.	Clackamas County	\$\$	Low
d. Formalize existing pedway (current wide shoulder with no parking signs) from SW 65 th Ave. to SW Terry Ave into a raised sidewalk with curb and gutter or a separated pedestrian path.	Clackamas County	\$\$\$	Medium

RECOMMENDATIONS	LEAD AGENCY	PLANNING -LEVEL COST	PRIORITY
e. Reconstruct existing pedway from SW Terry Ave. to Pilkington Rd into a raised sidewalk with curb and gutter.	Clackamas County	\$\$\$	Medium
f. Consider installing a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) across SW Childs Road at SW Benfield Ave.	Clackamas County	\$\$	Low
5. SW 65th Avenue			
a. Relocate stop signs at SW McEwan Road to improve visibility and straighten intersection.	City of Lake Oswego	\$	High
b. Stripe crosswalks across all lanes and adjust stop bars to tighten turning radius.	City of Lake Oswego	\$\$	High

RIVER GROVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REPORT



River Grove Elementary School

Improvement Recommendations



1 School Parking Lot and Grounds

- Replace old bike racks and reposition to eliminate sidewalk obstruction when bikes are parked.
- Install lighting in Pilkington Park from the school to Benfield Ave and to Pilkington Rd.
- Upgrade existing dirt path at northeast corner of school grounds from SE McEwan Road to school parking lot.

2 SW McEwan Road

- Install sidewalks on the south side of McEwan Rd from the school driveway (west of Kristi Way) to Longfellow Ave.
- Install sidewalks on the south side of McEwan Rd from Longfellow Ave to SW 65th Ave.
- Install sidewalks on the north side of McEwan Road from SW 65th Avenue to SW Benfield Avenue.
- Restripe crosswalks at Benfield Ave and at Kristi Way.

3

- Post "Do Not Block Driveway" sign at school driveway egress.
- Install a three-way stop at Kristi Way with advance stop bars.

Pilkington Road

- Construct a sidewalk from Korean Methodist Church to crosswalk at SW McEwan Road consider parking lot as additional drop-off/loading zone.
- Post radar speed signs between SW Dawn Street and Red Leaf Street, and between SW Fernbrook Way and Red Leaf Street.
- Install Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) across Pilkington Road at McEwan Road.
- Install sidewalks on east side of Pilkington Road from Jean Road to SW Childs Road.
- Stripe crosswalk at Kenny Street with advance pedestrian warning signs.
- Install a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) across Pilkington Road across at SW Dawn St.
- Pave path through Pilkington Park
- Construct pedestrian pathway on west side of Pilkington Road from SW Childs Rd. to Dawn St.

4

SW Childs Road

- Trim vegetation to improve stop sign visibility at 65th Ave.
- Stripe crosswalk on SW Childs Rd. at Indian Creek Ave.
- Install a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) at Megly Ct. and Woodcrest Lane.
- Formalize existing pedway (current wide shoulder with no parking signs) from SW 65th Ave. to SW Terry Ave into a raised sidewalk with curb and gutter or a separated pedestrian path.
- Reconstruct existing pedway from SW Terry Ave. to Pilkington Rd into a raised sidewalk with curb and gutter.
- Consider installing a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) across SW Childs Road at SW Benfield Ave.

5

SW 65th Avenue

- Relocate stop signs at SW McEwan Rd to improve to improve visibility and straighten intersection.
- Stripe crosswalks across all lanes and adjust stop bars to tighten turning radius.

Legend

	Crossing Guard		Proposed Radar Speed Sign		Proposed Reduced Curb Radius		Proposed Lighting
	Existing Bike Parking		Proposed Sidewalk		Proposed "Do Not Block" Sign		
	School Bus Loading		Proposed Crosswalk / Restriping				
	Student Loading		Proposed Flashing Beacon				
	Proposed Pedestrian Pathway		Proposed Paved Path				



Figure 3. River Grove Elementary School Improvements Map



HOW TO USE THIS MAP: This suggested route to school map is intended to encourage adults and students to consider walking or bicycling to school. Adults are responsible for choosing the most appropriate option based on their knowledge of the different routes.

River Grove Elementary

5850 McEwan Road
Lake Oswego, OR 97035

MAP LEGEND

- Enrollment area
- Park or natural area
- School campus
- Suggested route
- Missing or partial sidewalk
- Crosswalk
- STOP Stop Sign
- STOP Crossing Guard



Clackamas County Safe Routes to School (SRTS)

Visit our website to learn more about how you can support SRTS at your school,

www.clackamas.us/engineering/srts.html



Created April 2018



Figure 2. River Grove Elementary School Suggested Route Map

Programmatic Recommendations

Programmatic activities and events complement infrastructure improvements by empowering students and their families to try walking and bicycling, and by making it safer for them to do so.

River Grove Elementary School currently promotes transportation safety by sending information to parents about student drop-off and pick-up patterns, as well as reminders about driving safely.

The activities below are recommended for River Grove Elementary School to improve and promote safe walking and bicycling to and from school and in the community. They can be implemented by school administrators, teachers, parents, or even school clubs.

Education Programs

BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY EDUCATION

Pedestrian and bicycle safety education teaches students basic traffic laws and safety rules.

Resources and best practice programs for elementary school students include:

- ◆ The Street Trust's [SRTS Curriculum](#) includes a flexible in-class and on-bike curriculum and pedestrian safety lesson plans.
- ◆ Oregon SRTS provides classes and train-the-trainer programs. Oregon-based service providers are listed at: www.oregonsaferoutes.org/bike-ed-service-providers
- ◆ The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration offers a [child pedestrian safety curriculum](#) and [Cycling Skills Clinic Guide](#) to help organizations plan bike safety skills events.
- ◆ The [Girls in Gear](#) curriculum is a girls-specific bicycling program designed to empower adolescent girls by creating self-reliance and building confidence. It is also the first program to creatively integrate STEM — Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics — activities, physical exercise and nutrition education by way of the bicycle.

PARENT EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Parents are the primary decision-makers about how their children get to school. Informing parents about their options for walking and bicycling, as well as communicating the benefits of active transportation,



can encourage more families to walk and bike. This can occur through school e-news or announcements, and other informational resources. Suggested route maps can show parents the best walking or biking route to the school, overcoming concerns about barriers.

Resources and best practice programs:

- ◆ Oregon SRTS provides materials, handouts, and theme ideas for [Monthly Walk and Bike](#) events as well as [Back to School](#) messages.
- ◆ The National Center for SRTS has several [tip sheets for parents](#) on safe walking and bicycling behaviors.

Encouragement Programs

WALK + BIKE TO SCHOOL CHALLENGE

The Oregon Walk + Bike to School Challenge celebrates students walking and bicycling to school. International Walk to School Day is held the first Wednesday in October and Bike to School Day takes place the second week in May. Parents can set up a table on the event day to provide refreshments and small rewards for families who participate, as well as maps, lights, and safety information to encourage more students and families to join in the fun.

Even families who live too far from school to walk and bike can participate by driving to a designated central location and walking together from there. Coffee and breakfast can be provided, and students can dress up or hold posters to make a fun, parent-supervised parade to school.

Resources and best practices:

- ◆ Schools in Oregon can order incentives to support and promote [Walk + Bike Challenge Day and Month](#).
- ◆ [Walk Bike to School](#) suggests event ideas and planning resources for encouraging active transportation at schools.
- ◆ The National Center for SRTS maintains a [national database of walk and bike to school day events](#) as well as event ideas and planning resources.

STUDENT CLUBS AND YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

Clubs and leadership programs allow older students to form groups to support the causes they care about most. Older elementary school student clubs can host Walk + Bike Challenge events, organize a competition, or work with their peers to promote walking and bicycling. Student clubs can offer excellent ideas and provide exceptional energy and drive to get things done.

Resources and best practice programs:



RIVER GROVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REPORT

- ◆ Marin County SRTS's [Teens Go Green](#) program partners with teens interested in the environment to bring reduced CO2 and healthy lifestyles to their schools.
- ◆ Create a cycling league or club. Leagues can introduce student riders to the sport of mountain biking or road racing, with a focus on skills, fun, fitness, and responsibility.

Enforcement Programs

AAA SCHOOL SAFETY PATROL

Older elementary school student volunteers can sign-up to become a certified AAA School Safety Patroller. With support and leadership from school faculty and parents, student patrollers help fellow students develop a better understanding of pedestrian and vehicular traffic hazards.

Resources and best practice programs:

- ◆ AAA has [School Safety Patrol membership information](#) and descriptions of student, teacher, and parent roles.

