

# Mount Douglas Secondary 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.

Mount Douglas Secondary School completed their School Travel Plan in 2017. The complete Mount Douglas Secondary School Travel Plan can be found on our website at the following link:

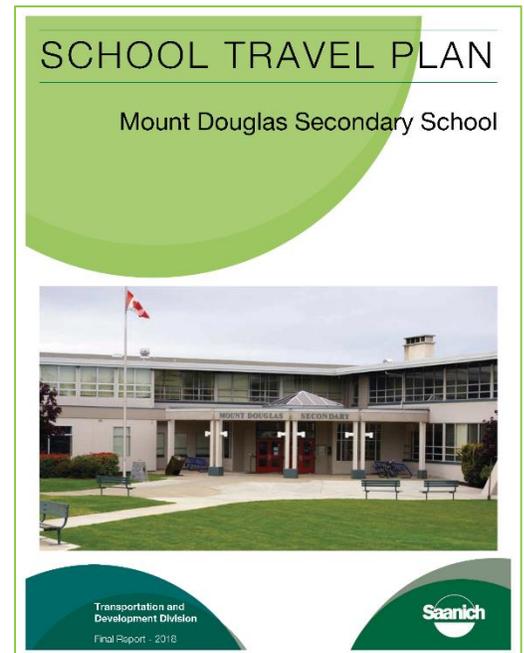
<https://www.saanich.ca/EN/main/community/getting-around/walking/safe-routes-to-school.html>

## Update 2021

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

Mount Douglas Secondary School is currently scheduled to revisit this plan in 2028.

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
Laval Ave between Gordon Head Rd. and Larchwood Dr.	Sidewalk and Traffic Calming	Install traffic calming measures and sidewalk along Laval Ave.	Sidewalk improvements are partially identified in the Active Transportation Plan as a Medium-Term Priority
Intersection of Laval Ave. and Larchwood Dr.	Students are using median as pedestrian island for safer crossings. Cyclists are having difficulty turning left off Larchwood onto Laval.	Recommend: Upgrade existing curb drops at intersection. Add letdowns on the northeast and southeast corners of the intersection to facilitate pedestrian crossings. Review location to see if warrants pedestrian activated beacons.	Completed
Providence Pl. and Laval Ave Bus Stop	There are no formalized pedestrian facilities to the bus stop. Observed students not using the crossing but walking to Laval and crossing at the intersection.	Recommend: Close sidewalk gap between crosswalk and bus stop on Laval Ave.	Completed
Laval Ave. between Providence Pl and Loyola St.	There is no school zone signage with two schools nearby (Maria Montessori and Mount Doug)	Recommend: Add School Zone signage to Laval street after Larchwood again near Loyola	Completed
Intersection of Gordon Head Rd. and Laval Ave	Improve pedestrian crossing facilities	Recommended: Review possibility of curb bulge on southwest corner of the intersection into Laval Ave to reduce crossing distance. Also improve visibility with upgrades.	Completed
East side of Gordon Head Rd. between Laval Ave. and Edgelow St.	This part of the sidewalk was very narrow with lots of obstructions. It would be challenging with a stroller and dangerous in a wheelchair.	Address obstructions on the sidewalk (Mail box, utility poles etc.). Recommend relocating obstructions or widening sidewalk in those areas.	As priorities and budget permits. Very limited space to widen behind poles as sidewalk is built to edge of right-of-way.

Intersection of Gordon Head Rd. And Fairburn Dr/ Edgelow	Currently there are concerns with the sight lines to pedestrians at this intersection, some vegetation from adjacent property is overgrown decreasing sidewalk width.	Recommend: Decrease curb radius and move/remove obstacles on the sidewalk. Ask property owners on the west side of the intersection to trim vegetation to improve visibility and sightlines	Visibility improvements 2019, further improvements long-term
Intersection of Gordon Head Rd. and McCoy Rd.	Currently there are concerns with the existing pedestrian facilities at this intersection. (i.e.. Visibility to drivers, overgrown vegetation, long crossing distance, driver awareness)	Recommend: Tighten curb returns on the east side of the intersection. Clear vegetation on the northeast corner to improve pedestrian visibility and sightlines. Consider adding a curb bulge on the north-east corner instead to further improve visibility and act as a pedestrian staging area. Considering installing pedestrian island on the north side with a low curb to allow emergency vehicles travelling south on Gordon Head Rd. to turn left on to McCoy Rd.	Completed
Gordon Head Rd. between McKenzie Ave. and Edgelow St.	Students feel safer in the bike lane but note the parked cars and complexity and motorists often use the bike lane to pass on the right which causes fear.	Recommend: Install collapsible delineators between bike lanes and roadway along Gordon Head Rd. east of the school	Upgrades to AAA facilities included in the Active Transportation Plan for long term.
Feltham Rd. between Tyndall Ave. and Gordon Head Rd.	Review use of Feltham Road during peak and off-peak hours. Consider Feltham for 'complete street' upgrade	Review use of Feltham Road during peak and off-peak hours. Consider Feltham for 'complete street' upgrade	This is identified in the Active Transportation Plan as a Medium-Term Priority
East end of Teakwood Pl.; Feltham Rd./San Lorenzo Ave.; East of the intersection of Tyndall Ave. and Feltham Rd.; San Capri Tr./Cortez Pl.	Increase pedestrian visibility with signage	Create way finding signs to highlight presence of pedestrian pathway	This will be reviewed upon development of Wayfinding specifications (Saanich Active Transportation Plan Action 3C.2).