

**Strawberry Vale Elementary** 4109

Rosedale Ave Grades:

K-5

Number of students: 297

**Survey and Walkabout Summary** 

**Principal:** Cindy Sanderson **Vice principal:** Emma Marley

Strawberry Vale 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 neighborhood walkabout was conducted to further support the survey information.

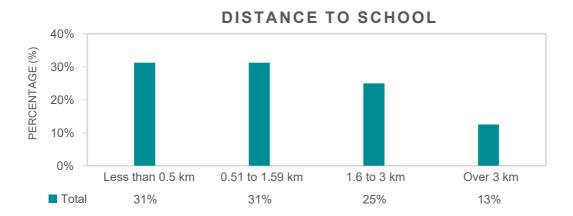
Together the survey and walkabout information gathered will help identify desired active transportation improvements and preferred routes. Throughout this report the results from the surveys and walkabouts will be provided and discussed.

# **Survey Results**

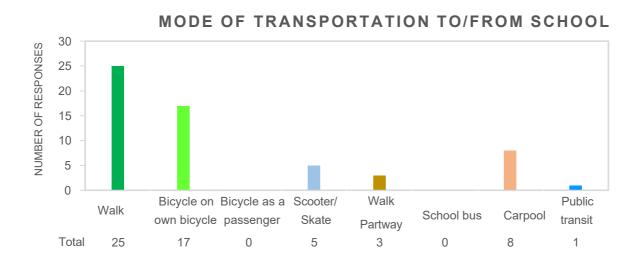
An on-line school travel survey was distributed to parents between October 16-27, 2017. 32 families completed the survey representing 40 children which is approximately 13% of Strawberry Vale's school population. The purpose of the survey was to gain information about the schools travel choices. Below is a summary of the results drom the completed surveys.

#### **Distance**

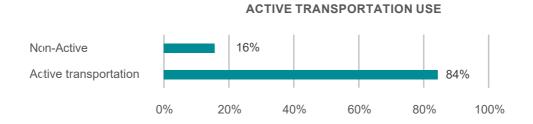
How far away from the school do you live?



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

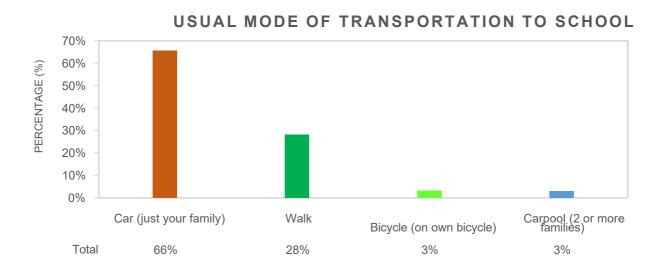


Students that used at least one form of active transportation to travel to/from school in the last year

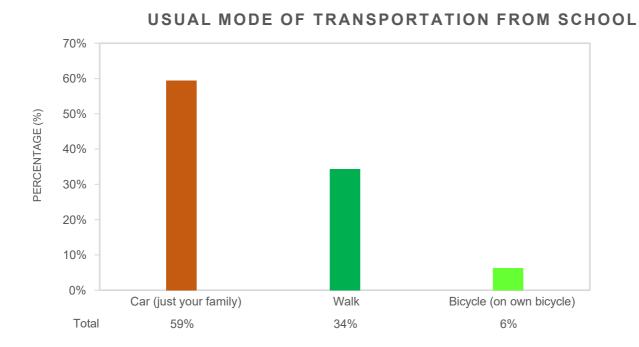


## Mode

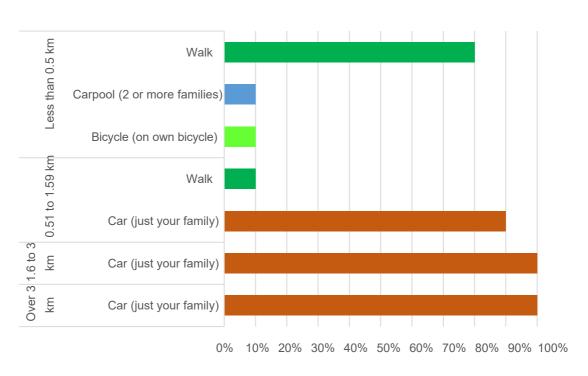
How does your eldest child usually get to school throughout the school year?



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



## MODE OF TRANSPORTATION BASED ON DISTANCE

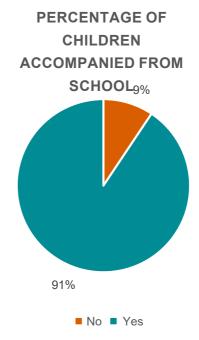


# **Travel companion**

Is your eldest accompanied to school by an adult?

PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN
ACCOMPANIED TO SCHOOL
9%
91%
No • Yes

Is your eldest accompanied from school by an adult?

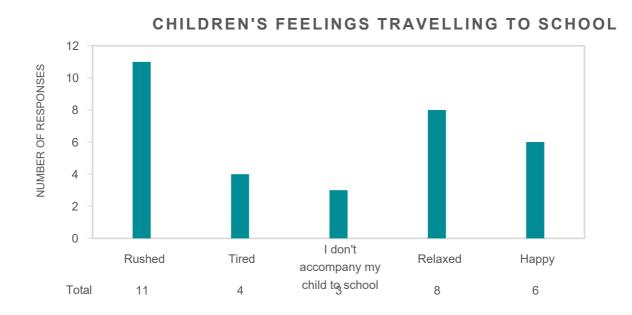


## **Feelings**

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

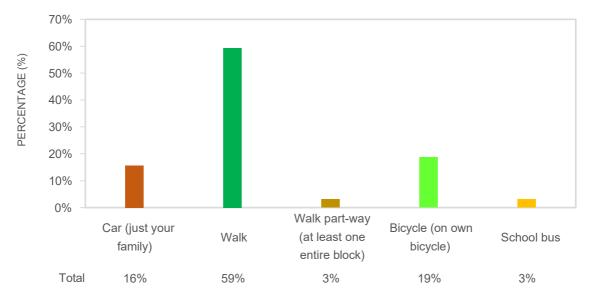


What feeling do you think your eldest child has most of the time when travelling to school?



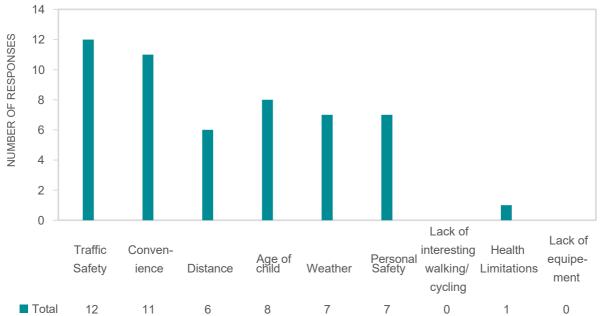
How would you prefer your eldest child travels to and from school?





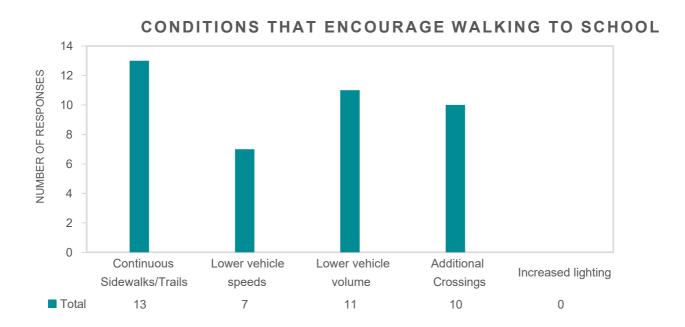
What are the main reasons your eldest child is usually driven to/from school?(Choose up to three)



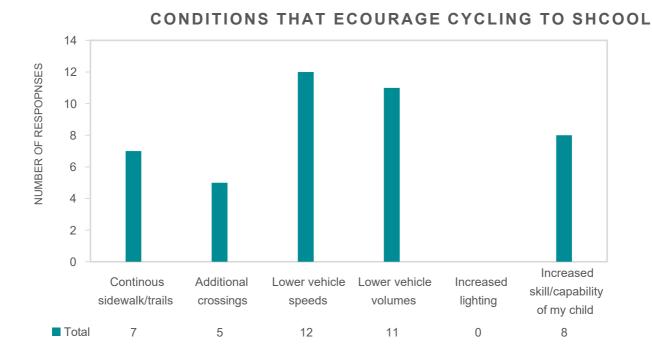


#### **Preferred Mode**

I would encourage my eldest child to walk to school if...(Choose up to two)

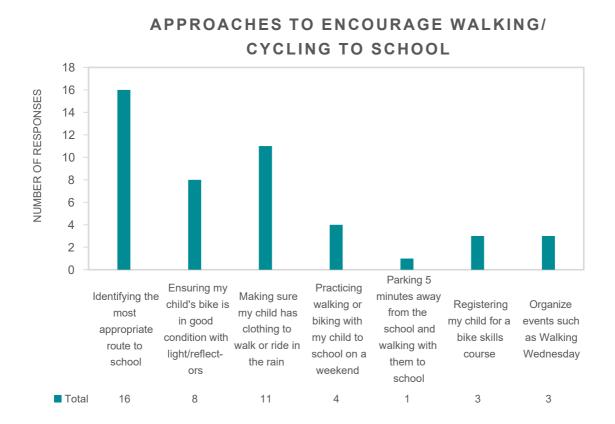


I would encourage my eldest child to cycle to school if...(Choose up to two)



## **Preferred Mode**

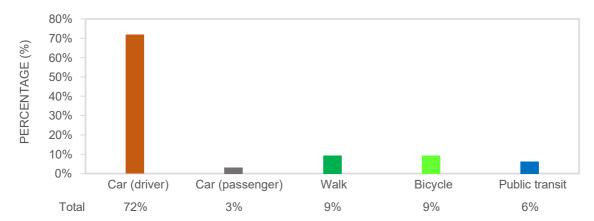
I am willing to encourage my eldest child to walk or bike to/from school by...(Check all that apply)



#### **Other Destinations**

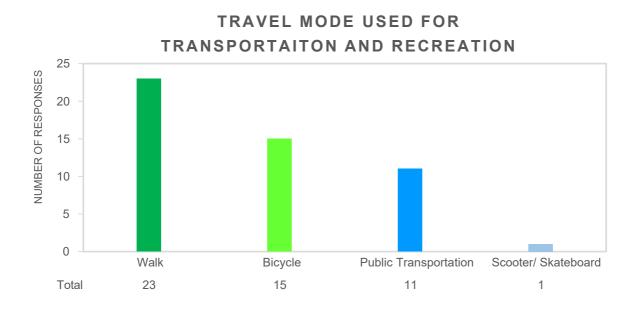
As a parent/caregiver how do you usually travel to your most frequent destination?

#### MOST COMMONLY USED MODE OF TRANSPORTATION



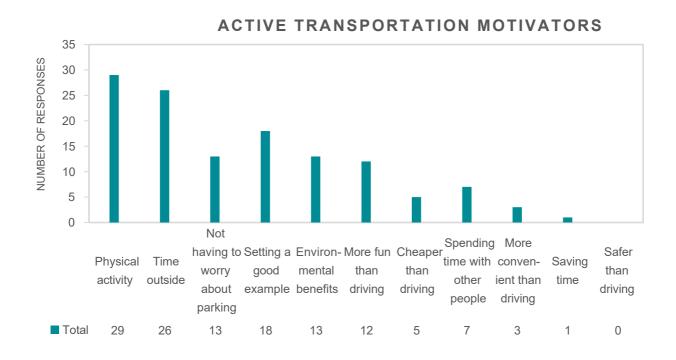
# Active and Safe Routes to School Survey Summary 2017-2018 Program Other Destinations

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



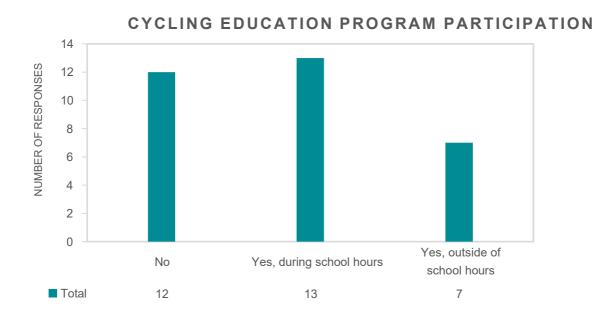
# **Motivation & Cycling Education**

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



## **Motivation & Cycling Education**

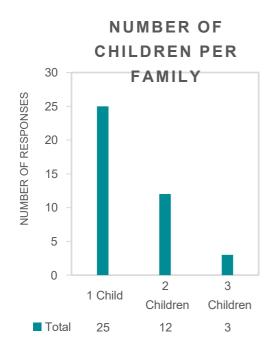
Has your child ever participated in a cycling education program?

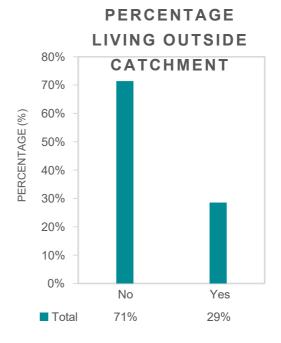


## **Final Questions**

How many of your children attend this school?

Do you live outside the catchment area?



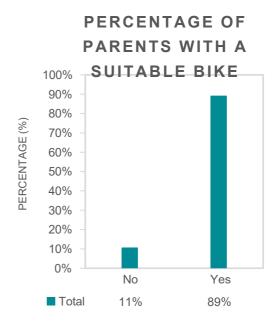


## **Final Questions**

Does your child have a suitable bike?

**PERCENTAGE** OF CHILDREN WITH A 100% SUITABLE BIKE 80% PERCENTAGE (%) 60% 40% 20% 0% No Yes 7% Total 93%

Does one or both parents have a suitable bike?

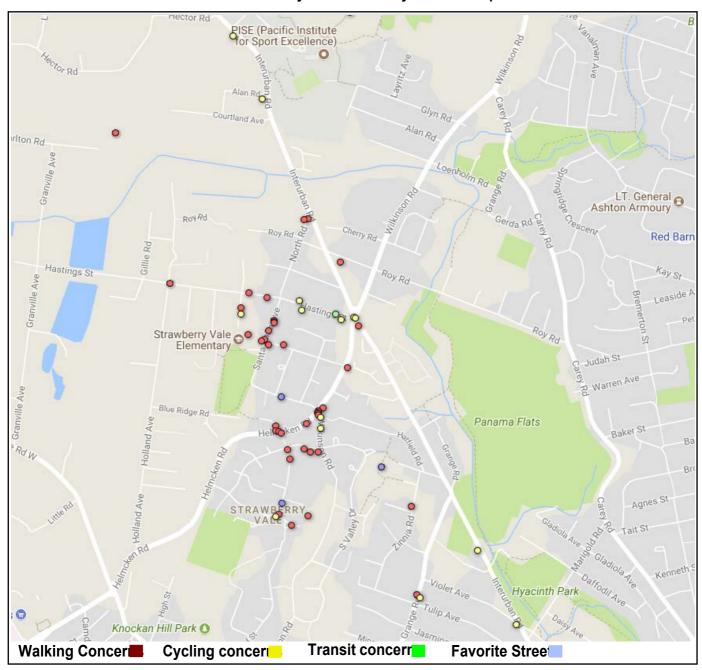


Do you have any further comments on the challenges and opportunities for active travel at your school?

— Analysis of the 17 comments is ongoing —

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 prefered to walk or bike on when travelling to/from school.

## **Strawberry Vale Elementary Obstacle Map**



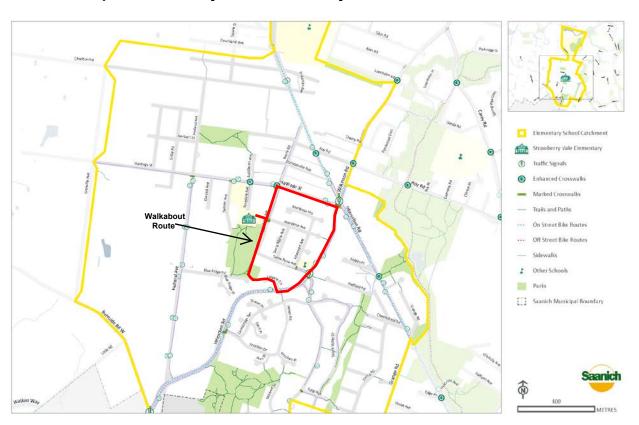
## Active and Safe Routes to School Neighborhood Walkabout

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 **Strawberry Vale Elementary** Neighborhood Walkabout was held on **Tuesday**, **November 7 at 3:15-5:00pm**.

# Map of Strawberry Vale Elementary Catchment and Walkabout Route



## Attendees:

Emma Marley – Vice Principal

Sanda Liddell – District of Saanich Engineering

David Williams - District of Saanich Engineering

Stuart White - District of Saanich Engineering

Mike Goldsworthy - District of Saanich Parks

Areli Hermanson - Island Health

Lindsay Taylor – BC Transit

Stu Burrow - Resident

Mike Williams – SVE Parent

Kristina Andrew – SVE Parent

Kate Berniaz – Capital Regional District

Bryce Devereaux - Capital Regional District

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

#### School:

- Drivers are using the school as a cut through in the morning (speed concern)
- Parents go through the school parking lot the wrong way
- School directional signs are confusing
- Use parking on-street to slow down cars
- No bike racks; kids are chaining bike to the fence outside their classrooms; request for bike racks
- Cars entering performing u-turns, parking in driveways, parking in front of the school
- Traffic bypassing Interurban/Wilkinson by coming up through Hastings
- Parents are parking all around the school
- Formalize corner ramp at corner of schools
- Suggestion to complete the connection from the school to the sidewalk on Santa Anita (currently a dirt path connects the sidewalk)

## Santa Anita/Mariposa:

- Parking Issues / cars stopping confusion
- Suggestion to change parking restrictions to increase visibility of road users
- Parking on both sides narrows the road
- Leaves on sidewalk unpleasant

- Students not crossing at the crosswalk; walking in road
- Safety patrollers are used but parents aren't listening
- Paint yellow curb on sidewalk to deter parents from parking (note Saanich is no longer painting curbs yellow because of maintenance requirements)
- Poor compliance to stopping at crosswalk (request for police enforcement)
- No compliance to no parking/stopping at all legs (request for police enforcement)

#### Sandra Anita/Santa Rosa

- Request to review treatment options to 90 degree corner (blind corner) to improve safety of children walking or biking
- Parents noticed conflicts
- Santa Rosa Ave used for school walks (K-5<sup>th</sup> grade)

## Hastings/Santa Anita/North Rd:

- Motorcyclist driving (speeding) between the barriers on North Road or on sidewalk (request for enforcement; request to review barricade placement/signage)
- Unclear signage (parking restrictions)
- Poor lighting at existing crosswalk; flashing lights are good
- BC Transit wants to move sidewalk on Hastings + Santa Anita because it is in the sidewalk

#### Dunsterville:

- Observation of vehicles using Dunsterville as a cut through
- Request to review traffic counts (speeds/short cutting) and look at vehicle connections

#### <u>Hastings:</u>

- No dedicated cycling facilities along Hastings
- No room for cyclist coming up the hill / hidden driveways; not comfortable riding up the hill on my bike
- Concerns about vehicle speeds; request for ongoing speeding enforcement
- No street lights, cars parked in opposite direction (request to review street lights)
- Sidewalk on Hastings use to bike because not enough room on road/shoulder
- Lack of sidewalk on the opposite side
- Q. re: Why can't you put in speed bumps (Saanich doesn't allow speed bumps because it slows down emergency response time)

- Suggestion for cycling facilities on Hastings/from Santa Anita to promote/allow cyclists on sidewalk
- Suggestion to relocate bus stop at crosswalk at Santa Anita/Hastings
- Enforcement on Hastings concerns about safety; review traffic counts and speed data
- Hastings and Holland crossing is scary, kids have to run, concern re: speed with hill, request for crosswalk and warning/flashing lights
- Improve visibility to pathway

#### <u>Hastings/Interurban/Wilkinson intersection:</u>

- People speeding up into Hastings cutting through Crooked Goose parking lot
- Pedestrian push buttons locations are confusing at this intersection and not intuitively placed;
   suggestion to examine configuration of push buttons
- No formalized staging areas for pedestrians to wait around the intersection
- Concern about people running red lights
- Request for police presence for left turning and enforcement for running red lights
- Biking is not comfortable on Interurban because bike lane is narrow
- Complaint about short left turn time
- Suggestion to review streetlights

## Wilkinson/Helmcken:

- Narrow sidewalks (but happy this is a protected sidewalk), hidden driveways, cars going too fast
- Observed a school zone sign fallen over in the boulevard near trail to Mariposa
- Existing trail on Wilkinson connecting to Mariposa is great connection but slippery during the wet season; suggestion to improve with placemaking
- Concern regarding fast moving (speeding) vehicles and high vehicle volume (congestion)
- Lidgate is nice and quiet; natural path route
- Request for crosswalk at Lidgate currently no crosswalk up toward Lidgate Court from Helen Road for connector trail near school; lots of kids living in the subdivisions there; suggestion to review pedestrian data, pedestrian staging area, advance flashers, overhead lights

#### Violet:

- Suggestion to review shorter crossing distance and shrink curb radius
- 870 Violet- Request to review catch basin side during heavy rain fall floods road

 Observation of constant speed issues; comment that police came over consistently over 2-3 months

## Parks:

- Panama Flats (path fix, loose gravel) path to avoid Interurban (connection for Colquitz/Strawberry Vale)
- Stall painting to allow more space for parking making it safer for active transportation
- Getting access to the gravel parking lot
- Standard maintenance (blow off leaves)
- Paint stall on Rosa Park parking
- Have Panama Flats gravel compacted
- School walking routes to parks are important to increase safety; it would be great to have access to Panama Flats

## <u>Pathways/trails:</u>

- Interconnected pathways (lack of signage/lighting)
- Education where pathways are (wayfinding)

#### Other locations:

- Blue Ridge Road access point through park nice walk; good potential Drive to 5 location
- Lidgate Ct and park- potential Drive to 5 location
- Wilkinson and Helen/S Valley Dr request for crosswalks
- Gap in existing sidewalk network from School to Colquitz

#### General:

- Safety concerns around the biking due to lack of supporting infrastructure or infrastructure for all ages and abilities (bike lane not well shown / access to Panama flats)
- Difficulty getting parents involved in active school travel
- Request for more signage (wayfinding) for school routes
- Education of walking hierarchy (difficult due to improper signage)
- Suggestion to have kids holding on to signs to enforce drivers slowing down (or visual having child hold a sign)
- Lower signage (some parking signs too high)
- Ensure maintenance of sidewalks/signs is important
- Strawberry Vale a very active school