



BROOKLANDS SCHOOL SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN 2010

COMPILED BY: JACKIE AVENT
ASRTS PROGRAM COORDINATOR
GREEN ACTION CENTRE



Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	2
The School Travel Planning Process.....	3
Manitoba School Travel Planning Pilot.....	4
School Overview.....	5
Consultation.....	6
Members of School STP Committee.....	7
Members of the Municipal STP Committee.....	8
Stakeholder Communication.....	9
Student Involvement.....	9
Current School Travel Patterns: Baseline Data.....	10
“Hands Up” Classroom Survey.....	10
Family Survey.....	11
Identified School Travel Issues.....	12
School Site Visit and Walkabout.....	13
Identified Goals and Action Plan Development.....	14
Summary of Goals.....	15
Action Plan.....	16
Plans for evaluation, monitoring and review.....	19
Consensus.....	21
Appendices.....	22
1: STP Background Information Sheet.....	22
2: Letter Home to Parents.....	25
3: Hands up Survey.....	26
4: Family Survey.....	27

The School Travel Planning Process

Over the 2009/2010 school year, Brooklands School participated in a process called School Travel Planning (STP). Below is a description of the process, and the steps and stakeholders involved in its completion.

STP is a community-based approach that aims to increase the number of children choosing active transportation modes to get to and from school. An increase in the number of students walking, cycling, taking transit and carpooling to school helps to address important issues of sustainability, safety and health associated with the school run.

The STP process involves key community stakeholders working together to identify, and solve school transportation problems. These stakeholders include school boards, municipalities, police, public health professionals, parents, educators and students.

School Travel Planning involves five steps:

1) **Program Set-up:**

- a) The STP Facilitator establishes a Municipal STP Steering Committee comprised of all relevant stakeholders (school board, parents, police, traffic engineers, public health department, etc.) to provide expertise and guidance to all schools engaged in the project in their municipality;
- b) The STP Facilitator selects schools to participate, ensuring they are committed; and
- c) Each participating school, with support from the STP Facilitator, establishes a School STP Committee comprised of teacher(s), parents/caregivers and other interested parties to manage the STP process at the school level beginning with determining goals.

2) **Data Collection & Problem Identification:** Survey parents/caregivers and students, map neighbourhoods where students live, identify best routes, conduct traffic counts.

3) **Action Planning:** STP Committee designs a plan of action for dealing with challenges identified and achieving stated goals. At this stage a written document is compiled that summarizes background information and outlines the detailed action plan that includes initiatives, timelines and assignment of responsibility for each task.

4) **Implementation:** Action items are carried out.

5) **Ongoing Monitoring:** Post-implementation data collection is done to evaluate progress toward goals. The plan is tweaked if necessary. A School Travel Plan is intended to be a living document that becomes part of school policy and is revisited and updated on a regular basis. A STP background information sheet explaining the STP process is attached in [appendix 1](#).

Manitoba School Travel Planning Pilot

The STP process is relatively new to Canada, but is well developed internationally. The STP process evolved in Canada from research of International Best Practices by Green Communities Canada. With the financial support of the Public Health Agency of Canada, Green Communities Canada spearheaded this project at three pilot schools (and two control schools) in each of four provinces: Nova Scotia, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia between the years of 2007-2009. Manitoba, conducted its own pilot with three Winnipeg based schools over the years 2009-2010:

Manitoba Pilot Schools:

- *École Howden*
150 Howden Road, Winnipeg, Manitoba
Louis Riel School Division
- *Carpathia School*
300 Carpathia Road, Winnipeg, Manitoba
Winnipeg School Division
- *Brooklands School*
1950 Pacific Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba
St. James Assiniboia School Division

The schools were selected on a first come first serve application basis. The three Winnipeg pilot schools above approached Resource Conservation Manitoba (now Green Action Centre) excited to be a part of the pilot project.



The three pilot schools Howden, Carpathia, and Brooklands (left to right) had unique reasons to benefit from School Travel Planning.

School Overview

Brooklands School is located in the north-west area of Winnipeg in the St.James-Assiniboia School Division. The school is located in a low socio-economic, urban neighbourhood characterized with a highly transient population. A public school, it serves 170 students (116 families) ranging from kindergarten to grade 5. The school population tends to fluctuate greatly due to the characteristics of the area and is considered an “at risk” school due to the socio-economics of the community, the high migrancy rate, and the high number of single parent families.



Brooklands School Catchment

There are no school buses used to transport children to school, leaving students to either be driven by their parents, walk or cycle to school.

The school day at Brooklands begins at 8:55am, with the lunch bell sounding at 11:40am. The afternoon begins at 12:45pm, with dismissal at 3:35pm.

The school offers parking on site for staff access only and has two designated drop-off zones for parents that choose to drive their children.

A bike compound was built to increase safety for those who cycle to school. The compound can lock approximately 32 bikes safely and there is room for more of them.



Bike rack at Brooklands School

In the morning and afternoon, there is one adult crossing guard located on Logan Avenue to the north of the school. Several student crossing guards are positioned at intersections surrounding the school.

Traffic issues on streets around the school are cause for considerable student safety issues at key pick up and drop off times. The safety issues lead to vehicle accidents; many close student-vehicle encounters, and contribute to an increase in parents driving children, which in turn creates a vicious cycle of even more traffic, exacerbating the problem.

These traffic safety issues combined with poorly maintained walking and cycling facilities drew Brooklands School to create a School Travel Plan (STP) to get children traveling safely with an emphasis on more active travel to and from school.

Existing school safety programs include school bus safety for all students, cycling safety clinics as part of the physical education curriculum, and street safety taught to students from their school patrols and monthly assemblies.

The school is used after hours for a number of programs – twice/day every day except Monday. Programs include basketball, gymnastics, Tagalog Language Class, and seasonal sports. The school is used before school day for Wellness Club, Floor Hockey Club, Skipping Club and a daily breakfast program. Often these 'outside of school hour' programs have students and volunteers arriving/departing in the dark.

In the spring summer and fall, Nor-West Community Health Centre uses the playground and structure for their after-school and summer programs. There is a splash pad being put adjacent to the site in the Summer of 2011.

There is a former 25-year joint use agreement between the City of Winnipeg, St. James-Assiniboia School Division and local community association for the playground/park site. The agreement, which is now expired, had the City maintaining the pathway, equipment and lighting in the park; however, the existing light standards are currently not turned on at night. Better lighting in the park is something that is regularly brought up as a security concern, especially in the winter. The lights are currently linked into the power on the local pool building, however are not turned on as no party has agreed to pay the utility bill. Discussions and negotiations are ongoing to reach an agreement.



The old Krawchyk School demolished 2009



Children Play on the reclaimed site of Krawchyk School



Brooklands is not officially an *in motion* school, however they do a number of in-school, community and extracurricular activities throughout the year like the annual Turkey Trott at Thanksgiving, Terry Fox Run and community walkabouts with leadership students and programs with walking incentives (i.e.: Walk Across Canada). The school also grooms a cross-country ski route (1 km round) in the playground every winter, which is also accessible to the public. This could be used for longer in the evenings if the park lighting were turned on.

Members of School STP Committee

Jackie Avent, STP Facilitator: Green Action Centre
asrts@greenactioncentre.ca Ph. 204.925.3773

Rex Ferguson-Baird, Principal: Brooklands School St.James-Assiniboia School Division
rfbaird@sjsd.net

Derek Bramadat, Physical Education: Brooklands School St.James Assiniboia School Division
dbramadat@sjsd.net

Christine Burchak, Parking Coordinator: Red River Community College
cburchak@rrc.mb.ca Ph. 204.632.3960 ext.2042

Lisa Campomanes, Public Health Nurse: Winnipeg Regional Health Authority
lcampomanes@wrha.mb.ca

Shannon Carpentier, Health Promoter: Nor-West Community Health Centre
scarpentier@norwesthealth.ca

Scott Fielding, City Councillor (St.James-Brooklands): City of Winnipeg
sfielding@winnipeg.ca

Carolyn Hiraoka, Brooklands School Liaison
reesiebird@hotmail.com

Caprice Kehler, Health Promoter: Nor-West Community Health Centre
ckehler@norwesthealth.ca

Paul Leaden, CN Police
paul.leaden@cn.ca

Adam Manweiler, Health Promoter: Nor-West Community Health Centre
amanweiler@norwesthealth.ca

Flor Marcelino, MLA
flor.marcelino@leg.gov.mb.ca

Ryan Miller, School Councillor: Brooklands School St.James Assiniboia School Division
rmiller@sjsd.net

Corey Mohr, Health Promoter: Nor-West Community Health Centre
cmohr@norwesthealth.ca

Krystal Payne, Health Promoter: Nor-West Community Health Centre
kpayne@norwesthealth.ca

Alice Stenkie, Brooklands Senior Centre
bpscc@mts.net ph. 204.792.1034

Destiny Watt, Assistant to Councillor Fielding: City of Winnipeg
dwatt@winnipeg.ca

Members of Municipal STP Committee

Donna Beaton, Park Strategic Planner: City of Winnipeg
dbeaton@winnipeg.ca

Glen Doney, Area Planner – Brooklands: City of Winnipeg
gdoney@winnipeg.ca

Drew Gunson, Traffic Inspector: City of Winnipeg
dgunson@winnipeg.ca

Kristine Hayward, Winnipeg *in Motion*: Winnipeg Regional Health Authority
khayward@wrha.mb.ca

Kevin Martel, Patrol Sergeant: City of Winnipeg
kmartel@winnipeg.ca

Kevin Nixon, Active Transportation Coordinator: City of Winnipeg
knixon@winnipeg.ca

Judy Redmond, Universal Access Coordinator: City of Winnipeg
jredmond@winnipeg.ca

Michael Robinson, Area Planner – Carpathia: City of Winnipeg
mrobinson@winnipeg.ca

John Wintrup, Area Planner – Howden: City of Winnipeg
jwintrup@winnipeg.ca

Stakeholder Communication

Project stakeholders were kept up to date on project communication and developments in various ways. The municipal steering committee and the school committee received regular email updates from the STP facilitator. STP meeting announcements were also sent by email and were scheduled every 2-3 months throughout the project, depending on the need.

The national STP newsletter, and relevant research were sent, by email or by mail to committee members and other relevant stakeholders. Any articles or media related to the project were distributed as well.

The school distributed relevant STP updates on progress to date, and upcoming events/meetings in the school newsletters home to parents/caregivers. A copy of the letter sent home to parents is attached in [appendix 2](#).

Student Involvement

Students of Brooklands School participated in the STP project through completing the hands-up classroom surveys and family surveys that reported on their travel patterns to and from school. Some students joined the walkabout and added their perspectives. Additionally students participated in the local Brooklands School and Daycare Annual Wellness Fair - where one lucky student won a bicycle care of Green Action Centre.



Students help Principal Ferguson-Baird assess traffic issues at Logan Avenue on the Brooklands School Walkabout.



Students that completed the family survey were entered to win a brand new Norco bicycle care of Green Action Centre.

Current School Travel Patterns: Baseline Data

Baseline travel data was collected through a variety of strategies, including: site visits, a community walkabout, classroom student surveys, and take home surveys for families to complete.

“Hands Up” Classroom Survey:

To collect the information on how students at Brooklands School travel to and from school each day, a classroom “hands up” survey was completed in all of the classrooms over one week in October. The weather throughout the week was consistently cloudy in both the morning and afternoon. The results of the baseline “Hands Up” survey appear to show that children are using the same mode to get to school as they do to return home at the end of the school day. The results of this survey are shown in Figures 1 and 2, below. A copy of the survey is attached in [appendix 3](#).

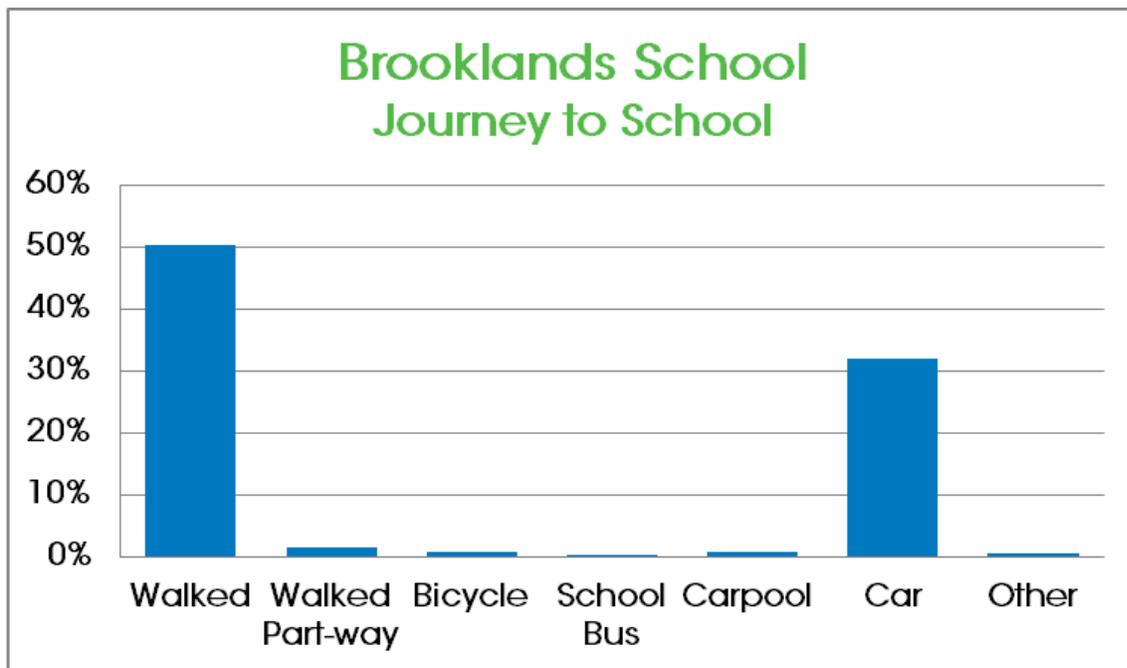


Figure 1 - Modes of travel on the trip to school (results of classroom survey).

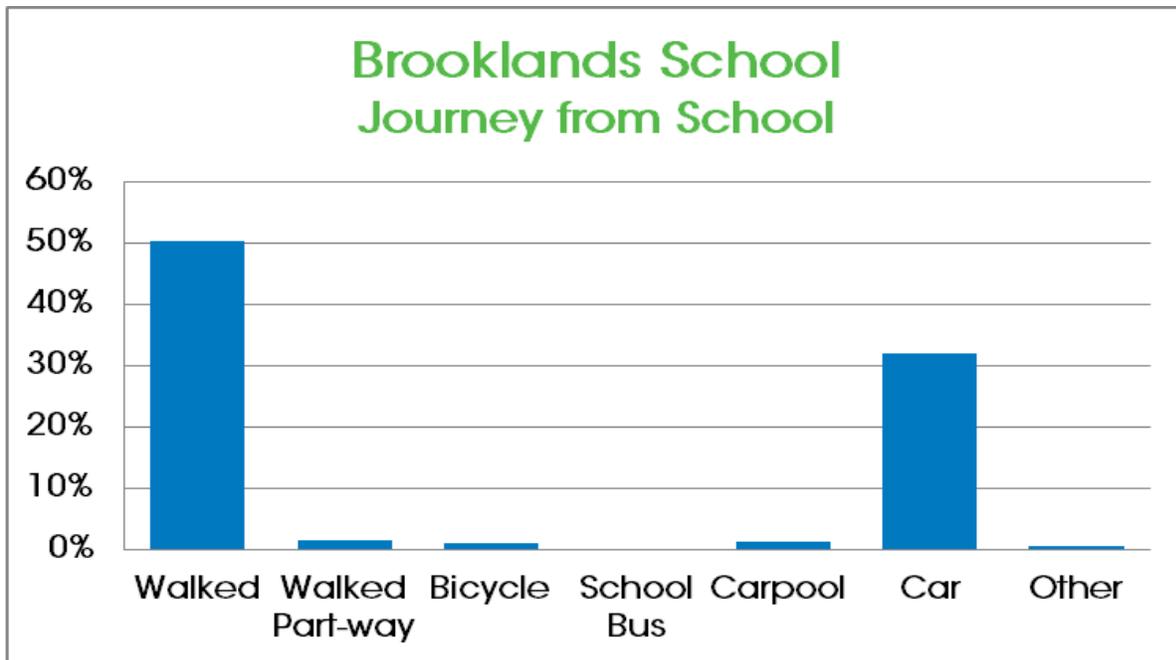


Figure 2 - Modes of travel on the trip from school (results of classroom survey).

Family Take Home Survey:

More detailed information on the travel habits to and from school of the families at Brooklands School was gathered by a family “take home” survey. This survey was administered after the classroom surveys had been conducted. Surveys were sent home the following week and families were given one week to complete and return the surveys to the school. The response rate was 44.7%. The survey is attached in [appendix 4](#).

Some notable findings of the family survey include:

- Almost $\frac{2}{3}$ of the students (60.9%) live within $\frac{1}{2}$ a km of the school
- Almost $\frac{3}{4}$ of the respondents’ children (72.7%) walk to school, while nearly the same fraction (74%) of the parents themselves used the same mode of travel when they were young.
- More than $\frac{1}{2}$ of parents (54%) would allow their children to walk to school if they didn’t do so alone.
- Just under $\frac{1}{3}$ of parents (29.8%) referred to increased safety as a requirement for their children to be able to cycle to school, just over $\frac{1}{3}$ (34%) would allow children to cycle if they were not alone.
- More than $\frac{3}{4}$ of parents (84%) responded that they would be supportive of ongoing efforts to make Brooklands School area safer, healthier, and more community-oriented through continuation of the School Travel Planning program.

Respondents were asked to mark their areas of concern in their neighbourhood on their children’s walk to school. Over 1/3 of responses (38%) cited unsafe drivers as the major concern on walking routes to Brooklands School. The distribution of responses is shown in Figure 3 below.

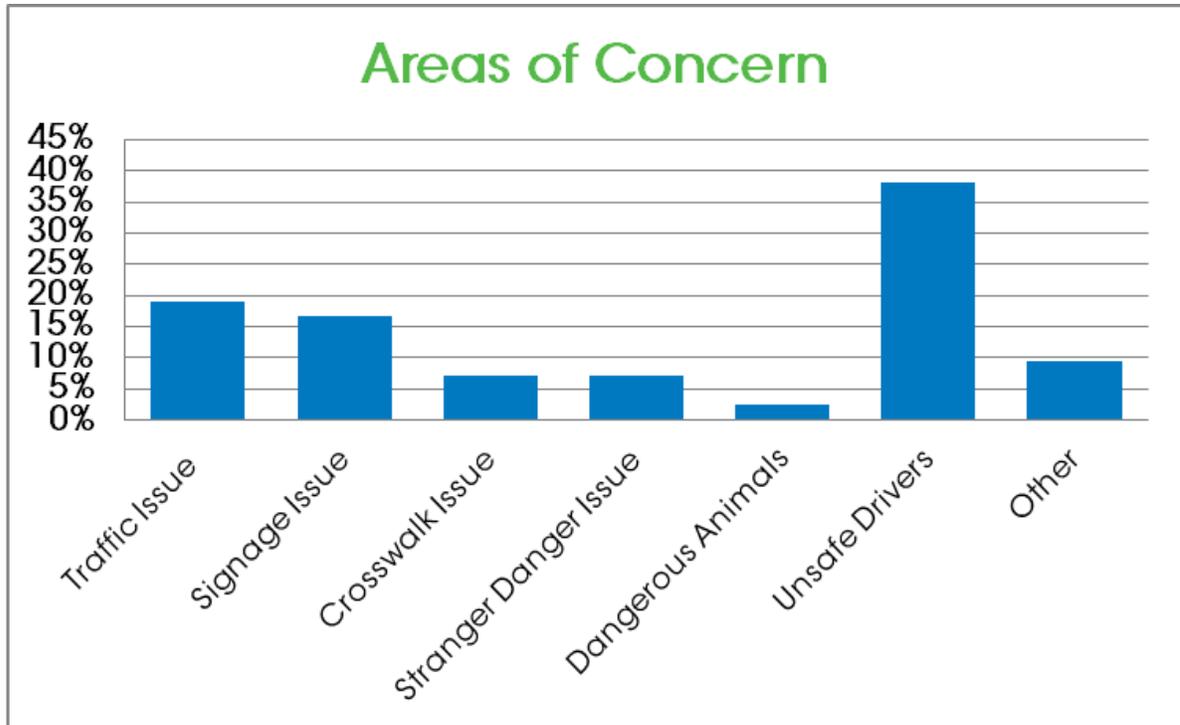


Figure 3 – Areas of concern on routes to school

For the children who are driven to and from school (22.3%), parents were asked to list the main reasons (multiple selections were allowed) why. While personal safety (23.6%) and weather (19.4%) stand out as the most selected, there is a relatively even distribution between other choices. Figure 4 below shows the parents’ reasons for driving.

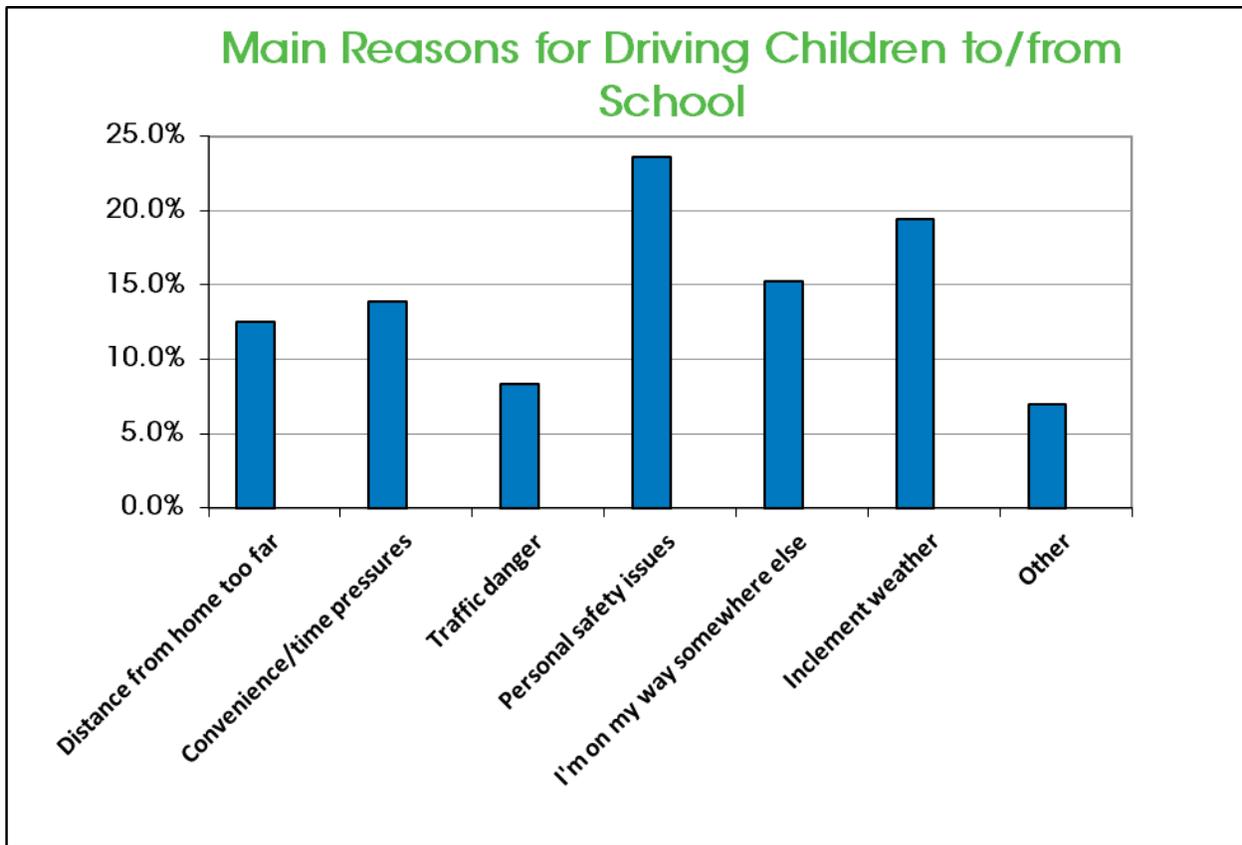


Figure 4 – Parent’s reasons for driving children to school

Identified School Travel Issues, traffic count results and Action Plan

School Site Visit and Walkabout

On March 9, 2010, the Brooklands School Committee and the Municipal Steering Committee met at 3:15pm to witness the school travel challenges first hand. The group traveled along a pre-planned route along streets that a lot of children use to walk to and from school (route shown below).



Brooklands School walkabout group examine issues along Juba Avenue.

Summary of Goals

The discussions from the walkabout and school site visit were synthesized into eight concrete goals. These goals were then broken down into an action plan (next section) of specific tasks, assigned to the right individuals, and given an estimated timeframe and cost for completion. These goals become the key deliverables of the School Travel Plan, and the key steps to getting the children of Brooklands School traveling more actively and along safer routes in their neighbourhood. The key goals included:

1. Increase safety of students crossing at Hoban Street and Pacific Avenue.
2. Improve traffic signage around the Brooklands neighbourhood.
3. Address the issue of dogs in the neighbourhood.
4. Make safety improvements to the school yard/park.
5. Improve knowledge about railway safety.
6. Encourage more students to walk or cycle to school.
7. Explore sidewalk improvements in the neighbourhood (accessibility/safety).
8. To monitor effectiveness and review the School Travel Plan annually.

Action Plan – École Howden

Action/Initiative	Tasks	Responsibility	Timeframe	Estimated Cost & Source of Funds
Objective 1: Increase safety of students crossing at Hoban Street and Pacific Avenue				
School Patrol Presence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New post for school patrol teams 	Rex Ferguson-Baird	September 2010	Zero cost – through MPI patrol program
Explore sidewalk along Butterworth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School and STP Facilitator 	City of Winnipeg	Unknown	Unknown
Enforce no U-Turn in front of school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No U-turn signage? • Informing people through face-to-face communication • Informing parents through the school newsletter • Teach patrol teams 	Rex Ferguson-Baird	September 2010	Zero cost
Put an entry in the fence at Butterworth and Ross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cut jogged entryway through the fence so kids can walk along the blacktop into the school yard (so they don't have to walk on the road) 	Rex Ferguson-Baird	September 2011	Capital D project – through the School Division



Action/Initiative	Tasks	Responsibility	Timeframe	Estimated Cost & Source of Funds
Objective 2: Improving traffic signage around the Brooklands neighbourhood				
Install a STOP sign at Oddy and Pacific (westbound)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install a sidewalk at the intersection as vehicles take the corner too quickly 	City of Winnipeg; Rex Ferguson-Baird	September 2010	Unknown
Cut branches in front of STOP sign at the railway tracks at William and Juba	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cut branches 	CN Police; City of Winnipeg; Active and Safe Routes to School Program	June 2010	Unknown
Trim hedges at Elgan and Juba	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trim branches 	City of Winnipeg; Active and Safe Routes to School Program	June 2010	Unknown
School zone signage on Dee at Logan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put sign back up – it's currently propped beside the telephone pole 	City of Winnipeg; Active and Safe Routes to School Program	June 2010	Unknown
Improve STOP sign at Dee and Alexander	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> STOP sign is set back 2 car lengths from the corner of Alexander – have it moved closer to the intersection 	City of Winnipeg; Active and Safe Routes to School Program	September 2010	Unknown



Action/Initiative	Tasks	Responsibility	Timeframe	Estimated Cost & Source of Funds
Objective 3: to address the issue of dogs in the neighborhood				
Educate the community about the animals and their impact on the students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask Animal Services to come to the wellness fair • Education campaign for kids (about what to do if approached by an animal), and for adults about keeping their animals contained • Information in the school newsletter 	Carolyn Hiraoka; Nor-West on Alexander	October/November Kick off at BBQ (over summer) September 2010 October/November (with wellness fair)	No cost No cost No cost
Talking to Animal Control about the issue and get their recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get additional information from animal services, and see if they can come more often. What's the process? 	Active and Safe Routes to School Program	July 2010	No cost
Objective 4: Make safety improvements to the school yard / park				
Ask the City to keep the park lights lit after dark to allow safety of the students in the mornings and after school through the winter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact Paul Huntington • Contact Scott Fielding • Contact playground supervisor 	Carolyn Hiraoka; Rex Ferguson-Baird	August 2010	No cost
Maintain snow clearing along pathway diagonally from Nor-West on Alexander (Dee and Alexander) to Brooklands School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk to the school division about having this added to the regular snow clearing cycle 	Rex Ferguson-Baird	November 2010	Unknown



Action/Initiative	Tasks	Responsibility	Timeframe	Estimated Cost & Source of Funds
Objective 5: Improve knowledge about railway safety				
Educate the community about the railway and their impact on the students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask CN to come to the wellness fair • Education campaign for kids (about railway safety), and for adults about keeping their kids aware of railway safety • Information in the school newsletter 	Carolyn Hiraoka; Paul Leaden – CN Railway	October/November 2010	No cost
			September 2010	No cost
			October/November (with wellness fair)	No cost
Objective 6: Encourage more students to walk or cycle to school				
Walking School Bus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine WSB collector routes through the neighbourhood (3 or so) and advertise for parent volunteers to lead the walk • Pilot the initiative for one month • Find community partners to provide breakfast/coffee to volunteers (Subway, Sals, 7-11, etc...) • Explore partnership with the Brooklands Seniors Association to see if they can be WSB drivers 	Rex Ferguson-Baird; Carolyn Hiraoka; Active and Safe Routes to School Program	October 2010 (International Walk to School Month)	Cost of vests and flags
Cycling safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MPI Bike rodeo 	Phys. Ed Teacher	May/June 2010	No cost



Action/Initiative	Tasks	Responsibility	Timeframe	Estimated Cost & Source of Funds
Objective 7: Explore sidewalk improvements in the neighbourhood (accessibility, safety)				
Request an assessment or survey of sidewalks in the Brooklands Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have the City of Winnipeg do an assessment of the neighbourhood and sidewalk issues 	Drew Gunson; Active and Safe Routes to School Program	August 2010	Unknown
Explore a partnership with the Seniors Association and daycare to advocate for better sidewalks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Host a meeting with the seniors association, daycare and school to begin the conversation 	Nor-West on Alexander	September 2010	Food and drink
After the assessment, identify priority locations for sidewalk improvements and take them to the councilor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the assessment prepared by the City of Winnipeg and figure out the priority areas 	Seniors/School/Daycare partnership	Unknown	Unknown
Objective 8: To monitor effectiveness of initiatives and revise School Travel Plan annually				
Monitor transportation mode	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor transportation mode 	Monitor transportation mode	Monitor transportation mode	Monitor transportation mode
Report on implementation of STP and initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report on implementation of STP and initiatives 	Report on implementation of STP and initiatives	Report on implementation of STP and initiatives	Report on implementation of STP and initiatives



Plans for evaluation, monitoring and review

Brooklands School will monitor and review the travel plan annually through the School STP Committee or will be integrated into the School Advisory Committee if so desired.

The School STP Committee will:

- Hold regular meetings of the School STP Committee and update the action plan as needed.
- Provide regular updates through the Travel Newsletter/ School Newsletter to parents and relevant personnel in the community.
- Will also review the plan annually to overview our achievements, objectives and set targets for the next 12 months. We will also do a full review every three years.

Annual review dates:

- March 31st 2011
- March 31st 2012

Full review date:

- March 31st 2013

Consensus

This School Travel Plan has been reviewed and approved by:

School Representative:

Principal, Brooklands School

Date Signed

STP Facilitator:

Jackie Avent

Name (Print)

Date Signed

Signature

Appendices

1: STP Background Information Sheet

School Travel Planning Information Sheet



What is School Travel Planning?

School Travel Planning is a community-based approach that aims to increase the number of children choosing active transportation modes to get to and from school, thereby addressing the issues of sustainability, safety and health associated with ‘the school run.’ Key community stakeholders (school boards, municipalities, police, public health professionals, parents, educators and children) work together to identify and solve their school transportation problems.

Through a five-step process, each school writes a School Travel Plan, with assistance from the community stakeholders, that includes an action plan describing steps they plan to implement such as:

- engineering improvements at or near school sites—e.g. pedestrian crossings, repairs/upgrades to sidewalks, signage;
- introduction of school infrastructure—e.g. bike shelters, bike racks, lockers;
- education—e.g. traffic safety education for pedestrians and cyclists, education about personal security;
- community mobilization—e.g. walking school buses, walking buddies, ride sharing;
- encouragement—e.g. celebrations of physical activity and environment, event days, recognition and rewards for walking/biking.

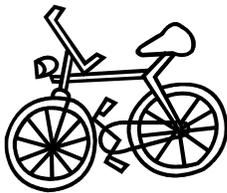
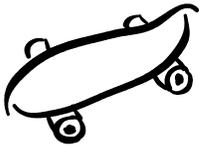
The School Travel Planning approach has had great success in other countries— increasing the number of children walking and biking to school; reducing traffic congestion at schools; making routes to school safer; and improving air quality.

How does the School Travel Planning process work?

School Travel Planning involves five steps:

1. *Program Set-up*

- a) STP Facilitator establishes Municipal STP Steering Committee comprised of all relevant stakeholders (school board, parents, police, traffic engineers, public health department...) to provide expertise and guidance to all schools engaged in the project in their municipality;
- b) STP Facilitator selects schools to participate, ensuring they are committed; and
- c) Each participating school, with support from the STP Facilitator, establishes a School STP Committee comprised of teacher(s), parents and other interested parties to manage the STP process at the school level beginning with determining goals.



2. *Data Collection & Problem Identification* - survey parents and students, map neighbourhoods where students live, identify best routes, traffic counts.
3. *Action Planning* - STP Committee designs a plan of action for dealing with challenges identified and achieving stated goals. At this stage a written document is compiled that summarizes background information and outlines the detailed action plan that includes initiatives, timelines and assignment of responsibility for each task.
4. *Implementation* - Action items are carried out.
5. *Ongoing Monitoring* - Post-implementation data collection is done to evaluate progress toward goals. The plan is tweaked if necessary. A School Travel Plan is intended to be a living document that becomes part of school policy and is revisited and updated on a regular basis.

School Responsibilities & Compensation

Pilot Schools:

Pilot schools will take part in all five steps of the STP process and will be expected to provide the following:

- *Staff Time:* The principal and/or at least one teacher will participate in all School STP Committee meetings and may be asked to attend meetings of the Municipal STP Steering Committee (to discuss higher level municipal concerns related to their school). Additional staff time will be needed during data collection and implementation of action items.
- *Parent Time:* Parents play a key role in School Travel Planning, e.g. as part of the School STP Committee, as decision makers about travel choices.
- *Meeting Space:* Use of a room to hold School STP Committee meetings.
- *Enthusiasm and Commitment:* The success of School Travel Planning relies on school champions that lead the school's effort, setting a positive tone about the project for the rest of the school.
- *Student Time (optional):* Some schools may wish to use School Travel Planning as a learning opportunity, linking aspects of the process to the

curriculum, e.g. having students administer and tabulate surveys as a math exercise or map out their community and routes as a geography exercise. NOTE: Schools will be responsible for data entry and tabulation of surveys so if students are not engaged for this task, parent volunteers or staff will be responsible.

Support

Participating schools will enjoy the support of a dedicated School Travel Plan Facilitator who will guide the process—providing expertise, coordinating project activities, answering questions, liaising with community stakeholders, etc.

The STP Facilitator will organize the assembly of a Municipal STP Steering Committee made up of representatives from all key community stakeholder groups such as district school board, police, public health and transportation engineering. This Steering Committee will provide valuable expertise and resources to schools during all phases of the School Travel Planning process.

Schools will also have access to comprehensive resource materials including an STP Model Framework, sample school travel plan(s), curriculum-linked resources and traffic safety tools.

Timeline

Below are key milestones for the pilot project (timeline subject to change depending on unforeseeable circumstances, or developments with the National STP Pilot Project being conducted through Green Communities Canada)

- Schools selected and working groups assembled by June 2009
- Baseline data collected by February 2010
- School travel plans written & implementation begun by September 2010
- Data collected by February 2011 and again in June 2011
- Final report and case studies written by September 2011

For More Information

For more information, please contact: Jackie Avent at 204-925-3773 or asrts@greenactioncentre.ca.

Two documents were created in Phase 1 of the School Travel Planning project: one was a review of International Best Practice and the other outlined recommendations for this pilot project in Canada. These documents can be viewed or downloaded at www.saferoutestoschool.ca/index.php?page=relatedresearch.

This document has been adapted from a similar document produced by Green Communities Canada as part of the School Travel Planning Pilot Project. Many thanks are required for their energy producing the initial materials.

2. Letter Home to Parents



Dear Parent:

School Travel Planning - Family Survey

Brooklands School is taking part in a School Travel Planning project that will address concerns about our students' journeys to and from school. The ultimate goal of a School Travel Plan is to create an environment that makes it safer for more people to walk, cycle or use active transportation to and from school, and to improve the journey for those who use cars or take school busses.

The benefits of creating and implementing a School Travel Plan include:

- Reduced traffic congestion at and around the school;
- Improved children's safety;
- Improved children's health; and
- Reduced pollution in our environment.

To figure out how to make improvements, we must first assess the current situation. Parent input is an important part of this process and so we are asking you to please take **10 to 15 minutes** to complete the attached survey with your child—the School Travel Planning Family Survey. Your family's input is critical to the success of this project at our school.

Completed surveys should be returned to the school with the child who brought it home. When you return the survey, your child's name will be entered to win a **Norco bike kit - bicycle, helmet and lock worth over \$200; or one of 20 other prizes!**

If you have any questions about the survey or the School Travel Planning project, please contact:

Jackie Avent, School Travel Planning Facilitator at (204) 925-3773 or asrts@resourceconservation.mb.ca

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.

Rex Ferguson-Baird
Principal; Brooklands School

A note about privacy: To protect your privacy, this survey does not ask you to provide your name. The mapping information will be used to establish which routes are the most common and where the key obstacles/barriers are along those routes. All information collected will be kept strictly confidential.

3: Hands up survey



School Travel Planning: CLASSROOM HANDS-UP STUDENT SURVEY



School Name: _____

Grade: _____ Room/Class #: _____ # Students: _____

Teacher: _____ Dates: Mon _____ to Fri _____

Ask students: “How did you travel to school this morning?”

	Weather	Walked	Walked part-way*	Bicycle	School Bus	Public Transit	Carpool (2 or more families)	Car (Just my family)	Other ?	Total
Mon										
Tues										
Wed										
Thurs										
Fri										
Total										
Daily Avg=Total/5										

*Walked at least one entire block.

Ask students: “How did you travel from school today?”

	Weather	Walked	Walked part-way*	Bicycle	School Bus	Public Transit	Carpool (2 or more families)	Car (Just my family)	Other ?	Total
Mon										
Tues										
Wed										
Thurs										
Fri										
Total										
Daily Avg=Total/5										

*Walked at least one entire block.

4. Family Take Home Survey



School Travel Planning: Family Transportation Survey



If you have more than one child that attends school, please answer the questions thinking about your ELDEST child attending the school. If more than one child brings a survey home, please fill out one survey and send back only one survey, however all children attending the school will be entered to win the bicycle.

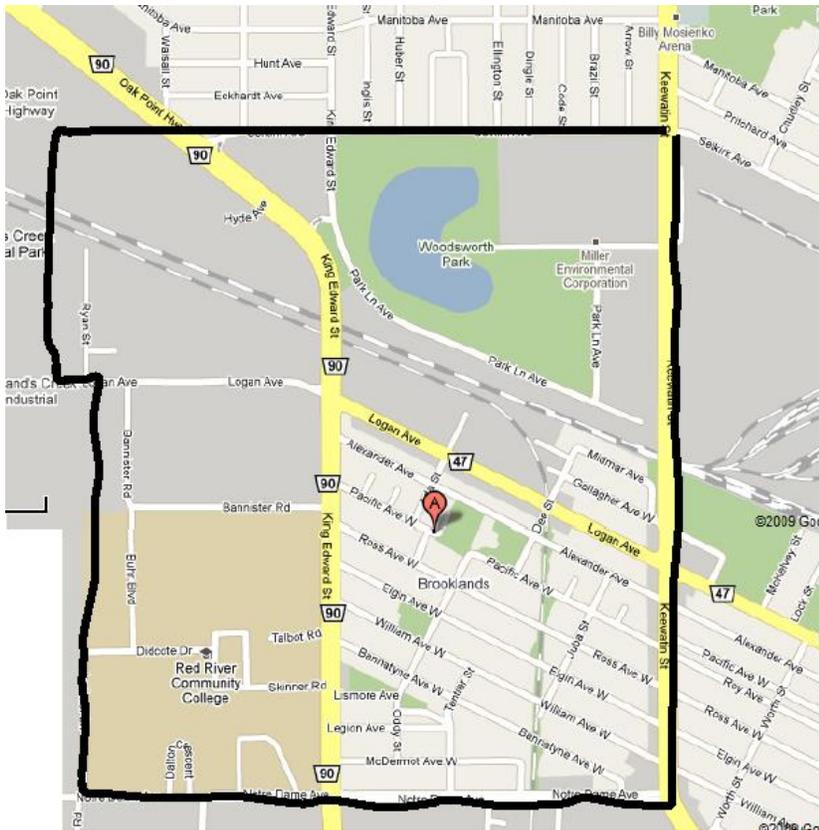
1. How do your children usually get to and from school? (Choose only **one** from each column. If your child(ren) use two sorts of travel, for example, walking to a bus stop, then choose the one that they spend the most **time** doing.)

	To school from home	To home from school
By car (just your family)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
By car (2 or more families)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
By school bus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
By public bus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
By walking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
By bicycling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
By subway or streetcar	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If Other (explain) _____		

MAPPING EXERCISE: FOR PARENTS & STUDENTS TO ANSWER AS A FAMILY

2a) The mapping exercise is for families who live no further than 1.6 kilometres away from their child’s school. On the map on the following page, please place an X where you live and mark the route(s) *your oldest child at this school* **usually** takes to/from school.

2b) Also, please mark any areas of concern (e.g., identify nearest intersection), and provide details about these concerns in the table on the following page. If family time permits, you might want to complete this section of the survey while actually walking to school.



In the table below, provide details about the areas of concern you marked on the map on the previous page. If you need more space, please write on the back of the last page.

Location	What do you think is unsafe in this area?
E.g. on ___Rd near ___St	Cars turn Right without looking for pedestrians.
1.	
2.	
3.	

3. What are the ages and gender of your child(ren) that attend this school (e.g. 11 years, boy)

a. _____ b. _____ c. _____

4. How far away from the school do you live?

Less than 500 metres 0.5 to 1.5km 1.5 to 3km Over 3km

5. How long does it take your child(ren) to travel to this school from home?

0-15 minutes 15-30 minutes 30-45 minutes 45-60 minutes >60 minutes

6. How long does it take your child(ren) to travel to home from this school?

0-15 minutes 15-30 minutes 30-45 minutes 45-60 minutes >60 minutes

7. Our neighbourhood is not safe for children to walk or bike to/from school. (Please circle one answer).

STRONGLY DISAGREE DISAGREE AGREE STRONGLY AGREE

8. How did you travel to elementary school?

walk bike car school bus other _____

9. There are major barriers to walking in my local neighbourhood that make it hard to get from place to place, e.g. freeways, heavy traffic, railway lines, rivers. (Please circle one answer.)

STRONGLY DISAGREE DISAGREE AGREE STRONGLY AGREE

10. How many drivable motor vehicles (cars, trucks, motorcycles) are there at your household?

If you never/rarely drive your child/ren to or from school, please skip to question 14.

11. If your child(ren) is/are **usually** driven to/from school, what are the main reasons why? (Check all that apply.)

Distance from home too far

Convenience/time pressures

Traffic danger

Personal safety issues

I'm on my way somewhere else

Inclement weather

Other (explain)_____

12. I would allow my child/ren to **walk** to school if... (check all that apply)

they did not walk alone

there were safer or improved walking route

there were reduced traffic dangers

Other (explain)_____

13. I would allow my child/ren to **cycle** to school if... (check all that apply)

they did not cycle alone

there were safer or improved cycling route

there were reduced traffic dangers

Other (explain)_____

14. Any further comments about your child/ren's journey to and from school?

15. Would you be supportive of ongoing efforts to make the school area safer, healthier and more community-oriented through the continuation of the School Travel Planning program which focuses on reducing the number of children travelling to school by car?

YES

NO

16. If you are interested in helping with ongoing School Travel Planning activities, e.g. on the School STP Committee or helping out with implementation of action plan ideas, please contact Mr. Ferguson-Baird at the school, or Jackie Avent, School Travel Planning Facilitator at 925-3773. You can also provide your name, telephone number and email below:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME. PLEASE HAVE YOUR ELDEST CHILD RETURN THIS COMPLETED SURVEY TO HIS/HER TEACHER.

REMINDER!

Fill out the detachable form on the front of this survey for your child to be entered to win a bike, helmet and lock. If you require additional entry forms, cut off the one below, or request another one from the school office.



Bike may not be exactly as illustrated.

Take Home Travel Survey Ballot
Student's Name: _____



Bike may not be exactly as illustrated.