

School Travel Safety Assessment

Kristi Sebastian, PE, PTOE Transportation Department Physical Development Division

Agenda



- Project Introduction & Purpose
- School Travel Safety Overview
- Project Scope and Schedule
- How to Get Involved

What is the Project?



- Assessment of schools next to county roads and state highways
- Focused on pedestrian and bicycle safety
- Identify recommended treatments to common issues
- Implement recommended improvements consistently

What is the Need for the Project?



- County roads and state highways have higher traffic volumes and higher speeds
- School zones are a priority for safety
 - Younger pedestrians and bicyclists
 - New drivers
- Consistent and proactive approach for all the schools on the County and State highway networks

What are the Objectives for the Project?



- Proactively identify safety issues
- Identify effective and comprehensive safety treatments
- Develop criteria for consistent application of treatments
- Create implementation plan

6 Es of Safe Routes To School (SRTS) Dakota



- <u>E</u>quity
- <u>E</u>ducation
- <u>E</u>ncouragement
- Enforcement
- Engineering
- Evaluation



Source: MnDOT SRTS 101

Education & Enforcement



Education

- Teaches safety skills
- Creates safety awareness
- Includes parents, neighbors, and other drivers

Enforcement

- Increases awareness of pedestrians and bicyclists
- Improves driver behavior

Source: MnDOT SRTS 101



Engineering



 Creates safer and more accessible places for walking and bicycling





Project Elements

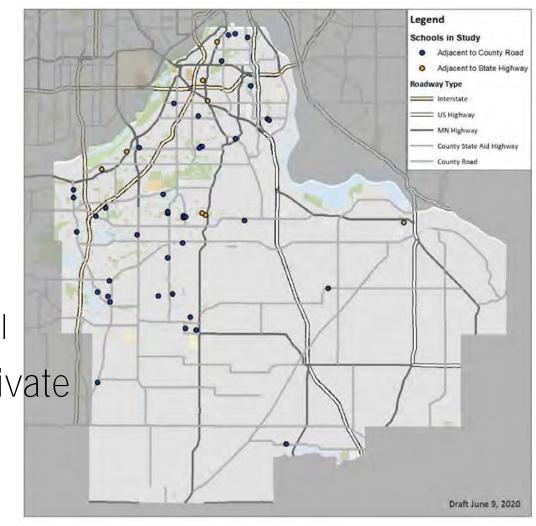


- Identify schools on county roads and state highways
- Data collection and initial review
- Detailed evaluations
- Develop recommendations
- Create implementation plan

Schools Next to County Roads and State Highways



- 49 schools to be evaluated
 - 18 Elementary
 - 11 Middle Schools
 - 7 High Schools
 - 7 PK/K-8
 - 5 PK/K-12
 - 1 Middle & High School
- Includes public & private schools



Project Scope and Schedule



2020 Project Schedule	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER
Virtual Engagement							
Advisory Committee Meetings	#	#	#		H		
Stakeholder Interviews							
Data Collection		- 4					
Identify Focus Schools		-					
Detailed School Evaluations							
Develop Recommendations							
Final Documentation							
Implementation							

This is a draft schedule and will be adjusted as needed due to the effects of COVID-19 and remote learning, and to allow enough time to capture community feedback.

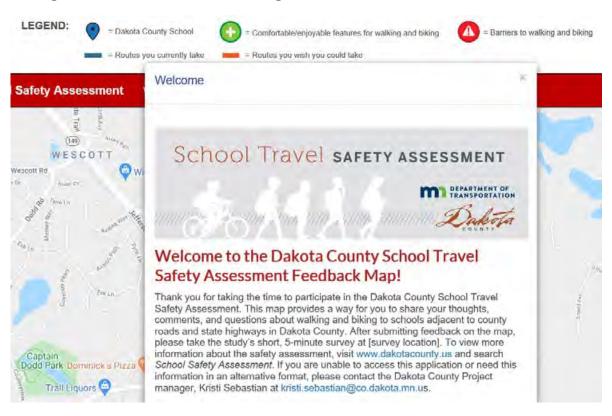
Community Engagement



Visit the project website:

https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Transportation/TransportationStudies/Current/Pages/school-safety-assessment.aspx

- Tell us what's working and not working
 - Interactive map
 - Survey



Future Engagement Opportunities Duker



- Additional engagement planned September 2020
- Opportunity to provide input on draft recommendations





Questions?

Contact:

Kristi Sebastian, Dakota County Traffic Engineer, at kristi.sebastian@co.dakota.mn.us