

# Lochside Elementary School Update

## Background

The District of Saanich is committed to improving safety around its 39 schools and encouraging parents and children to choose active ways of getting to and from school. Active travel is not only a healthier choice, it is better for the environment and increases quality social time for families and friends in the neighbourhood.

Active and Safe Routes to School is a community based initiative that promotes the use of active transportation (walking, biking, bussing, and rolling) for the daily trip to and from school. To be successful, Active and Safe Routes to School involves many groups, including parents, students and school administration, school boards, municipal staff, public health, and local law enforcement agencies.

In 2015 the District of Saanich began work with the CRD, individual school Principals, Parent Advisory Committees, and the School District to develop planning documents to help guide future infrastructure decisions and identify solutions to problems in each school's vicinity. Every school community has its own concerns and suggestions for ways to reduce or eliminate them. Each solution might be the responsibility of a different municipal department or even level of government. The purpose of this document is to provide an update to the school community on work that has been completed, and what is still left to do.

Lochside Elementary School completed their School Travel Plan in 2018. The complete Lochside Elementary School Travel Plan can be found on our website at the following link:

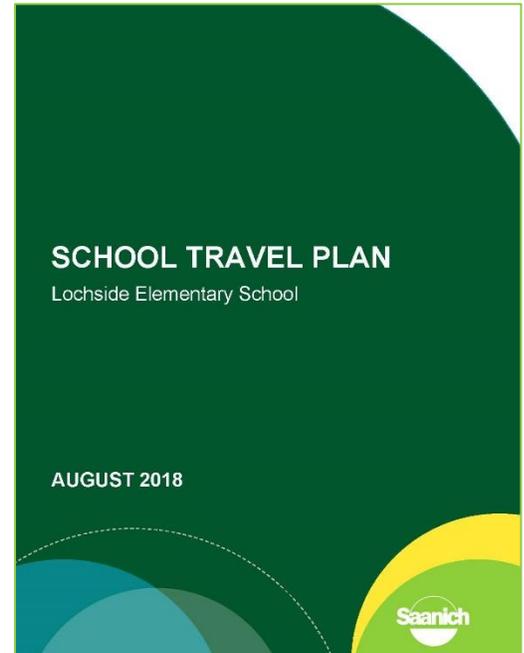
<https://www.saanich.ca/EN/main/community/getting-around/walking/safe-routes-to-school.html>

## Update 2021

On the next page you will find a table summarizing the key actions and the status of each.

Lochside Elementary School is currently scheduled to revisit this plan in 2027.

If you have questions, suggestions or comments about this document or any of the actions identified. Please contact [engineering@saanich.ca](mailto:engineering@saanich.ca) and one of our staff will be happy to help in any way they can.



Location	Description	Implementation	Status
Lochside Dr (south of Royal Oak Dr)	Very narrow road with limited space; cyclists are commuting along the Lochside Trail, people and kids walking; concerns about number of vehicles blocking the trail, driving at unsafe speeds	Restrict parking to discourage drivers from using this road and turning around. Encourage it to be used as a trail, an alternative location needs to be identified, enhanced and then promoted.	Parking restrictions installed, education and encouragement ongoing. Slight widening and sidewalk may be built through redevelopment of the area.
Royal Oak Drive	Large volumes of pedestrians before and after school utilizing the sidewalk for walking and biking from Rithetwood Drive and Lochside making it narrow. Do not feel safe using the bike lanes due to vehicle speed and cars entering the bike lanes at corners.	Widen sidewalk, create mixed use spaces to accommodate pedestrians and cyclists.  Install collapsible delineators, buffered bike lane, infrastructure that caters to all ages and abilities.	This is identified in the Active Transportation Plan as a Long-Term Priority
Royal Oak Drive and Lochside Drive	Safety concern raised with small pedestrian staging areas at the intersection for pedestrians/kids; high volume of pedestrians at peak times.  Crosswalk only on 3 sections of the intersection – request to look into adding another leg	Install concrete pad to create larger pedestrian staging areas behind existing sidewalk at intersection  Review traffic signal phasing, consider changes to increase pedestrian movement through the intersection.  Review intersection for addition of north south crosswalk on east side of the intersection.	Signal phasing upgraded. Additional pedestrian space and crosswalk to be considered with future improvements.
Emily Carr and Rithetwood Dr	Visibility of crosswalk (hidden by vehicles)	Install no parking signage or paint curbs or both.	Completed
Sunnymead and McMorran	Request for crosswalk	Review possible installation of crosswalk at Sunnymead and McMorran	Completed
Emily Carr and Lohbrunner Rd W	Request for crosswalk	Consider install of sidewalk at Emily Carr and Lohbrunner Rd W	This is identified in the Active Transportation Plan as a Long-Term Priority

Royal Oak Dr	Separated bike lanes	Identified as a spine as part of the Active Transportation Plan to receive facilities that cater to all ages and abilities (This is called a 'AAA' facility)	This is identified in the Active Transportation Plan as a Long-Term Priority
Trail off Pheasant Wood to Quailwood	Poor visibility along path	Vegetation pruning to improve visibility to path and improve lighting.	Ongoing
Donwood/ Donwood Park to Lochside Trail	Stairs that are slippery and overgrown, install ramp for bikes to walk bikes up	Vegetation sight line pruning already in progress. Parks planning to review feasibility of installation of a bike rail at this location.	Ongoing
Lochside Trail (CRD portion)	Lack of lighting	Regional Trail Management Plan	This would be the responsibility of the CRD and their priorities are on the trail sections from downtown to McKenzie.
Saanich portion of Lochside	need for parking restrictions and enforcement	Consider parking restriction signage and enforcement	Restrictions installed, Ongoing enforcement