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May 9, 2011

Dear Carver Elementary School Walking Audit Participants:

Thank you for your participation in the Carver Elementary School walking audit on September 14, 2010. The San Francisco Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Coalition and the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) are pleased to work together with the school community. This Coalition assists us in better understanding the safety concerns for students walking or biking to and from George Washington Carver School and assists us in the consideration of improvements that may increase the number of students walking and biking to school.

The notes recorded by the SFMTA at the walking audit were ranked by the participants in the SRTS walking audit at Carver. The notes are attached for your reference. This ranking helps SFMTA staff concentrate efforts in addressing the areas of greatest concern at the school.

The SFMTA developed the following recommendations to address the safety concerns ranked by the Carver team. While some concerns could be relatively easy to resolve, other concerns will require additional time and funding to study and potentially implement the recommended improvements.

Below are the top three ranked concerns at Carver with SFMTA's recommendations:

Carver Elementary School - Safe Routes to School Walking Audit			
#	Concern	Location	Recommendations
1	Congestion during drop-off and pick-up times leads to safety concerns	Oakdale Avenue between Keith Street and Carver School	Evaluate extending white zones on eastside of Keith Street at Oakdale Ave. SFMTA Transportation Engineering will follow up with this request within 6 months. For additional information, please contact Darcie Lim at 701-4545.
			Evaluate the painting of red zones at northwest corner of cul-de-sac. SFMTA Transportation Engineering will follow up with this request within 6 months. For additional information, please contact Darcie Lim at 701-4545.
			Evaluate feasibility of 1 hour residential permit parking for Oakdale Avenue from Keith Street to Carver Elementary. SFMTA Transportation Engineering will follow up with this request within 6 months. For additional information, please contact Darcie Lim at 701-4545.
			Evaluate installing sidewalk bulbs to decrease crossing distance on Keith Street. As funding becomes available, the highest ranked school projects will be evaluated and implemented. For additional information, please contact Jeffrey Banks at 701-5331.
2	Cars running STOP signs	Oakdale Avenue and Ingalls Street	The SFMTA encourages you to apply for traffic calming on Ingalls between George Court and La Salle Avenue. Traffic calming applications are received at the SFMTA by Jeffrey Banks who is copied on this letter. A traffic calming application is attached. More information is available at: http://www.sfmta.com/cms/ocalm/13571.html .
			Evaluate the feasibility of sidewalk bulbs on Ingalls at Oakdale. As funding becomes available, the highest ranked school projects will be evaluated and implemented. For additional information, please contact Jeffrey Banks at 701-5331.
			Referred to SFPD for regular period of enforcement. The SFPD is copied on this letter.
3	Cars running the STOP signs. This is crossing for students walking to YMCA after school.	Palou Avenue & Keith Street	Paint red zone adjacent to crosswalk on both approaches to Palou along Keith Street. SFMTA Transportation Engineering will follow up with this request within 6 months. For additional information, please contact Darcie Lim at 701-4545.

Carver Elementary School - Safe Routes to School Walking Audit			
#	Concern	Location	Recommendations
3	Cars running the STOP signs. This is crossing for students walking to YMCA after school.	Palou Avenue & Keith Street	Evaluate removing one of the lanes on Palou Avenue. There are three lanes – over capacity. SFMTA Transportation Engineering will follow up with this request within 6 months. For additional information, please contact Darcie Lim at 701-4545.
			Referred to SFPD for regular period of enforcement. The SFPD is copied on this letter.
			Carver Elementary is encouraged to apply for a crossing guard for Palou Avenue and Keith Street. An application for crossing guard is attached and the Crossing Guard Program is copied with this letter. For more information, please visit: http://www.sfmta.com/cms/osafe/13470.html
			Evaluate feasibility of sidewalk bulbouts to decrease crossing distance on Palou Avenue. As funding becomes available, the highest ranked school projects will be evaluated and implemented. For additional information, please contact Jeffrey Banks at 701-5331.

Additional Recommendation – Crosswalk Maintenance

The crosswalk paint at Ingalls Street at Palou Avenue is faded. The SFMTA will refer the crosswalk at Ingalls Street and Palou Avenue for repainting. This crosswalk will be repainted in the 2011-12 school year pending funding.

The SFMTA recognizes that congestion issues in front of Carver during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up and the issue of speeding vehicles rolling through STOP signs could benefit from increased enforcement. SFMTA staff will work with the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) to develop a program for enforcement. Additionally, the SFPD is copied on this letter.

Carver Elementary is fortunate to have an active school community. The planning of a “Walking School Bus” in coordination with the SRTS Coalition is another example of the efforts that your community is undertaking to encourage students to walk to school. The Walking School Bus began in January 2011 originating on La Salle Avenue and ending at the Oakdale entrance to Carver, these efforts compliment all of our work.

Once again, thank you for participating in the Safe Routes to School walking audit at Carver Elementary School. The SFMTA hopes that it was an enriching experience for all participants who share the common goal of increasing the number of students walking and biking to school by increasing safety around Carver Elementary School.

If you have any questions, please contact Jeff Banks of my staff at 415.701.5331, or via e-mail at jeffrey.banks@sfmta.com.

Sincerely,

 OLIVER GASORA
FOA BBS

Bridget Smith
Manager, Livable Streets

bbs:mg:og:jb

cc: Captain Greg Suhr, Bayview Station, SFPD
Captain Al Casciato, Traffic Company, SFPD
Ana Validzic, SF Department of Public Health