

# Active and Safe Routes to School Survey Summary 2017-2018 Program



## **Lochside Elementary**

1145 Royal Oak Drive

Grades: K-5

Number of students: 420

**Principal:** Erika Moser

## **Survey and Walkabout Summary**

Lochside Elementary participated in the District of Saanich's Active and Safe Routes to School 2017-2018 program. The program provides tools for students to walk, cycle, or otherwise use active transportation for the school journey wherever possible. Additionally, a neighbourhood walkabout was conducted to further support the survey information.

This report provides the results from the surveys and walkabouts. Together the survey and walkabout information gathered will help identify desired active transportation improvements and preferred routes.

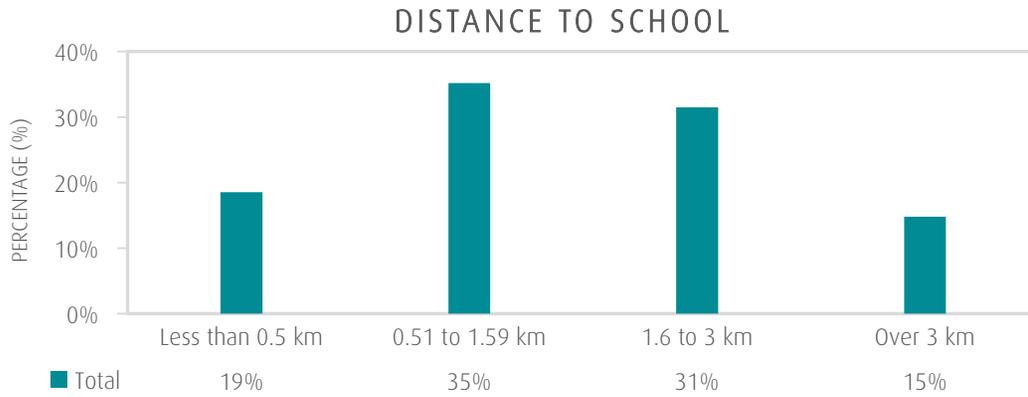
## **Survey Results**

An on-line school travel survey was distributed to parents between October 16-27, 2017. Fifty-four families completed the survey representing seventy-five children which is approximately eighteen percent of the Lochside elementary school's population. The purpose of the survey was to gain information about the school's travel choices. Below is a summary of the results from the completed surveys.

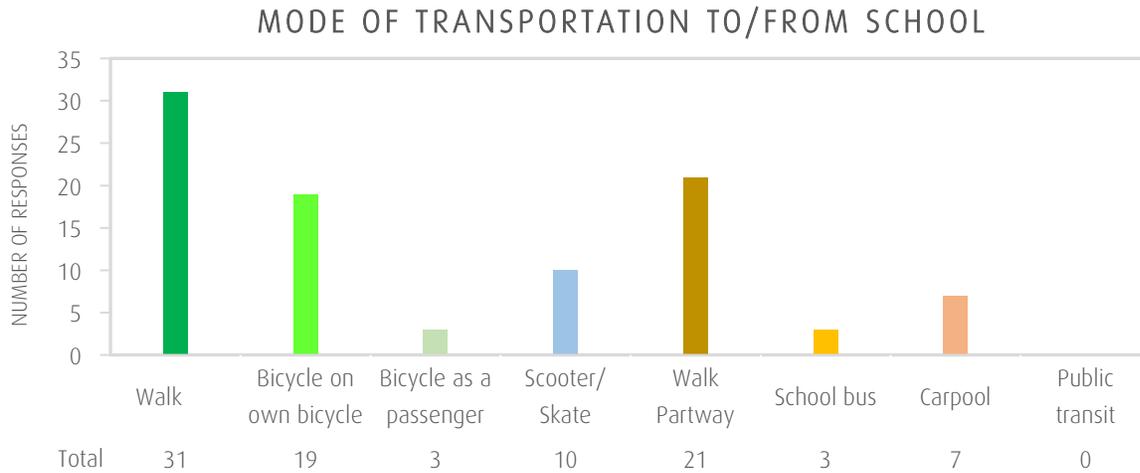
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## Distance

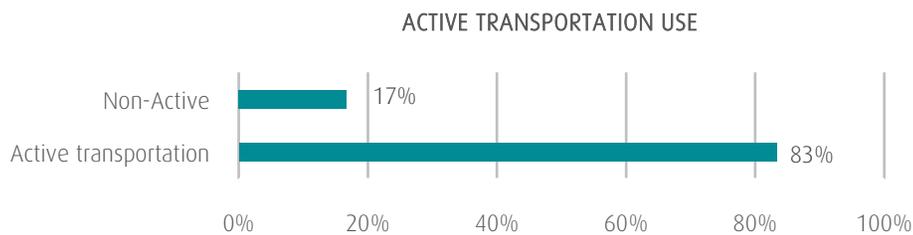
How far away from the school do you live?



During the 2016/2017 school year, did your eldest child travel to/from school at least once by: (select all that apply)



Students that used at least one form of active transportation to travel to/from school in the last year

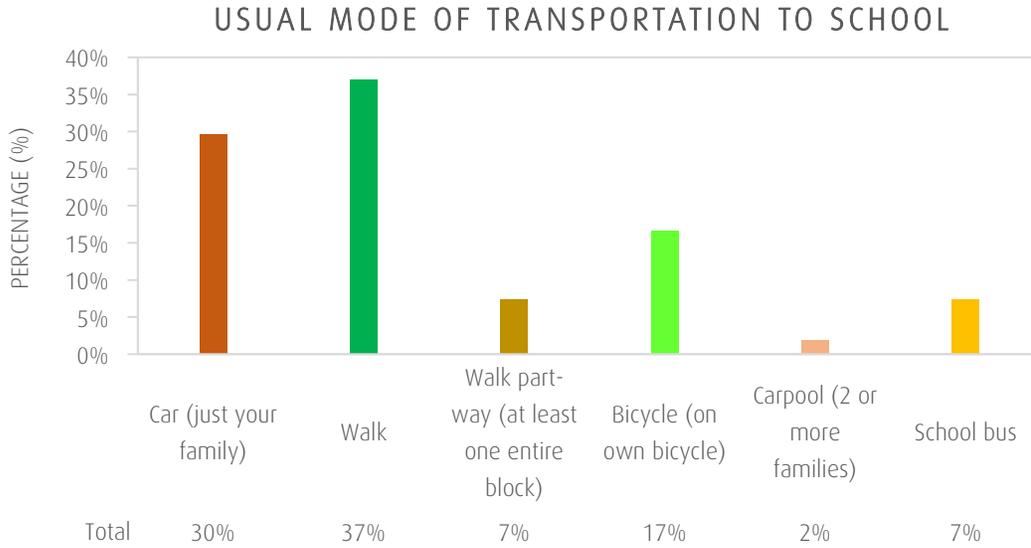


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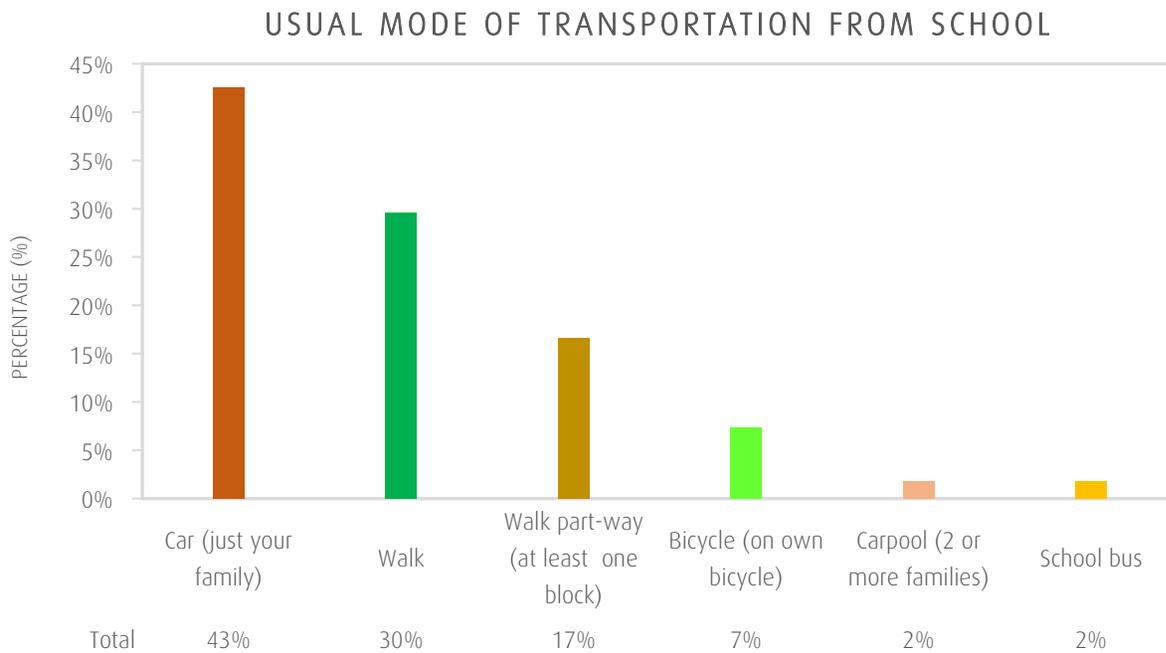
## Mode

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How does your eldest child usually get to school throughout the school year?

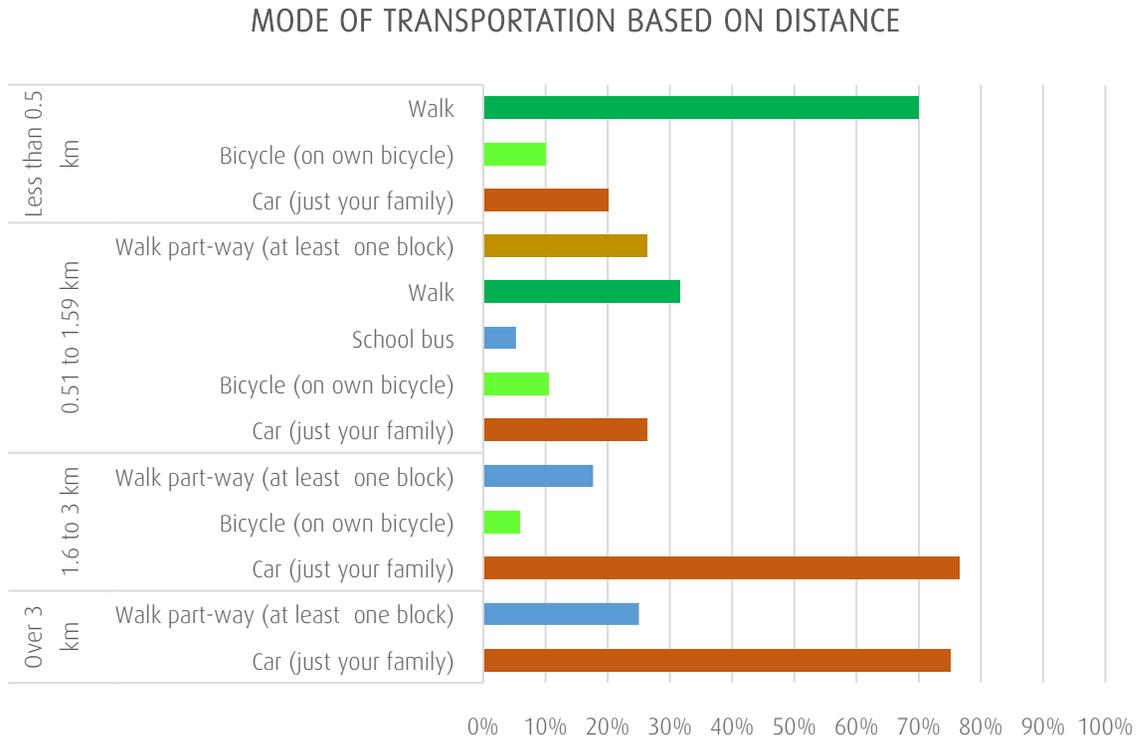


How does your eldest child usually get home from school throughout the year?



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Comparison of travel mode by trip distance:

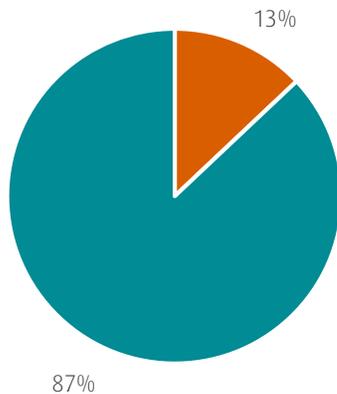


## Travel companion

Is your eldest accompanied to school by an adult?

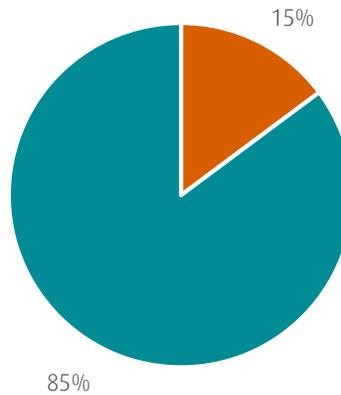
Is your eldest accompanied from school by an adult?

PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN ACCOMPANIED TO SCHOOL



■ No ■ Yes

PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN ACCOMPANIED FROM SCHOOL



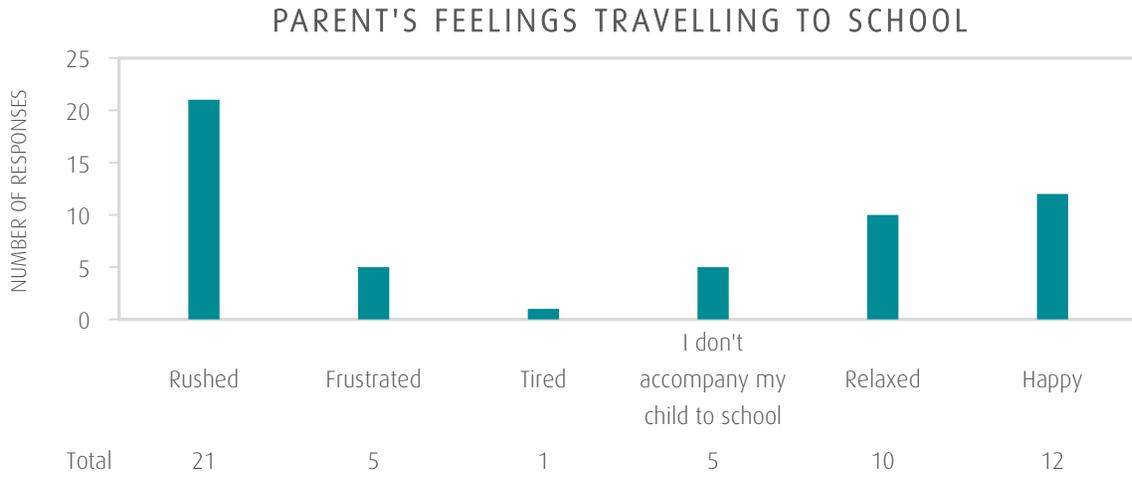
■ No ■ Yes

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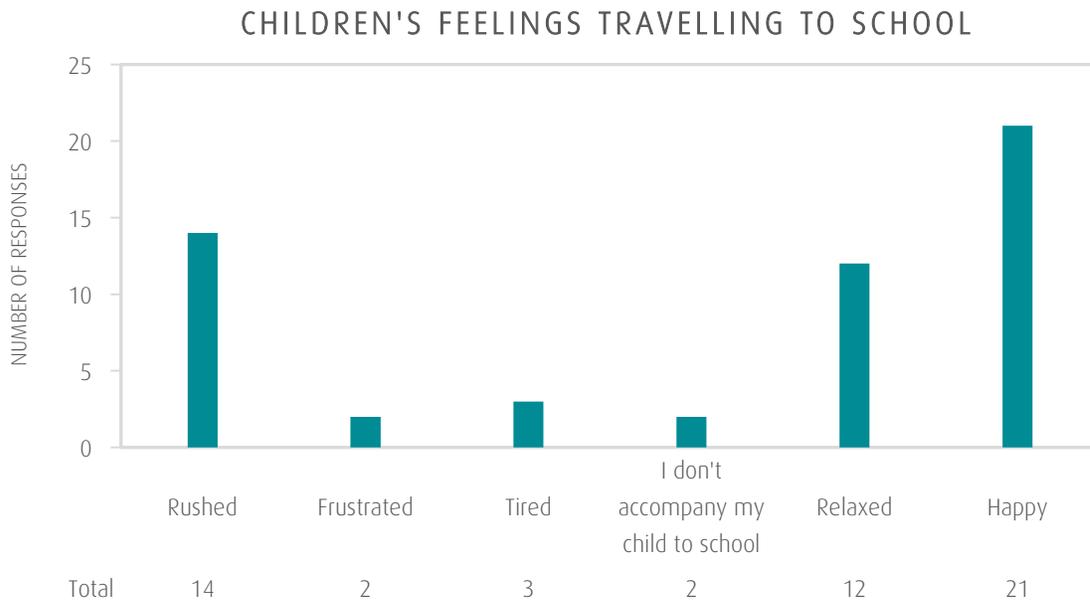
## Feelings

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As a parent/caregiver, what feeling do you have most of the time when taking your child(ren) to school?



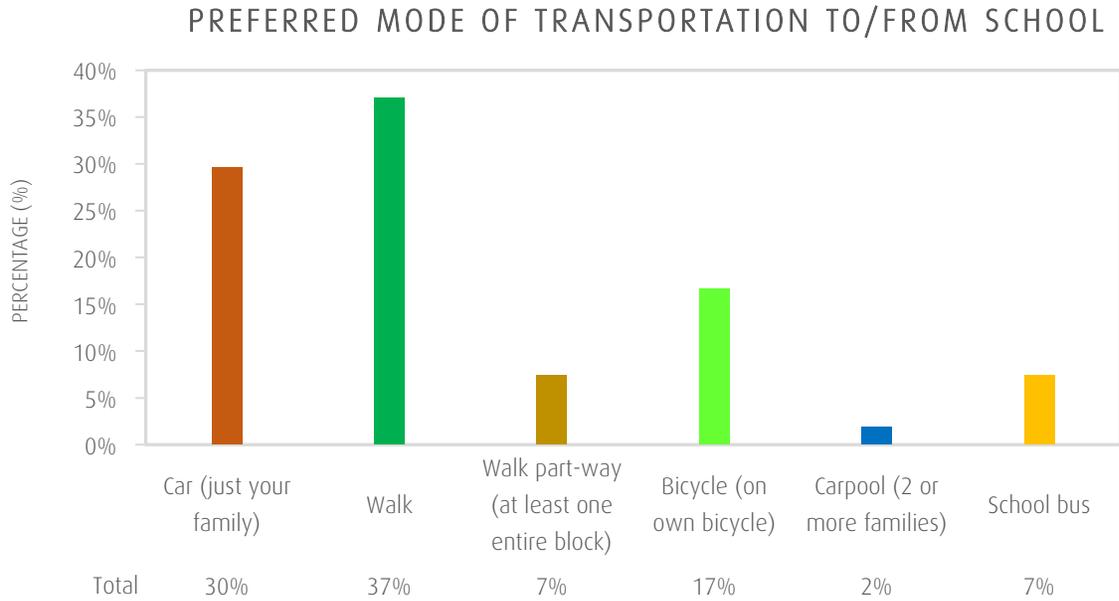
What feeling do you think your eldest child has most of the time when travelling to school?



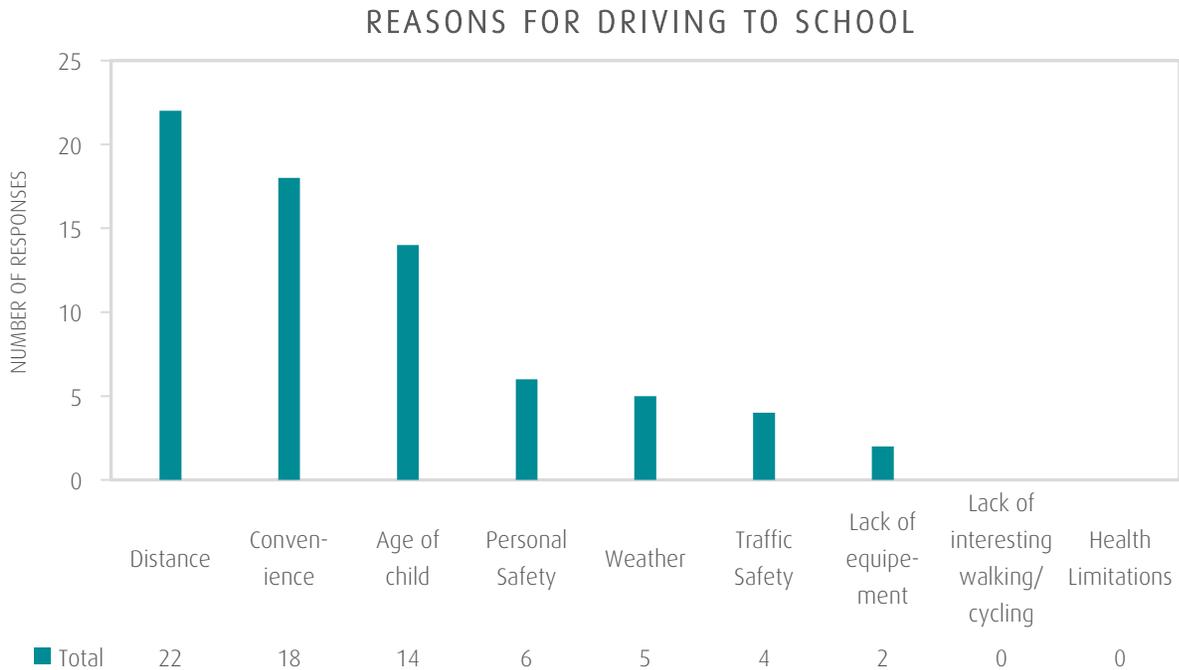
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## Preferred Mode

How would you prefer your eldest child travels to and from school?



What are the main reasons your eldest child is usually driven to/from school?  
(Choose up to three)



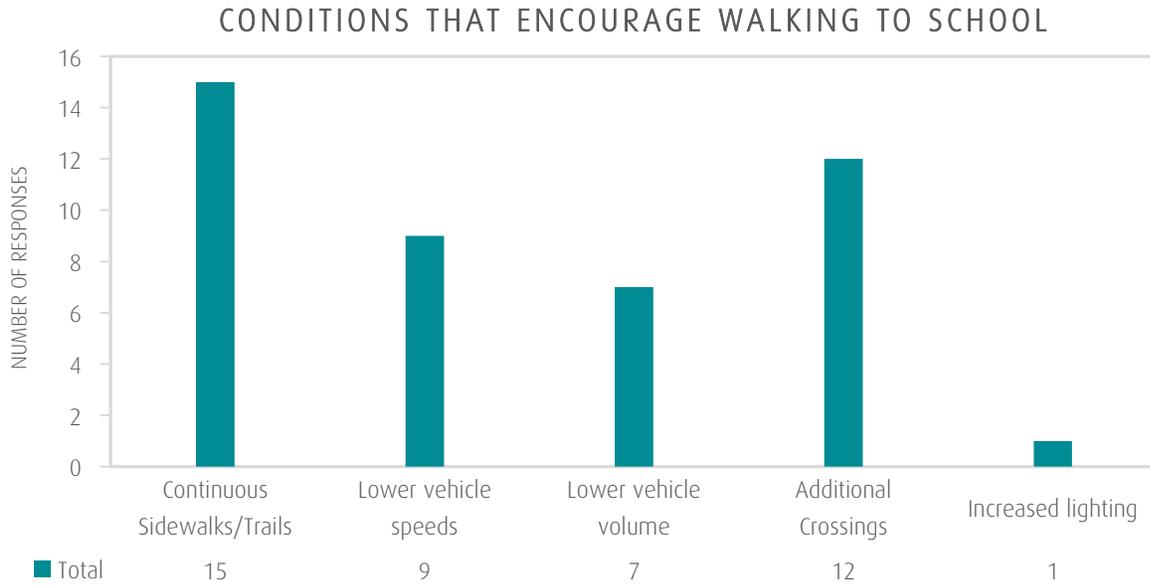
# Active and Safe Routes to School Survey Summary 2017-2018 Program

## Preferred Mode

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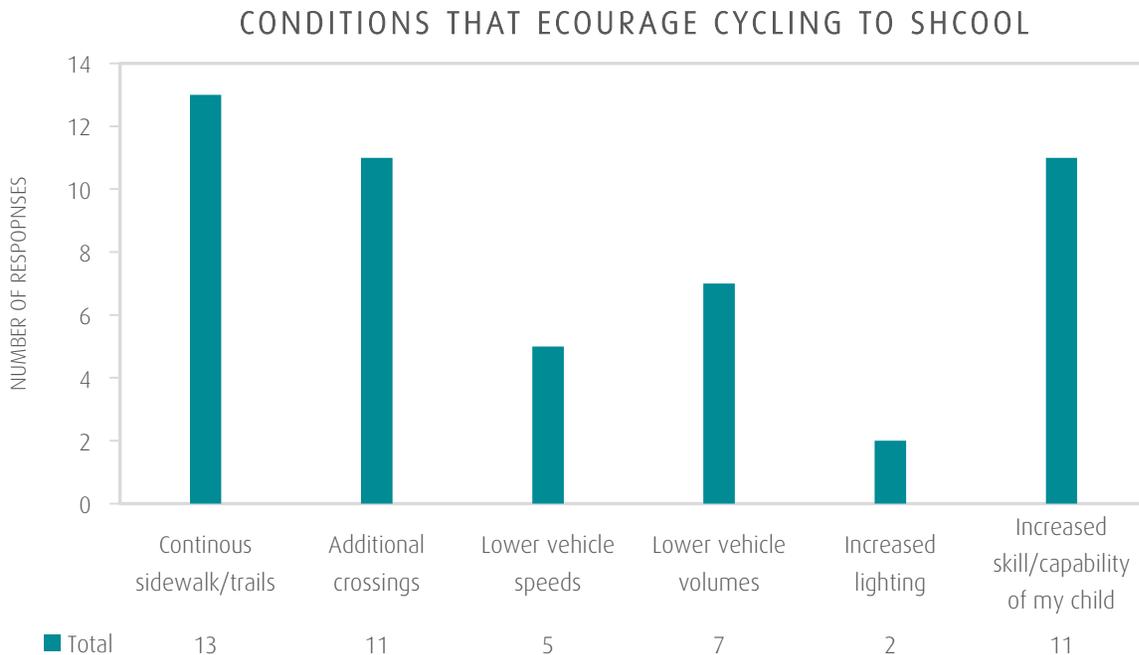
I would encourage my eldest child to walk to school if...

(Choose up to two)



I would encourage my eldest child to cycle to school if...

(Choose up to two)



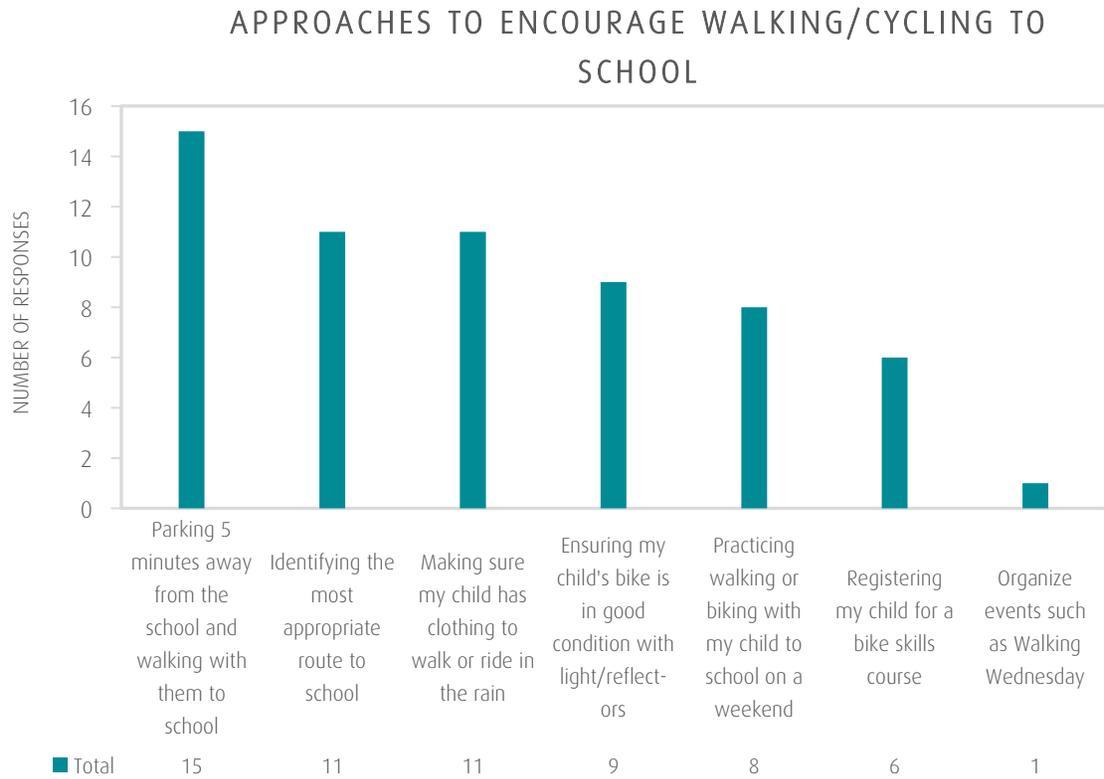
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## Preferred Mode

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I am willing to encourage my eldest child to walk or bike to/from school by...

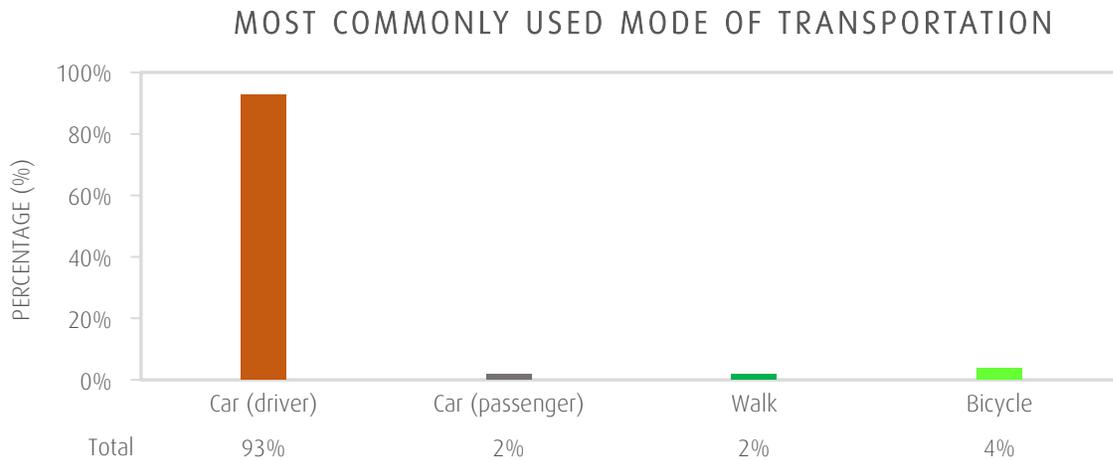
(Check all that apply)



## Other Destinations

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As a parent/caregiver how do you usually travel to your most frequent destination?

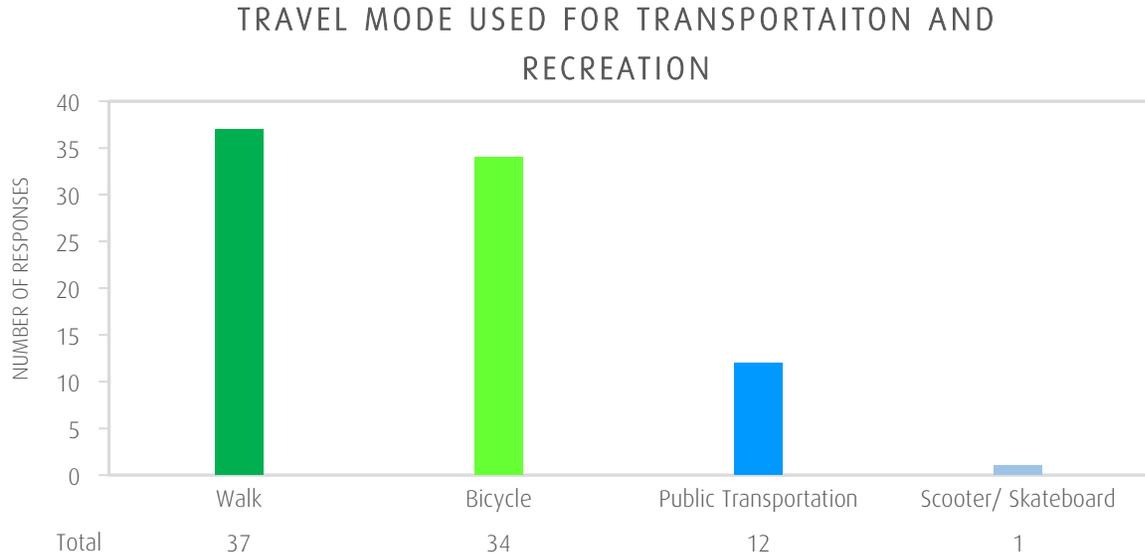


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## Other Destinations

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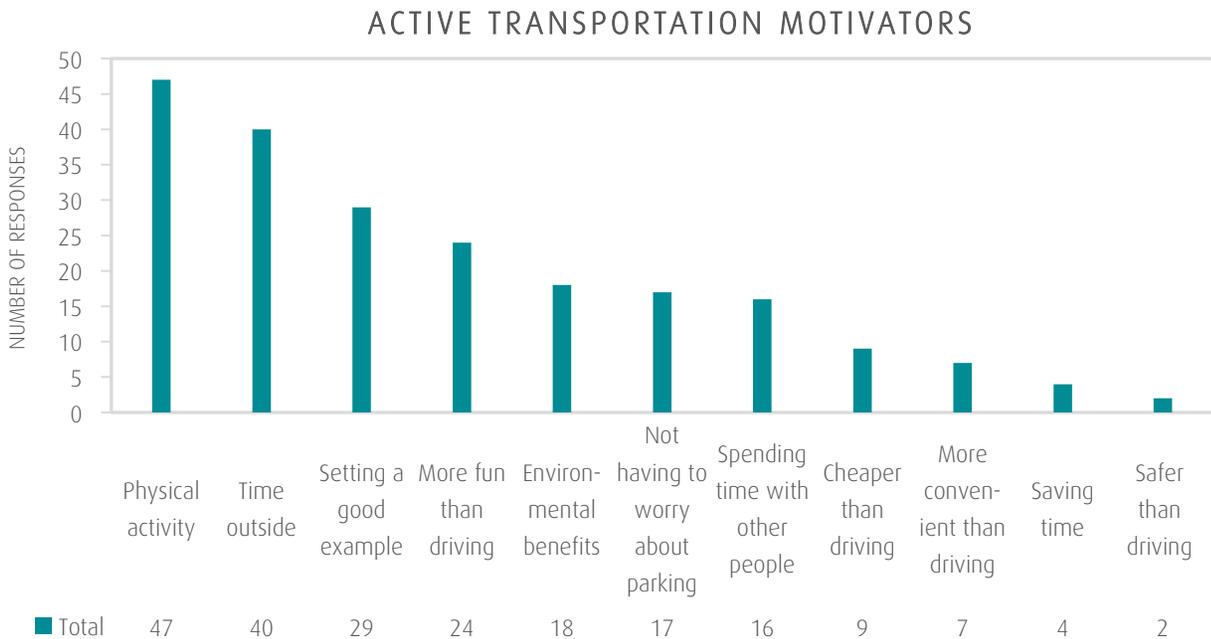
As a parent/caregiver, do you ever travel for transportation or recreation by:  
(Check all that apply)



## Motivation & Cycling Education

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If/when you walk or cycle as a family, what motivates you? (check all that apply)

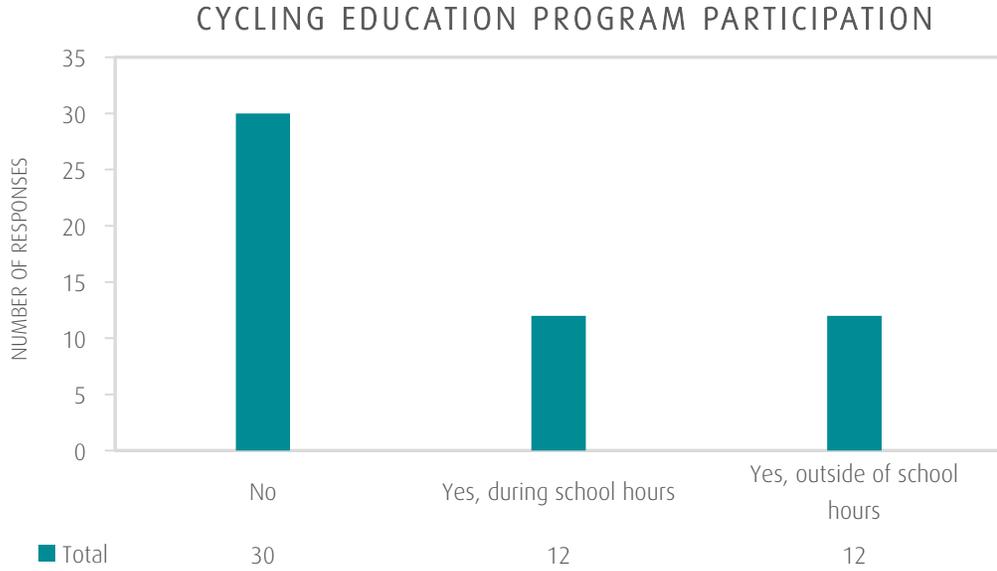


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## Motivation & Cycling Education

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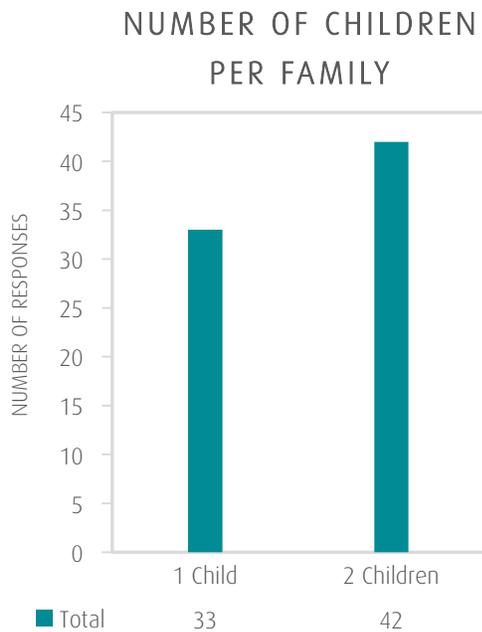
Has your child ever participated in a cycling education program?



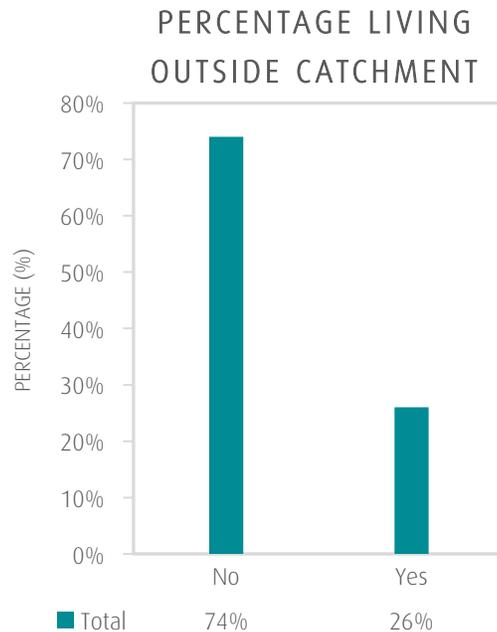
## Final Questions

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How many of your children attend this school?



Do you live outside the catchment area?

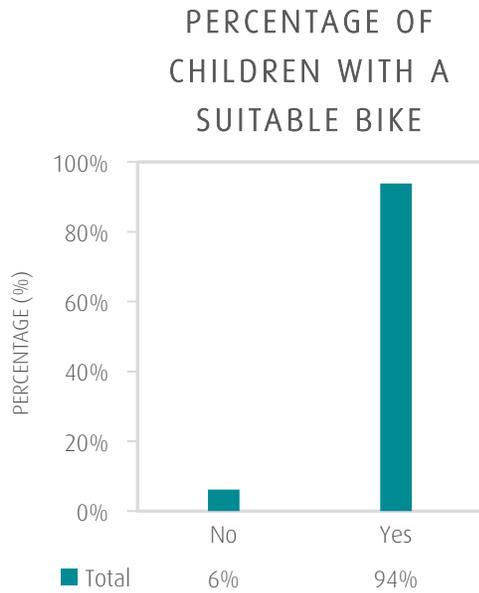


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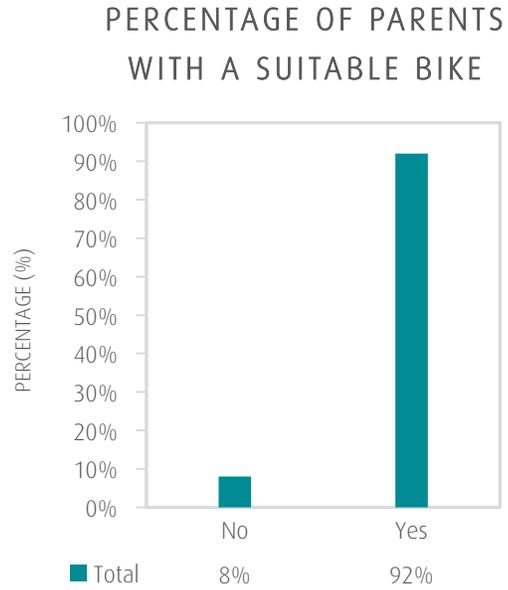
## Final Questions

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Does your child have a suitable bike?



Does one or both parents have a suitable bike?



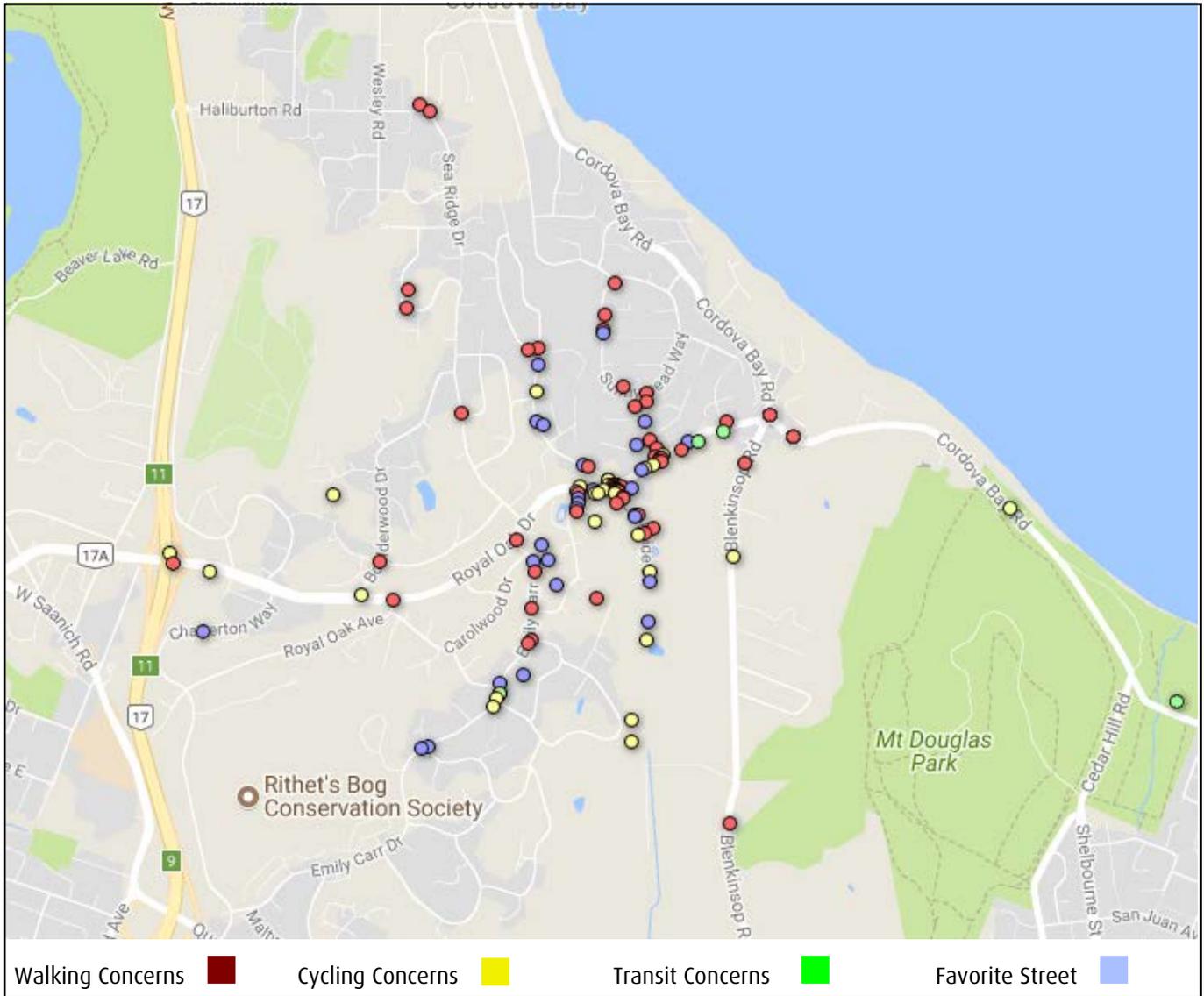
Do you have any further comments on the challenges and opportunities for active travel at your school?

— Analysis of the 38 comments are ongoing —

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Respondents were asked to identify any obstacles, barriers, or challenges to walking and biking to school. They identified up to 10 challenges as their top priorities for themselves and their families. Also, they identified which streets they preferred to walk or bike on when travelling to/from school.

### Lochside Elementary Obstacle Map



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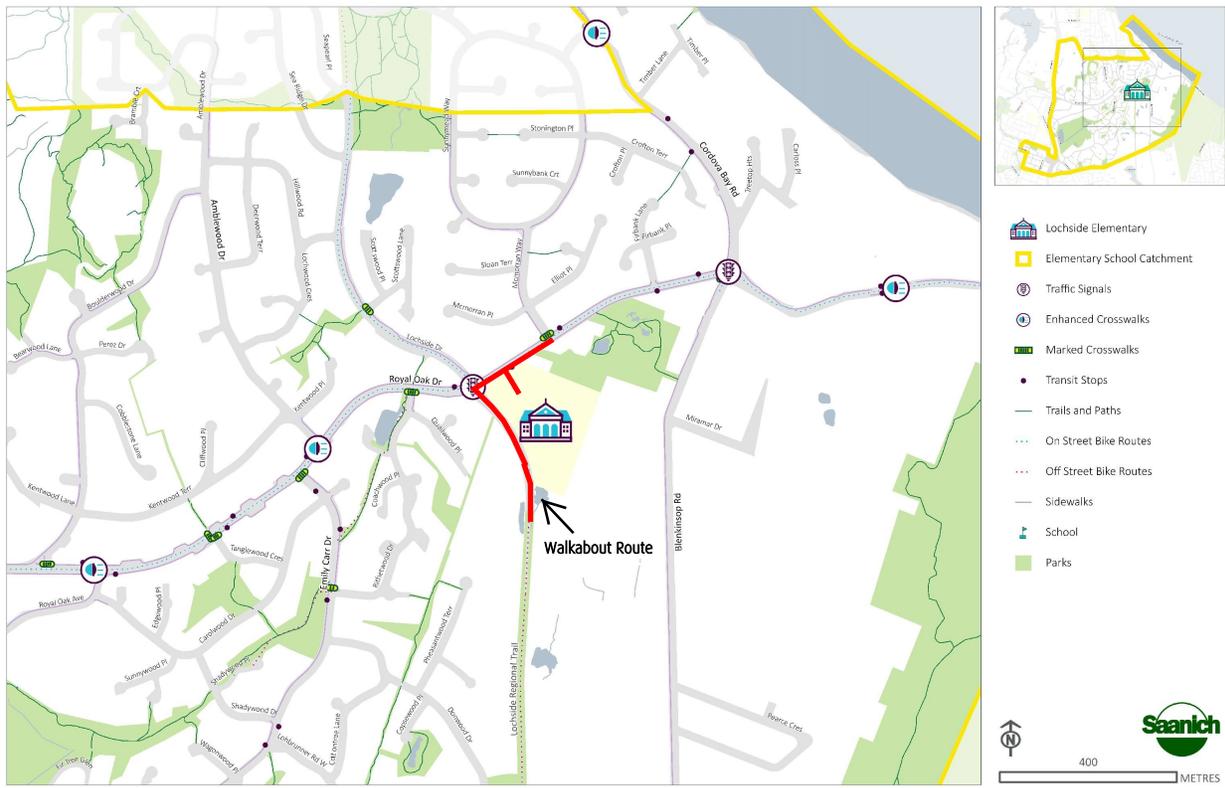
## Active and Safe Routes to School Neighborhood Walkabout

The neighborhood walkabout was used to look at locations of concern that were identified in the on-line survey. The walk was followed by a debrief discussion. Specifically the walkabout involved:

- Identifying active transportation safety concerns on our streets
- Brainstorming strategies with school district and municipal staff, local law enforcement and health professionals

The **Lochside Elementary** Neighborhood Walkabout was held on **Wednesday, November 15 at 7:45-10am.**

### Map of Lochside Elementary Catchment and Walkabout Route



## Active and Safe Routes to School Neighborhood Walkabout

### Attendees:

Erika Moser – Principal  
Sandra Liddle – District of Saanich Engineering  
David Williams - District of Saanich Engineering  
Stuart White – District of Saanich Engineering  
Andrew Burger – District of Saanich Parks  
Mike Goldsworthy – District of Saanich Parks  
Areli Hermanson – Island Health, parent  
Kate Berniaz – Capital Regional District  
Bryce Devereaux – Capital Regional District

### Walkabout Summary of Observations, Concerns and Potential Solutions:

#### Royal Oak:

- Concerns about high vehicle speed and use of road as a thoroughfare to avoid Quadra/Mackenzie; unsafe driving with acceleration to turn left or make
- Road has bike lanes and is a BC Transit route
- No crosswalk at McMarron Way where parents are parking
  - Parents parking in the neighborhood and jaywalking across Royal Oak
  - Request to do a warrant process to see if a crosswalk is appropriate
- Request to review traffic counts on Royal Oak, re: speed data

#### Royal Oak /Lochside:

- Crossing guard are paid for by the district
- 10 min period with lots of kids crossing; lots of kids clumped together
- Safety concern raised with small landing pads for pedestrians/kids
- Vehicles speeding/going through intersections on red/yellow lights; car drivers are aggressive
- Very busy intersection, cars stuck in the middle of the intersection
- Crosswalks only on 3 sections of the intersection
  - Why is there no crosswalk on one leg of the intersection? Response from District of Saanich staff: Depends on history – may have been pedestrian controlled or if it was a traffic signal and crosswalk is put on the leg with the fewer turning movements

- Request to look at additional crossing legs
- Suggestion that changing the radius in corners of the intersection to make it harder for cars to turn/speed and provides kids with a larger landing pad; current curve radius is long/wheel chair accessible drop
- District of Saanich's draft Active Transportation Plan includes an action to look at intersections for all leg crosswalk

Commented [KB1]: Sandra – please review

Lochside Drive (mainly south of Royal Oak Dr):

- People don't know what side of the road they should be walking on (on regional trail people are encouraged to walk on the right, but on the road pedestrians should walk against traffic)
- Parking
  - Parents are parking close to the intersection at Royal Oak, concern about visibility
  - Parents park and block the fire lane and walk kids through school grounds
  - Parking areas are not formalized or maintained
  - Approx. 20 cars are parking on the segment south of Royal Oak to drop of kids; drivers making 3-point turns to turn around
- Cyclists are commuting along the Lochside Trail (busiest when school is opening); people and kids walking
- Very narrow road with limited space

Ritchetwood Drive:

- Large amount of people parking along the road
- Large amount of kids waiting for busses on narrow sidewalks
- No pedestrian access coming from east side of parking lot

School - Drop off area:

- Concern about the amount of idling; discussion about Island Health program "Young lungs at work"
- Complaint that parents don't drive through; spending more time in drop off area because people are parking instead of dropping kids off
- There is no comfortable walking route from far end of parking lot
- VIP parking – a parking spot at the school is auctioned off at \$100/month for parent fundraiser
- There is sufficient parking for staff
- Suggestion to restrict drivers to only turn right onto Royal Oak, but then concern that people would then u-turn at McMarron

- Double parking in parking lot
- Cars not pulling far ahead enough causing traffic to back up on Royal Oak Drive
- Busses blocking Royal Oak Drive during drop off forcing vehicles to pass in the turning lane
- Lack of safe and comfortable pedestrian access to school from east side of school; boulders, no path; students have to cross two driveways
- There are not enough parking spots
- Parking lot design doesn't have a sidewalk that could allow drop off to a curb
- Disability parking spot is inaccessible during busy drop off time period
- Idea to assign volunteer to monitor drop off and no parking in drop off lane
- Sufficient bike parking, with a good amount of kids cycling to school

#### Transit and school bus:

- School bus parks in bike lane to drops kids off and Claremont students get on
- Students using the BC Transit stops for the school bus on north side of street; potential reason for improvements with number of kids
- School bus stops in bike lane on south side because they cannot use BC Transit bus stop because kids would have to cross the driveway

#### Trails/paths

- Trail off Pheasant Wood to Goose – what is the condition of the trail?
- Make sure all paths are well marked and well cleared
- Do most people know about the paths? Would they use them?
- Suggestion for more directional signage and increased maintenance/signage of trails/awareness of trails
- It would be helpful if more paths could be created because they provide off road routes to school

#### Programming:

- Drive to 5
  - Potential locations: pullouts along Royal Oak; church on Royal Oak Ave; McMinn Park
  - Walking school bus potentially using cut outs or the church as the drop off or may park around the school area
  - Discussion of using Outerbridge Park but there is no parking on Blenkinsop
- Box program:

- One month in fall and spring, starts at 8am
- Physical literacy program
- 15 students that participate
- More buy-in then supervision
- Walking school bus:
  - Interest in a more formal program
  - Potential pick-up locations: McMin Park and Royal Oak; have 2-3 parks
  - Parent awareness
  - Not have the same volunteers and have incentives for volunteers
  - What research is available on walking school bus programs?

Other comments:

- Student crossing guard program:
  - Training
  - 40 students volunteer to cross
- Before/after school care – 24 – 30 students participate
- Parents are not using supervision time being provided
- September was really busy with bikes ~double previous years
- School is popular but this year did not accept out of District and most out of catchment
- Catchment makes a difference as to whether students can walk or bike
- Estimate that 70-80% of kids are driven to school
- Parents who are walking are stay-at-home parents or work at home
- Request for more enforcement (fire lane, speed)
- Request for traffic counts to collect data
- Complaint that some of the subdivisions in Broadmead don't have sidewalks