

December 10, 2010

Dear Longfellow Elementary School Walking Audit Participants:

Thank you for your participation in the Longfellow Elementary School walking audit on May 27, 2010. The San Francisco Safe Routes to School Partnership and the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) are happy to work with the school community to better understand safety concerns for students walking or biking to and from Longfellow Elementary School and to consider improvements for increasing the number of students walking and biking to school.

All participants should have received the notes recorded during the walking audit which helped SFMTA staff concentrate our efforts in addressing safety concerns for children walking or biking to/from school. Some of these concerns can easily be resolved and may have already been addressed with improvements. Other concerns will require more time and funding to study and potentially implement suggested improvements. The status of these improvements are described in more detail below.

The main concerns that participants prioritized at the end of the walking audit were (1) pick-up, drop-off procedures, (2) Mission/Lowell signal timing, and (3) speeding/speed humps. During the last couple months, the SFMTA has been working on addressing each of these concerns. Following is a list of recommendations to expressed concerns and the progress of the SFMTA in addressing each:

Recommended – Forwarded for Implementation

- Repaint faded crosswalks and other markings
  - Four crosswalks on Mission Street at Naglee and Lowell Streets were repainted.
  - STOP markings on Lowell Street were repainted.
- Repaint faded red zones
  - Red zones at Morse and Whipple Streets were repainted.
- Add red zones near intersections to improve visibility, particularly at the uncontrolled crossing(s)
  - Red zones on Mission Street at Mission/Whipple (a 2-way STOP) were added.
- Verify that all standard school warning signs are posted and visible
  - All the school area signage complies with California standards.
- Consider advance yield and limit lines at school crossings
  - Advance yield lines and appropriate signage on the Mission Street approaches at Mission and Whipple Streets were installed.
- Consider adding loading zones
  - The existing loading zones are adequate but signage was be relocated to increase compliance
- Review pedestrian signal timing at Mission/Whittier and Mission/Lowell/Naglee to ensure sufficient pedestrian crossing times.

- Pedestrian signal times at Mission/Whittier and Mission/Lowell/Naglee were reviewed and signal times are being extended.
- Evaluate need for traffic monitor at the loading zone on Lowell St; subsequent visit of afternoon conditions recommended
  - School officials are coordinating with the school community.
- Encourage parents to have good pick-up and drop-off behaviors
  - School officials are passing out flyers for parents, encouraging participation in Walk and Bike to School Day events and initiating a Walking School Bus.
- Evaluate possibility of separating signal phases at the offset intersection of Lowell, Mission and Naglee Streets.
  - The SFMTA is investigating this signal operation modification.

Not Recommended

- Speed humps or other speed reducing measures on Morse and Lowell Streets
  - Traffic speeds do not warrant installation of speed humps on Lowell or Morse Streets.

Recommended – Funding Dependent

- If funding permits, consider a traffic signal at Mission/Whittier
  - The SFMTA is conducting a traffic signal study at this intersection to see if a signal is warranted. If warranted, this location will be considered for future funding opportunities.
- If funding permits, consider sidewalk bulbs at Mission/Whittier, Mission/Whipple and Mission/Lowell to shorten crossing distances
  - The SFMTA will consider this location for future funding opportunities.

Regarding the exploration of opening pedestrian access through Alice Chalmers playground via Brunswick Street, this process would be coordinated by SFUSD with the Parks & Recreation Department. The SFMTA would participate in this process if needed.

Once again, thank you for participating in the Longfellow Elementary School walking audit. The SFMTA hopes it was an enriching experience for all participants who share the common goal of increasing walking and biking to school by increasing safety around Longfellow 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](mailto:jeffrey.banks@sfmta.com).

Sincerely,



Dr BBS

Bridget Smith, Manager  
Livable Streets Subdivision