



Executive Summary: Justice High School Walking and Biking Routes Assessment

Date of Assessment: Thursday, December 12, 2024, at 7:00 AM

Attendees: Merari Zemany, Derrick Gwyn, Mark Doehnert, Kathleen Brown, and Kim Lanoue

Overview

The assessment aimed to evaluate the current conditions of walking and biking routes around Justice High School to identify challenges and propose mitigation strategies for safer student travel. Key areas observed included Peace Valley Lane, Mansfield Road, Vista Drive, Wilkins Drive, Nevius Street, and Glenmore Drive.

Key Observations

1. Traffic Congestion:

- Arrival and dismissal times are significantly impacted by the volume of car riders, walkers, and buses.
- Narrow intersections and critical oncoming traffic issues on Peace Valley Lane exacerbate congestion.

2. Safety Concerns:

- **Vista Drive:**
 - Lack of sidewalks forces students to walk along the roadside, creating unsafe conditions with passing vehicles.
 - Bushes overgrow into the sidewalk area, discouraging use and further reducing safe walking options.
- **Crosswalks:**
 - Critical intersections across the assessed areas lack marked crosswalks, putting pedestrians at risk.
- **Signage and Traffic Control:**
 - There is a clear need for additional signage, crossing guards, and traffic calming measures like speed monitors and lane markings to reduce congestion and enhance safety.

3. Specific Needs Identified:

- **Peace Valley Lane:**

- High volume of oncoming traffic during peak hours requires better traffic control measures.
- **Vista Drive:**
 - Overgrown vegetation must be trimmed to encourage sidewalk usage.
 - Installation of sidewalks on the road's opposite side is urgently needed to prevent students from walking on unsafe roadside paths.

Recommendations

- **Infrastructure Enhancements:**
 - Install and clearly mark crosswalks at critical intersections.
 - Repair uneven and broken sidewalks and prioritize filling in sidewalks gap.
 - Trim overgrown bushes along Vista Drive and assess areas for new sidewalk installation.
- **Traffic Management:**
 - Deploy crossing guards at high-traffic intersections during arrival and dismissal times.
 - Install speed monitoring devices and traffic signs to manage vehicle flow more effectively.
- **Long-Term Improvements:**
 - Evaluate the feasibility of traffic signal adjustments or roundabout installations at key intersections.
 - Expand sidewalk networks to encourage walking and biking as safer alternatives to car ridership.

This assessment highlights the pressing need for actionable steps to improve the safety and efficiency of walking and biking routes around Justice High School. Implementing these recommendations will promote safer, more accessible travel options for students and mitigate traffic congestion during peak hours.

Photographs



Photo 1:
Critical intersections across the assessed areas lack marked crosswalks, putting students at risk



Photo:2

High volume of oncoming traffic during peak hours requires better traffic control measures.



Photo:3

Uneven and broken sidewalks

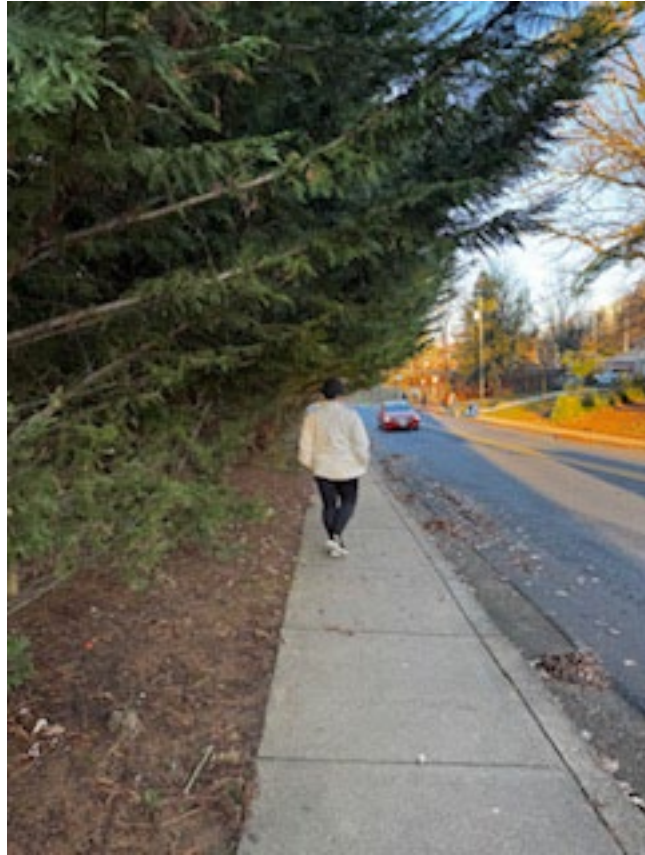


Photo: 4

Overgrown bushes along Vista Drive



Photo:5

Installation of sidewalks on the road's opposite side is urgently needed to prevent students from walking on unsafe roadside paths.