

School Travel Plan

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School



September 2014

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STP Facilitator, Green Communities Canada**



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School Travel Plan

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OLOL Committee members look over catchment area maps after the OLOL walkabout*

*All photos in this report were taken by Jennifer McGowan unless otherwise stated and approved by School Principal Jo Nazar

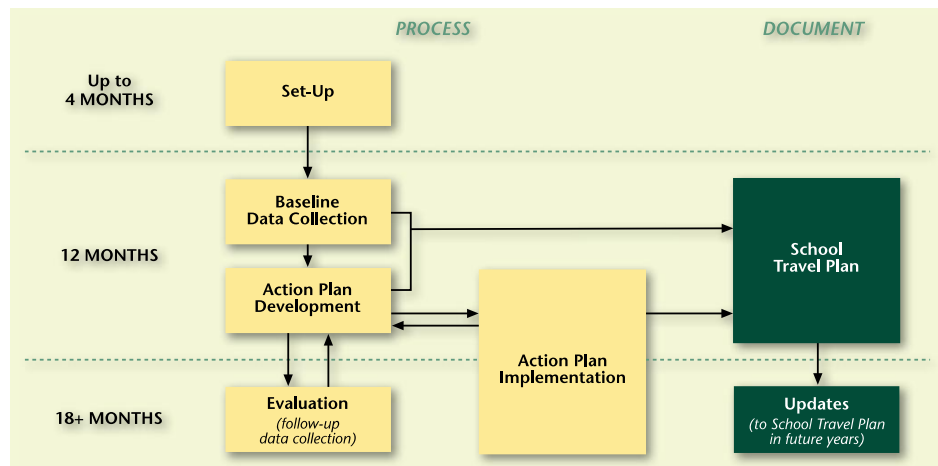


School Travel Plan Introduction

The School Travel Plan

A School Travel Plan is a living document belonging to the school. It will be revisited regularly in order to update the status of Action Plan items and to incorporate future Evaluation findings. It is part of a complete School Travel Planning process that has been successfully developed and implemented across Canada since 2007.

School Travel Planning process



National resources

School Travel Planning (STP) is presented by a coalition of organizations across Canada working together to enable more children to walk and cycle to school. Green Communities' Canada Walks makes coordination of efforts and knowledge transfer between and among these organizations possible. This national website provides a wealth of resources with links to international and provincial/territorial organizations and their curriculum, as well as to campaigns that can benefit and complement a school's efforts for health promotion and environmental awareness:

www.saferoutestoschool.ca

Toolkit resources and flexible templates are available to use in every phase of the STP process. Find the toolkit at:

www.saferoutestoschool.ca/school-travel-planning



School Travel Plan

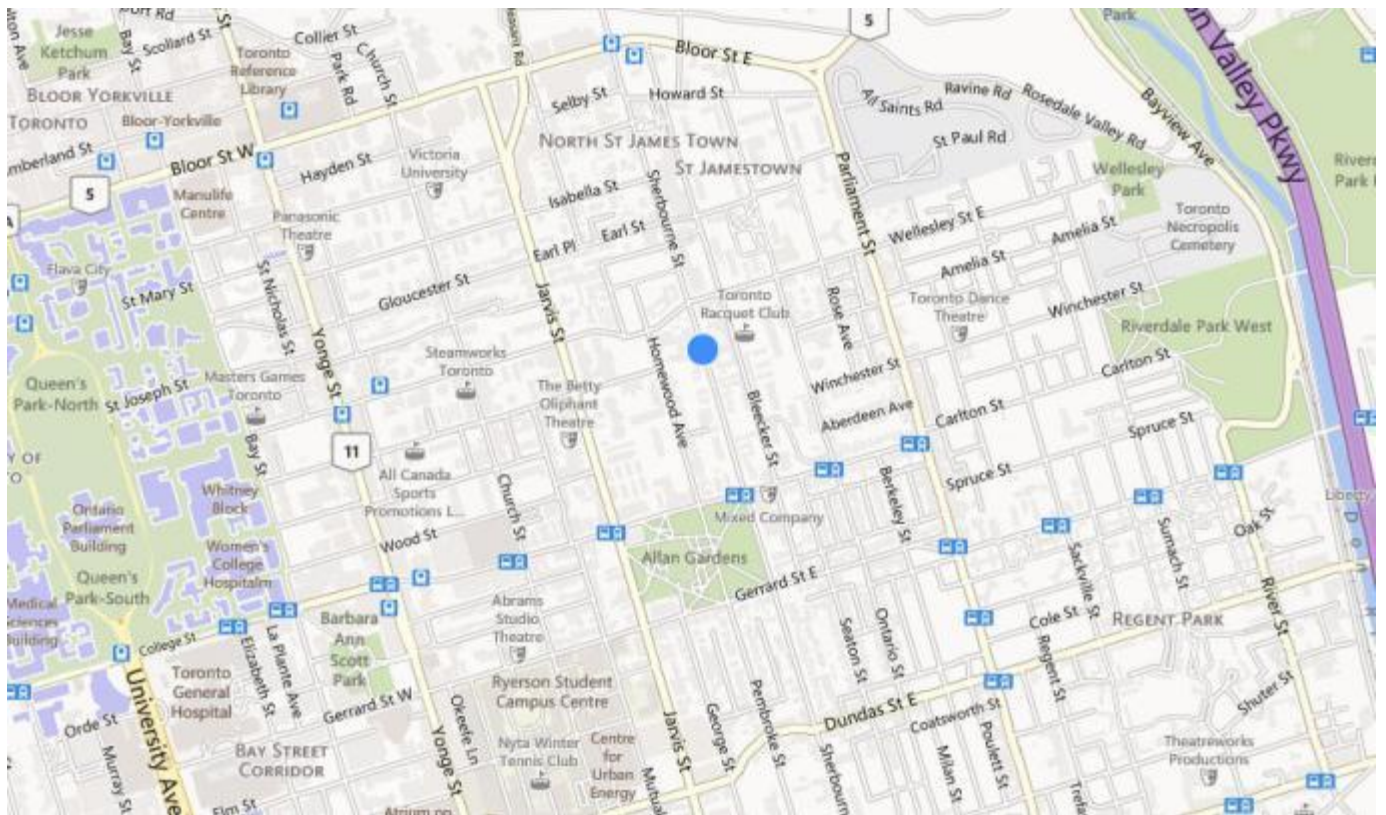
School Profile

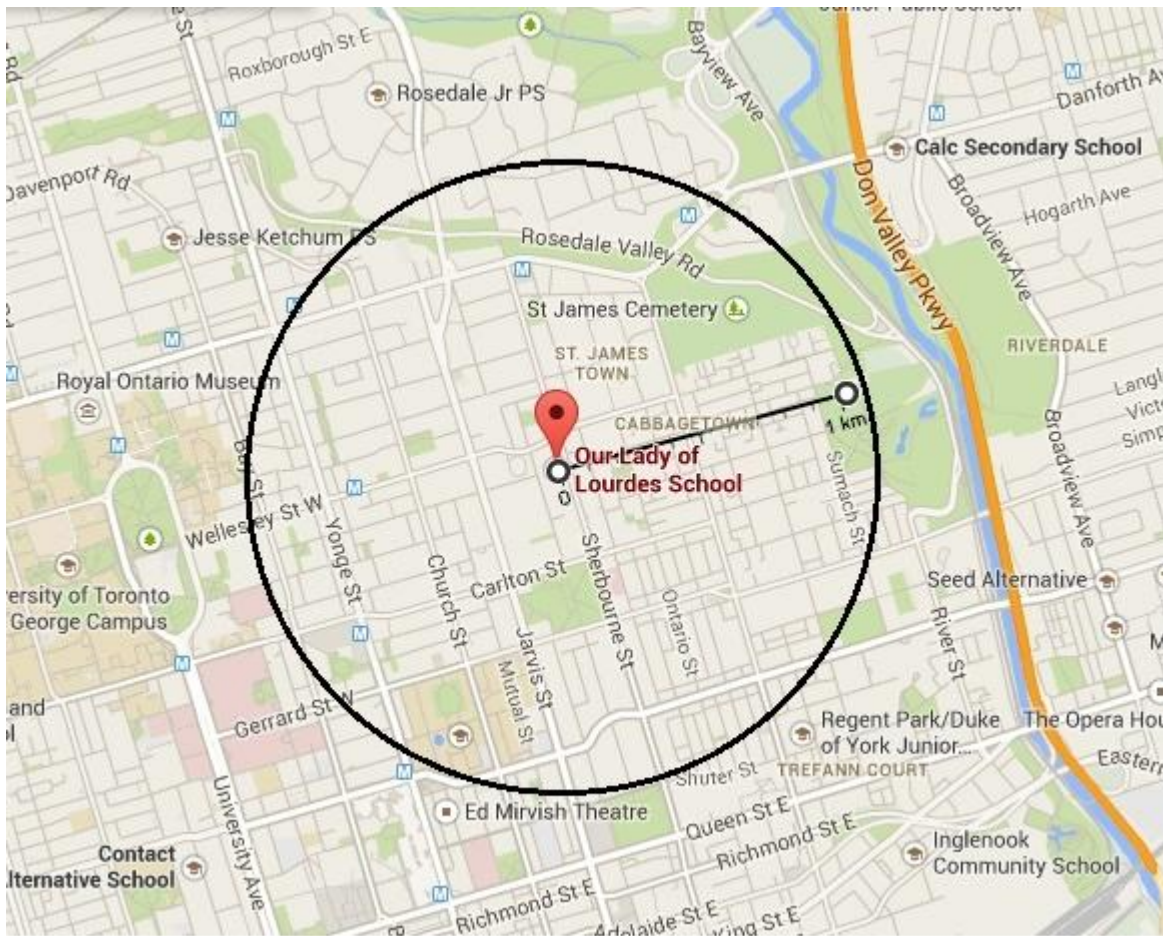
December 2013

School Name	Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School
School Type, e.g. public, separate, private	Catholic
Age of School / Year Opened	Founded: 1910, moved to its current location in 1989, new facilities in 2005
Name of School Board	Toronto Catholic District School Board
Number of Students	625
Number of Families	
Grades, e.g. K-6, K-8	JK – 8
School Bell Times	8:30, 10:15-10:30, 11:35-12:35, 1:40-1:55, 3:00
Number of Parking Spaces, staff/visitor	50 underground spaces, staff only
Description of Location, e.g. city centre/suburban/rural	Downtown Toronto
Is the school in a Neighbourhood Watch or Block Parent Community?	
% Bussed Students	40% of students bussed School underwent large renovations about 8 years ago and students were bused to a temporary school location on Gerard. At that time there were no buses allocated for Our Lady of Lourdes. However, when the school re-opened the buses were not discontinued – the longest walk for any student in the St. James Town neighbourhood is 7 minutes! There are crossing guards and many people on the streets.
Socio-Economic Description of Families	Low socio-economic
Any local programs e.g. French immersion, fine arts, special needs, before and after-school day care etc.	At the school there are a number of clubs including French, chess, PALS, the Health Action Team, eco-club, and a social justice club. There are a number of after school programs in the area which also support student learning. Gerrard Learning Resource Center, Wellesley Community Centre, Toronto City Mission, CabbageTown Youth and the Kiwanis Boys and Girls Club all provide after school programs. Upper Canada College and the Manulife Centre also provide after school programs for specific classes.
High-Level Description of Any Major School Travel Problems e.g. catchment size, driver behaviour, on local or connector road, traffic speed, heavy trucks, bussing wait times	Reliance on busses even though it is quicker to walk, busy streets along routes (intersections seen as a barrier as well as speed of cars and cyclists)
Existing Facilities At School Site, e.g. bike	There are 40 out of area students, a school bus drop-off zone at the

rack/storage, kiss 'n ride, school bus drop-off zone, adult or student crossing guards, public transit bus stops serving school, transport arrangements to after school programs	back and front of the school (front bus drop off is for accessibility bus and it currently conflicts with the bike lane), crossing guards located at major intersections, no real bike rack facilities
Existing Safety Policy & Education, e.g. school safety policy and rules, current safety education programs	Public Health (pedestrian campaign) and Toronto Police Service run safety programs, phys ed classes as well as regular classroom teachers lead walkabouts in the neighbourhood for DPA
Programs at this school that have goals similar to STP, e.g. environmental, physical activity, mental health	School participated in peer leadership program on pedestrian safety with TPH in 2012/13 school year.
Types of school/parent committee communications used/available (i.e. newsletter, website, facebook page)	Paper newsletter, new website
Other Information	

Map of area covered by this School Travel Plan





Most students who attend OLOL come from the St. James Town neighbourhood, which is much less than 1km away



School Travel Plan

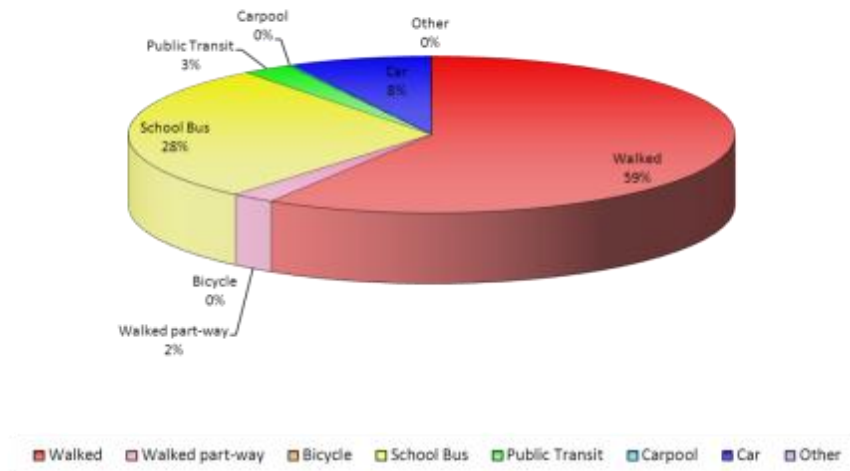
Baseline Data Collection - summary of findings

Student Classroom Survey findings

December 2013, 22 classes

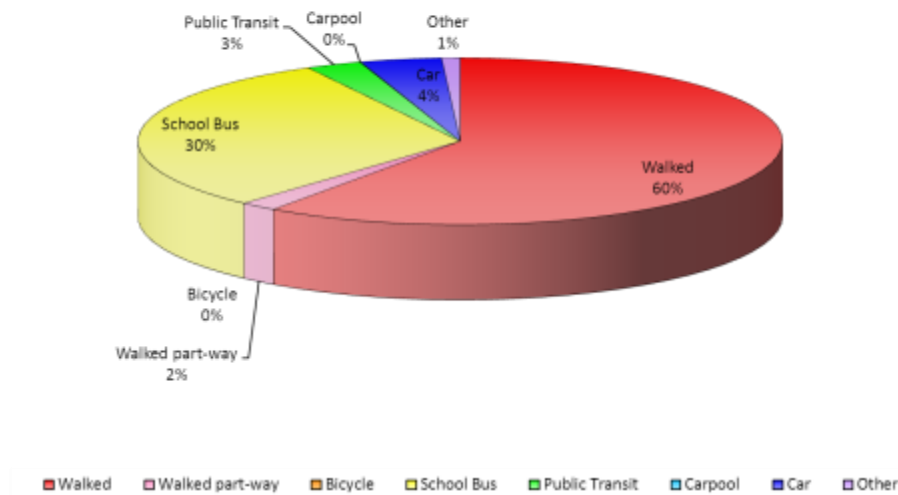
All classrooms: Student Survey Total Travel Mode to School over one week

**Student Hands-Up Survey:
Total Travel Mode TO School Over a Week**



All classrooms: Student Survey Total Travel Mode from School over one week

**Student Hands-Up Survey:
Total Travel Mode FROM School Over a Week**

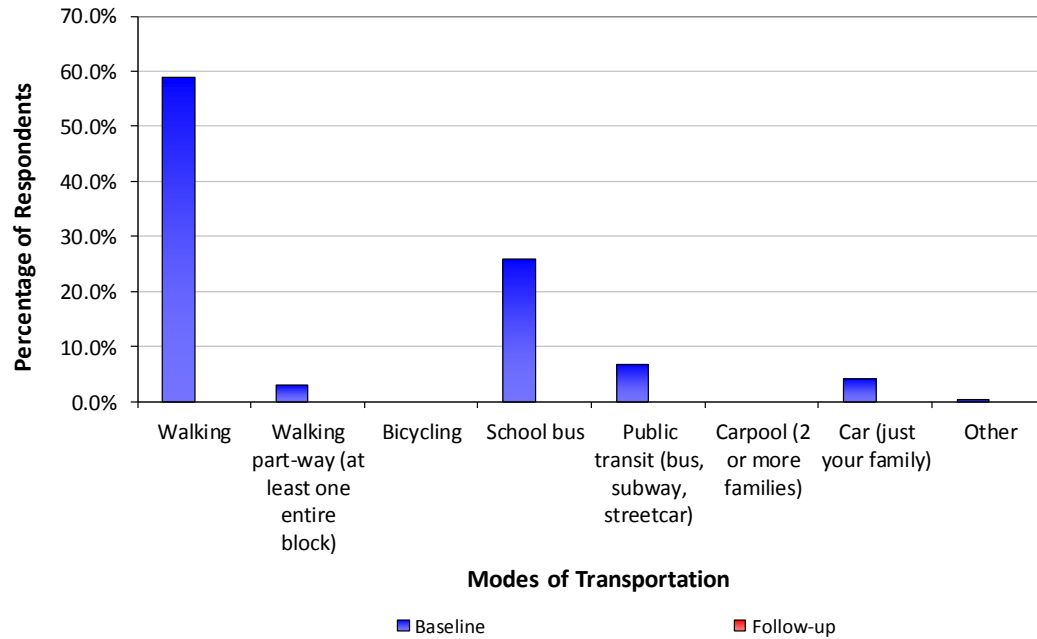


Baseline Family Survey Findings

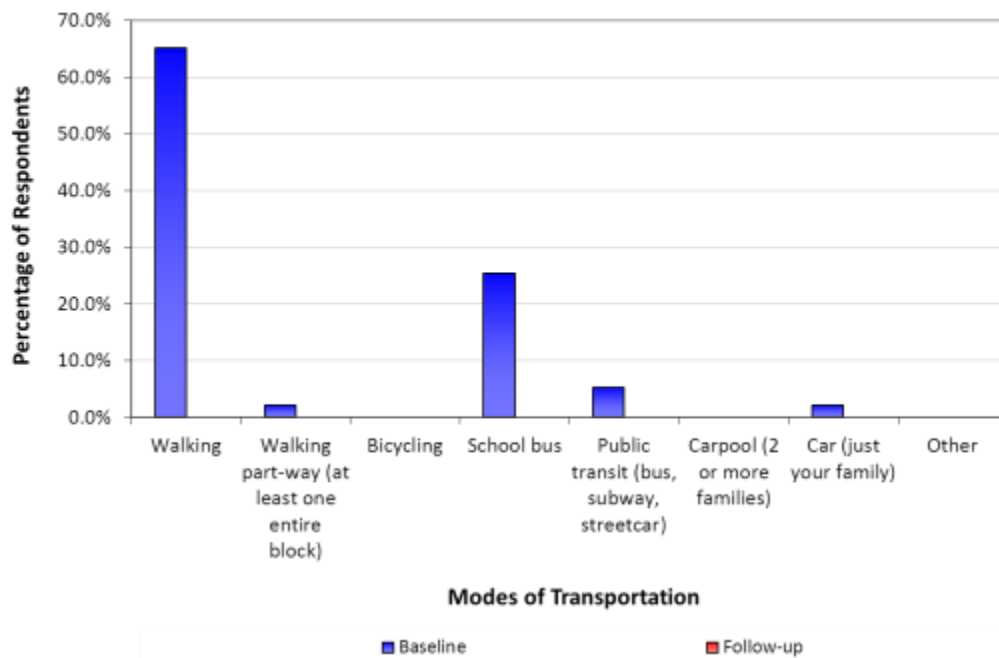
Sent out December 1st, 2013

189 surveys returned

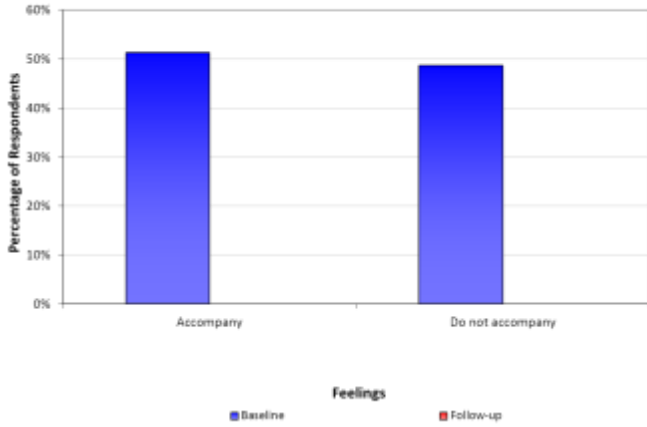
Q1a/2a - How does your child usually get TO school?



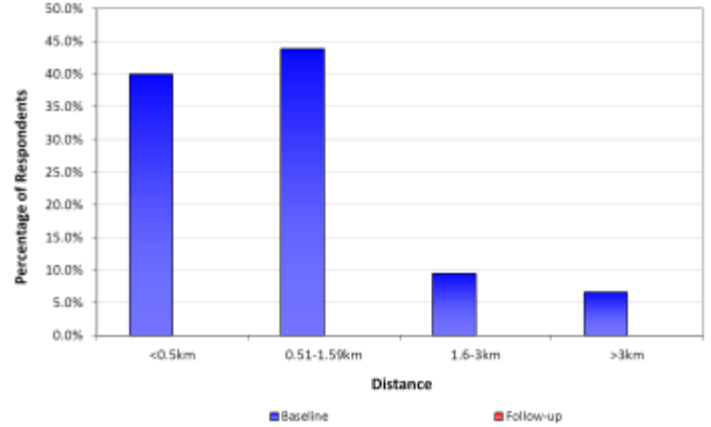
Q1a/2a - How does your child usually get FROM school?



Q2a/3a - Do you accompany your child to school?

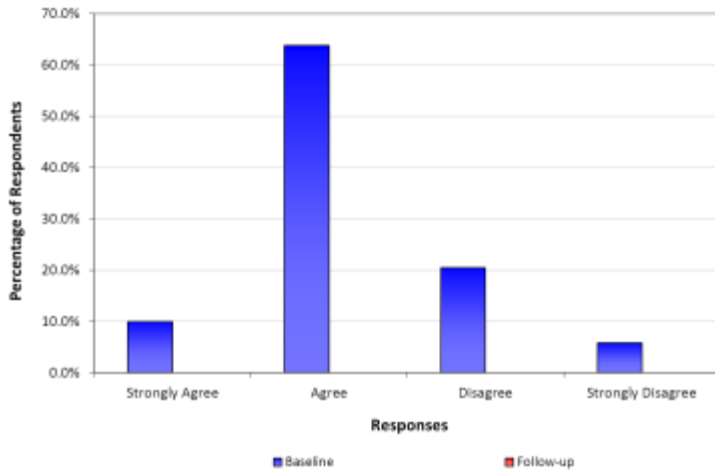


Q4/5 - How far away from the school do you live?

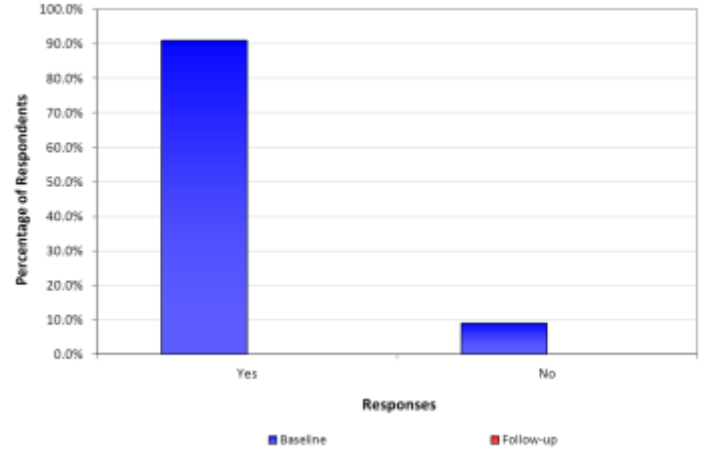


- Q3: Average minutes walked per respondent 10min

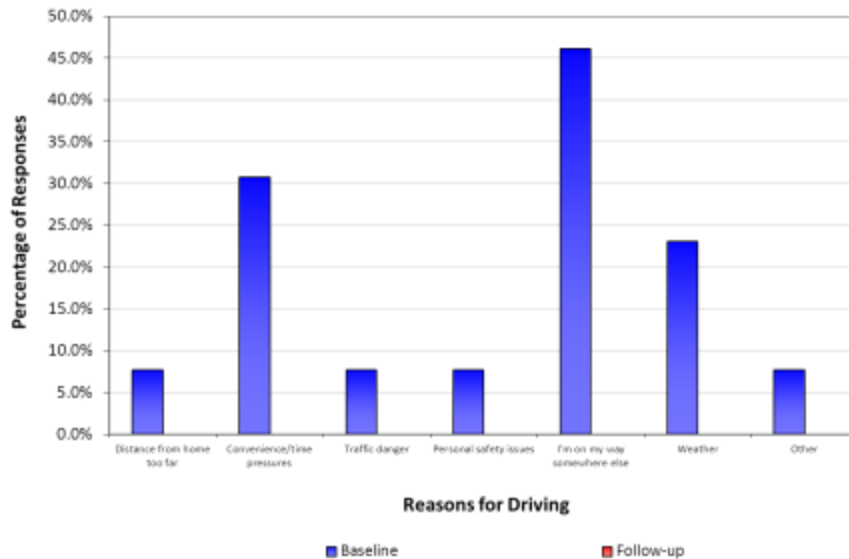
Q6 - Our neighbourhood is safe for children to walk to and from school



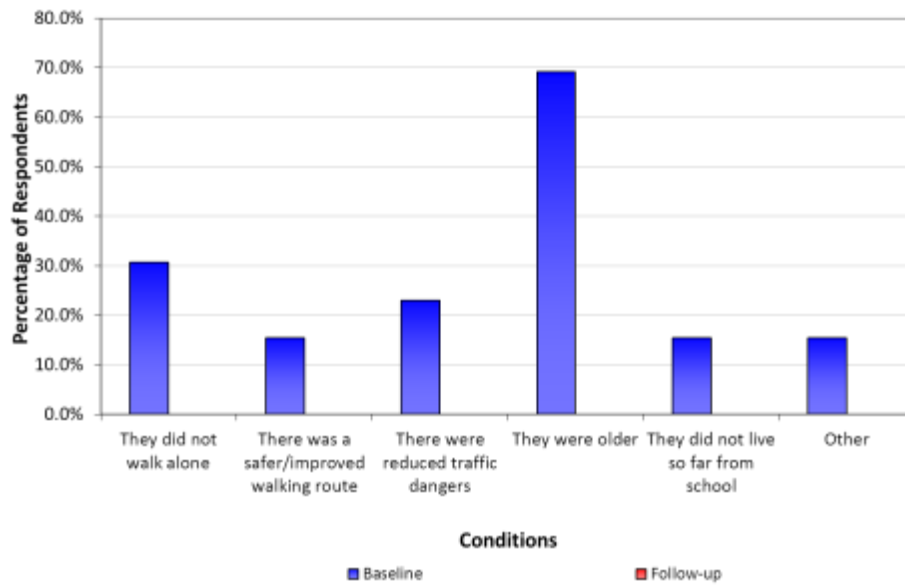
Q12/16 - Do you support ongoing School Travel Planning efforts?



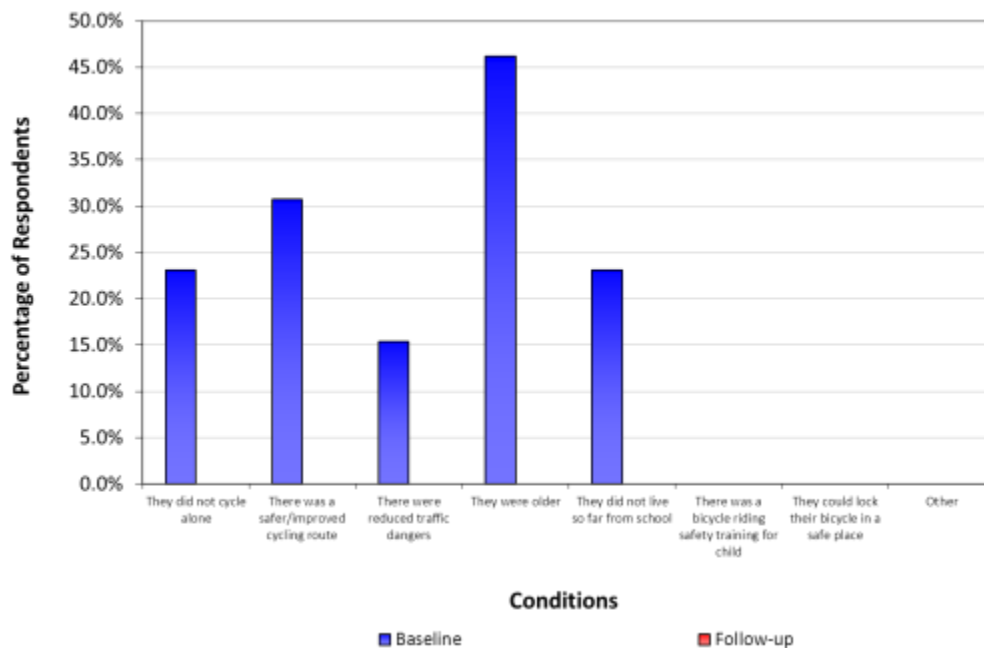
Q7 - If your child is usually driven to/from school, what are the main reasons why?



Q8 - I would allow my child to walk to school if...



Q9 - I would allow my child to cycle to school if...



- Most common streets identified as having risks re vehicles, bicycles, crime, and feelings of lack of safety:
 - Sherbourne/Wellesley
 - Bleecker St.
 - Wellesley/Parliament
 - Jarvis
 - Carlton
 - Allan Gardens re alcohol/drugs
 - Ontario

Walkabout findings

Date: December 18, 2013

Time of Walk and Discussion: 07:45 – 09:45am

Participants: Bob Longo (Phys Ed Teacher), Marie O'Brien (Phys Ed Teacher), Kevin Hodgkinson (TCDSB/TDSB Transportation), Jo Nazar (Principal), David Simor (Councilor Wong-Tam's Office), Sheila Dove (TCDSB/TDSB Transportation Safety), Julie Brandsma (PHN), Megan ? (PHN), Jennifer Lay (Metrolinx), Roman Oleksij (Traffic Engineering, City of Toronto), Jennifer McGowan (STP Facilitator, Green Communities Canada)

Our Walking Route:

We met as a group in a meeting room at Our Lady of Lourdes (OLOL), made introductions, passed around maps and the walkabout checklist, went over our purpose for gathering, and headed out. We first walked up Sherbourne St. to Wellesley St. E., turned right onto Wellesley St. E., left onto Bleecker St., right onto St. James Ave., left through the apartment driveway up to Howard St., left along Howard St., left down Edgedale Rd. and through the apartment complex, back down to Wellesley St. E., back down Sherbourne St.,



through the school yard and onto Homewood Ave., right up Homewood to and along Wellesley St. E., and finally right down Sherbourne St. back to the school. This route was chosen as a large percentage of the students at OLOL come from this area.


Along the route we noted any concerns or potential barriers to active transportation that we saw. Below is a selection of photographs taken that illustrate some of the concerns identified along the route.




At the end of the walk we convened back at the school, discussed what we saw along the route and did an initial brainstorm of potential solutions to the barriers we encountered and ideas for active transportation encouragement and support going forward at Our Lady of Lourdes.




Map of the area covered in the walkabout (with Graduated Student Distribution markers):








Walkabout identified areas of concern:

Location	Notes	Photo
A		
Wellesley St. E. and Sherbourne St.	<p>Busy intersection. Parents identified the intersection as a barrier. Many cars turn without looking for pedestrians and cyclists do not always stop for pedestrians. Also the crossing guards are not starting early enough for some students</p>	

B		
St. James Ave.	Access through apartment complex on St. James Ave. between Bleecker St. and Sherbourne St. blocked due to construction indefinitely	
C		
St. James Ave.	Signs not typical standard or missing	
D		
St. James Ave.	Tripping hazard along sidewalk	

E		
St. James Ave.	Sidewalk missing	
F		
Howard St.	No safe crossing to current bus stop	
G		
Sherbourne St.	Parents dropping children off in a private driveway next to the school	

H		
Homewood Ave.	<p>Bus drop off location at the back of the school. The bus route is a large circuit meaning that it would be quicker for students to walk than take the bus! The yard is entirely concrete and small for the size of the school. There is a lack of bike racks at the school.</p>	
I		
Homewood Ave. and Maitland Pl.	<p>Lack of safe marked crossing at the back of the school</p>	
Homewood Ave.	<p>OLOL walkabout group walking through partially cleared sidewalks. Sidewalks are narrow, especially in the winter.</p>	

I		
Homewood Ave. and Wellesley St. E.	<p>Busy intersection. The new intersection lights and painted crosswalks have improved safety but there are still concerns about the volume of vehicles through the intersection</p>	
J		
Sherbourne St.	<p>There have been conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists in crosswalks (cyclists are not always stopping for pedestrians). Also cyclists do not like the accessible bus stopping in the bike lane to drop children off (but the bus has permission to do so). Cars without permission are also blocking the bike lane.</p>	

*Rose Ave. (not on our walking route) was also identified as a place where bullying, loitering or intimidation is possible

Action Plan Ideas:

Incentives

- Walking Promotion: “Beat the Bus”, “Walk to the Beat”, “Walk the Beat”
Add music to this! High School or older OLOL students could lead walking groups. If adult volunteers become involved (senior groups or parents perhaps?) in a formal way they will need police checks. Another idea is to pay adults to walk students to school (like a walking guard). Bussed students could do laps in the gym if they are too far to walk. Could be formal or informal Walking School Buses or walking buddies
- Banner when you first walk into the school that says “we are a walking school” or something like that
- Students who walk could have bead strings and every x amount of times they walk they earn a bead
- We could connect to the Pan Am games and the curriculum

- Have a motivational video at an assembly. Here's one where kids talk about why they like to walk to school: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r59_rzKuAMA (we could skip the bit about cars at the beginning) Invite police, parents, community groups, etc.
- Paper tree they add leaves to at the front of the school, walking feet, the golden shoe award
- school spirit photo (i.e. students who walk, cycle, scooter etc, take a creative school photo – possibly someone is on the roof taking it - and can go in the newsletter, on the website, etc)
- The school may have 50 pedometers already
- Feb. 5th is Winter Walk Day (should promote this!) and Feb. is Heart & Stroke Heart Month
- Winter Walk Day could invite a high profile guest such as Toronto's Medical Officer of Health (Dr. David McKeown) and/or Chief Planner (Jennifer Keesmaat) to take part in a walk/ assembly
- create a map with commonly used walking routes (School Board or City could assist with this)
- set up visual displays in school lobby (e.g. shows classroom competitions - like student posters, team walking charts – school routes map) – especially for Winter Walk!
- Encourage teachers to connect with math (data), phys ed, visual art, etc. curriculum
- Curriculum resources :
 - connecting to Sustainable Happiness and Health Education: <http://sustainablehappiness.ca/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/SHTeachersGuideON.pdf>
 - ASRTS: <http://www.saferoutestoschool.ca/info-teachers>
 - Blazing Trails Through the Urban Jungle <http://saferoutesns.ca/images/uploads/English%20Student%20Workbook%202.pdf> and teacher guide <http://saferoutesns.ca/images/uploads/English%20Teachers%20Guide%202.pdf>

Infrastructure

- Walking route signage should be added as well as missing school zone signs. What about 'yield to pedestrians' signs at crosswalks and more speed limit signs?
- Lower speed limit on walking route streets?
- Check walking signal time in intersections

Safety Training and Education

- Kids bring scooters. There is a lack of bike racks. Not many kids have bikes. Jumpstart, a bike retailer, or the police might be a place to look for bike donations in the future. Could have police or another partner group (Evergreen or CanBike perhaps?) do a bike rodeo in the spring and/or a bike safety talk/hands on program.
- Need to connect with local cycling clubs to encourage dialogue
- Could show a walking safety video:
 - Bike Safe/Walk Smart DVDs are available through Active and Safe Routes to School. [Click here](#) to request a copy or have a look at the classroom notes below:
 - [Walk Smart DVD Follow-up Key Messages, Activities, and Talking Points](#)
 - [Bike Safe DVD Follow-up Activities and Talking Points](#)
 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1OMCl1PPiWc> (this is an American video but it does cover a lot of good safety skills)
 - TPH says they have some good walk/bike safety videos
- Helmet use demonstrations
- A researcher at Guelph is working on virtual pedestrian training (Dr. Barbara Morrongiello)

- Should regularly communicate to the parents. Could use the infographics from Metrolinx and Canada Walks. Could put in the newsletter, the calendar, and on the website.
www.metrolinx.com/en/projectsandprograms/schooltravel/asst.aspx
- Have police help educate cyclists and drivers about stopping in crosswalks. Could have students hand out cards saying “thanks for stopping” when cars or cyclists stop in the crosswalk.
- Have training for student walking leaders

Partnership and other

- Should involve the St. James Town Community Hub (TPH can help make connections-Community Matters, St. Jamestown Community Corner, Community Centre)
- Community agencies could send out messages
- Day Cares could walk kids
- The library has a pedometer lending program
- Need more students and parent on our committee
- Spacing magazine – pitch them article ideas
- Should arrange a walkabout with students



OLOL STP Committee Members debrief after the Walkabout

Student Walkabout at Our Lady of Lourdes CS

School: Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School (OLOL), 444 Sherbourne St., Toronto, ON

Date: May 15, 2014

Time of Walk and Discussion: 08:45 – 10:15am

In Attendance: Students – Ralph, Samson, Duke, and “Lee” (name changed), Robert Longo (Phys Ed Teacher), Marie O’Brien (Phys Ed Teacher), Julie Brandsma (PHN), George Mammen (U of T PhD Student), Joanna (Parent), Michael Bethke (VP), Jennifer McGowan (STP Facilitator Green Communities Canada)

Our Route:




We met as a group in a meeting room at Our Lady of Lourdes (OLOL), made introductions, and passed around maps. Since the focus of the walkabout was the student’s perceptions of their neighbourhood, we ensured they felt comfortable to share anything about their neighbourhood and their walk to school. We also encouraged them to lead us through their neighbourhood. We wanted them to show us the routes they take. We first walked up Sherbourne St. to Wellesley St. E., turned right onto Wellesley St. E. and did not turn left up Bleecker St. (we did walk up Bleecker St. on the first walkabout but the students said it felt unsafe – more info below). We instead turned left up the pedestrian walkway by the Food Basics across from Ontario St., walked through the playground and public area up to St. James Ave., and turned right along St. James Ave. We then turned left up another pedestrian walkway up to the north end of Rose Ave. that leads to Howard St., left along Howard St. to Ontario St., and left (south) on Ontario St. until we met St. James Ave. We then cut through a pedestrian walkway that the students normally would not take without adults (again because it feels unsafe), over to Bleecker St., south on Bleecker St. until Wellesley St. E., right on Wellesley St. E. until Sherbourne St., and left on Sherbourne St. until back at the school.










This route was similar to the route chosen at the first walkabout in December 2013 with a few important changes that the students made due to the choices they make about safety as they walk to school. More on these concerns below. This neighbourhood is home to the largest percentage of students at OLOL. Along the route we noted any concerns or potential barriers to active transportation that the students expressed. Below is a selection of photographs taken that illustrate some of the concerns identified along the route along with descriptions.




At the end of the walk we convened back at the school and discussed what we saw along the route. The students were very open to discussing their concerns and had some great ideas for how things could be improved.




Student Walkabout Identified Areas of Concern or Interest:

Location	Notes	Photo
A		
Wellesley St. E and Sherbourne St.	Students note that cars sometimes travel fast around here and do not obey signs (including the possibly? new no turn on right signs on Wellesley St. E.)	
B		
Wellesley St. E east of Sherbourne St.	Students typically walk on south side of Sherbourne St. as it feels safer (see location C). However, they have encountered people doing 'scary' things along Wellesley St. E. south side as well including people setting off fireworks and yelling.	
C		
Wellesley St. E and Bleecker St.	Although it would be faster for some of the students to walk up Bleecker St. as we did in our first walkabout, the students said they would not walk up Bleecker St. as people sit outside on the benches in front of the apartment building drinking and yelling which scares them.	

<p>D</p> <p>Wellesley St. E and Ontario St.</p>	<p>The students continue along the sidewalk to Ontario St. instead and cross at the intersection there.</p> <p>They said they have to walk through people smoking along this sidewalk.</p>	
<p>E</p> <p>Wellesley St. E and Ontario St.</p>	<p>The food basics open laneway where students feel safer to walk. They still did say that they encountered broken bottles and needles here as well, but there were more people they felt safer around here as well.</p>	
<p>F</p> <p>Extension of Ontario St. as a lane way north of the Food Basics.</p>	<p>The students sometimes cut through here to the park area, but sometimes find needles and are scared by groups of people hanging out.</p>	

<p>G</p> <p>Park area along extension of Ontario St. as a lane way north of the Food Basics.</p>	<p>The students said they liked the trees and park space and wished it felt safer to hang out here sometimes. They also said in all the green areas around their apartment buildings there is an issue of people not picking up after their dogs.</p>	
<p>H</p> <p>Playground area beside the park.</p>	<p>The students said they find needles in the gap between the rubber playground mat and the curb as well as broken glass around the playground. They also found the curb was a tripping hazard. While visiting we also found dirty diapers and other garbage under the play equipment.</p>	
<p>I</p> <p>Playground area beside the park.</p>	<p>The students also pointed out that the area was not well lit at night so people may feel able to use drugs or drink there as it is dark.</p>	
<p>J</p> <p>St. James Ave. and the path from the park.</p>	<p>The students noted deteriorating walkway bricks. They also said this is a place where people congregate which makes them feel unsafe.</p>	

<p>K</p> <p>St. James Ave. and the path from the park (leading to the extension of Ontario St.).</p>	<p>The litter and the pot holes in the road were pointed out by the students. They also wanted a marked crossing area here as they cross here every day and there is also a school across the road. There was a stop sign missing in this location.</p>	
<p>L</p> <p>Beside a number of the apartment buildings (the first picture was east along St. James Ave., the second picture along Rose Ave. toward Howard St.)</p>	<p>The students complained that the garbage collection areas near the apartment buildings were always overflowing with garbage and very smelly. Sometimes they would see people gathering there as well which makes them feel nervous.</p> <p>Also in front of the first apartment building (on the curve along St. James Ave.) the students said cars are often speeding and there is no safe place to cross.</p>	
<p>M</p> <p>Walking south on Bleecker St. from Howard St.</p>	<p>The students noted that some apartment buildings are better at cleaning up garbage in front of them than others. One apartment building on Bleecker St. has a superintendent that cleans up the front, many others do not.</p>	

<p>N</p> <p>Ontario St. (extension) and St. James Ave.</p>	<p>The covered area on the south side of St. James Ave. connects to a path that cuts through the apartment buildings in this picture. It is a natural short cut to Bleecker St. and to the school but the students will not walk it as it is hidden and people congregate there.</p>	
<p>O</p> <p>St. James Ave. and Ontario St. (extension)</p>	<p>A litter collection vehicle drove by while we were walking. Even still the students pointed out that they missed a lot of litter.</p> <p>They also said that people who drink hang out in front of Rose Ave. School and break bottles, etc.</p>	
<p>P</p> <p>Wellesley St. E and Sherbourne St.</p>	<p>As a committee we noticed for the first time the “no turn on right” signs on Wellesley St. E and are now curious when those went in.</p>	

Other comments from the students:

- The students mentioned a few times how they are fearful of fire in their buildings. They showed us a few different windows that recently had apartment fires (the black smoke residue could be seen outside the windows).

- The students also said that people often litter out of their apartment windows or off their balconies (throwing waste water or garbage). The students did not like this, as it littered up their neighbourhoods and also sometimes landed on their own balconies.
- The students noted they do not like that people break into the clothing donation box by one of the apartment buildings.
- As a group we noticed some school zone signs were missing in this neighbourhood (Rose Ave. School is in the middle of the neighbourhood).
- The bus that stops in front of the apartment buildings on St. James Ave. sometimes blocks the sidewalk making it hard to walk past it on the way to school.
- It is harder for little kids to walk to school. The students said they would be willing to help walk little kids.
- The students wanted to make the front of the school more colourful.

Quotes:

“The benches are nice but people are using them the wrong way” – Samson

“I avoid the short cut [path from St. James Ave. through the apartment buildings to Bleecker St.] because of the scary people” – Ralph

“I like the art but I don’t like some of the other graffiti, it says bad words” – Ralph

“The private areas [such as the paths] are scary” – Samson

“We have an awesome community but people are using what we have wrongly. I want a fresh community.” – Samson

“More people would walk if it was cleaner.” – “Lee”

“I would be happy if things were cleaner. It would have good vibes!” - Ralph

When asked what their top priority would be for their neighbourhood, the students said:

“Get people to stop throwing things off their balconies” – Samson

“Clean up the trash and litter and dog poop” – “Lee”

“Clean up the drugs and needles” – Ralph

“Clean up the trash” – Duke

Possible Actions:

- The students would like to draw on the sidewalks from their neighbourhood to the school advertising the next walk to school days (June 23-26).
- The students all said they wanted to do something to help clean up their neighbourhoods. During our discussion some ideas included:
 - posters designed by the students around the neighbourhood and in the buildings encouraging people to pick up their litter to make their community cleaner and safer
 - more permanent signs designed by the students could be placed around the neighbourhood encouraging people to pick up their litter and after their pets to make their community more kid friendly/safer and cleaner. They could also be used to ask drivers to slow down in areas where speeding has been an issue. See an example of student signs from Vernon, BC here: <http://www.hastebc.org/resources/stp-vernon>
 - specifically dedicate some spaces in the neighbourhood (such as the play ground) as kid safe zones where signs designed by the students could be placed asking people not to leave needles and other litter there. Possibly a needle disposal container could be located somewhere or work with health organizations on this issue?

- work with the building superintendents and managers, Toronto Community Housing, Public Health, City of Toronto traffic engineers and planners, City Councillors, other neighbourhood organizations, etc. to see what is possible to make the neighbourhood safer for children to walk to school. Possibly have students present on their findings and their ideas to this group of people. Ideally this could be a student initiated and led initiative with the support of adults.

**note: video of the students expressing their opinions was also taken during this walk*



George Mammen walking north on Sherbourne St. with OLOL students Ralph, Samson, Duke, and "Lee" (name changed)



School Travel Plan *Goals*

School Travel Planning goals

- Reduce congestion and increase safety at the school site
- Increase active school travel on the school journey

Key goals for this school

Based on the Baseline Classroom and Family Survey findings, this school's key goals in order to assist the health and well-being of our students and families are:

1. Encourage more children to walk to school, especially those that live in the St. James Town neighbourhood
2. Hold Walk to School Days
3. Work towards infrastructure improvements in partnership with the City of Toronto
4. Educate children and their families about pedestrian safety in partnership with police and Public Health
5. Educate drivers and cyclists on crosswalk safety and build greater awareness of children walking to school

Specific action items are detailed in the following Action Plan.



School Travel Plan Action Plan

Action Plan for Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School Our Lady of Lourdes CS STP Committee Purpose Statement:

“Walking is the norm!”

Potential Motto Brainstorm:

Walk to the Beat, Beat the Bus

Action/Initiative	Tasks	Responsibility	Timeframe	Estimated Monetary Cost & Source of Funds	Status
Objective 1: To encourage more students to actively travel to and from school					
Encourage Informal Walking Groups/Walking School Busses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -send home information about the importance of walking (every month in the newsletter, once the new website is created could put on there) -informal bus chats at bus stops with parents? Bring them hot chocolate? -Identify those that are walking: could call students down from each building - “little buddies” could encourage older students to start walking with younger kids. Could send info sheet home (encourage parents to exchange info with other parents, “my 5”, add safety piece) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> George will help with info bits Public Health? Theresa at front desk knows a lot about families Jo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On going Spring 2014 		
Promote walking to Primary parents and	-Share information at Primary Information Night	George	Before May 7 (when info		

families as they enter OLOL (they no longer get busses)	-send home information/put information in Primary Parent Packages		night is)		
Monthly Walk Days!	Winter Walk Day (February) Promote walking in the winter!, International Walk to School Month (October), plus walking events every month, "Move in May"	School to promote, partners to support	February 19, 2014 and once every month April 16, 2014 May 15, 2014 June 23-26, 2014		Done and ongoing
Promotion Assemblies			February 14, 2014 and ongoing?		
Earlier supervision in the yard	With fewer busses teachers could be freed up to supervise earlier?	EA's could start at 8am?			
Lower bus age		Jo	ongoing		
Objective 2: To create clear and safe accessible routes to school					
Infrastructure -on school property	Bike racks underground for teachers Bike racks for students-off Homewood on School Property (small space possibly available)	Jen to look into possible sources for racks Ask Kevin			
Infrastructure improvements on routes to school – off school property	"Walking Route" signage on routes to school figure out the common routes. Where do we want students to cross? Make sure best route for visibility.	Sheila will ask School Safety Committee about signs Kevin and Roman-	Spring 2014		

	<p>Crosswalk behind school</p> <p>Keep an eye on this – buss drop offs would need to change. Blessed Sacrament did this, so look to their example.</p> <p>Crossing signal timing increase needed at Sherbourne St. and Wellesley St.</p> <p>Flashing signal at bike sight level for crosswalks that cross bike lanes</p> <p>Create a no right turn on red at Sherbourne and Wellesley</p> <p>Community Safety Zone? Flashing lights with signs</p>	<p>Councillor offices and Roman</p> <p>Roman and Councillors</p> <p>Roman and Councillors</p> <p>Roman and Daniel Eagan (Manager of Cycling Infrastructure)</p> <p>Roman and Councillors</p> <p>Currently under review could ask to be a case study (Jacky knows more about this)</p>	<p>Future?</p> <p>Spring 2014</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p>		
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Objective 3: To make the community more aware of active transportation and school travel planning

<p>Hold a Pedestrian, Motor Vehicle, and Cycling awareness day.</p>	<p>Students could hand out thank you notes to cyclists and vehicles that follow the rules of the road supported by the Police, possibly Cycle Toronto, etc.</p>	<p>Partner with Cycle Toronto Ward Group, Police</p> <p>Parents could get</p>	<p>Spring 2014?</p> <p>During Bike to Work Week? (possibly May 28th or</p>		
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		Timmies cards to hand out?	sometime that week?)		
Regular spot in monthly OLOL newsletter	Add a small fact or blurb on Active Travel to the OLOL newsletter each month E.g. profile families who walk (call out to parents), how long does it actually take to walk 1.6km, connections between physical activity and greater ability to learn/pay attention	George	Ongoing		
Presentation to parents	Give a presentation on STP at OLOL parent events on data results, planned activities, etc. Curriculum night in Sept. Kindergarten night on May 7 th , 2014-invite police to have an info table “we are a walking school” Have the walking school song	George to create info sheet/presentation Police to set up info booth? Marie and Bob	May 7 th , 2014 Sept. 2014		
Information on the announcements	Continue to have students share facts and info about walking on the announcements	HAT, Bob, Marie and George to supply facts	Ongoing		
Presentation to TDCSB and ongoing regular updates	Discuss savings \$40,000 per bus off the road Present at phys ed conference	Jo with Jo-Ann Davis support? Bob and Marie	Spring 2014?		

Objective 4: To build skills in and knowledge of the importance of active transportation

Bring curriculum connected pedestrian	Examples: Skills and Safety Education (Making Tracks in partnership with community members, police,	George and Jen to	Spring or Fall		
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and bike safety training to OLOL	teachers?) for Pedestrian, Scooter, Cycling, etc. Education http://saferoutesns.ca/index.php/special/making-tracks/ Toronto Public Health street safety program Teachers taking students on walks	collect ideas Public Health- interested in continuing program? Interested teachers	2014 Ongoing		
Other curriculum connect programs	Carbon Footprint (Kevin has program for carbon footprint of buses)	Kevin	Spring 2014?		
Objective 5: To monitor effectiveness of initiatives and revise School Travel Plan annually					
Conduct Baseline and Follow up Data Collection Year One and Year Two	Classroom Hands-Up Surveys, Family Surveys	HAT and George are conducting hands up surveys three times a month School to conduct family once a year? George conducting bus surveys every month	Three times a month Every Fall? Ongoing		
Walkabouts (include partners and students)	May 15-Invite students to take photos and then could present their findings to Jennifer Keesmaat?	All	December 2013 May 15 th , 2014		
STP document and	Creation of the STP 'living' document	Jen	Spring 2014		

action plan					
Monitor transportation modes in future years	Conduct Classroom Hands-Up Surveys	School	Ongoing		
Update STP report yearly	Oversee the implementation of Action Plan items and track the actual timing and cost of initiatives versus planned Update the action plan and STP report with additional actions, interventions, stories, data and events yearly	All, Jen TBD-School	Ongoing		

Ideas for the Future:

Create a school incentive/tracking program	Examples: "WOW" http://saferoutesns.ca/programs/wow Hand out Buttons, beads on a string,
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Highlights of Actions 2013-2014

Winter Walk Assembly & Winter Walk Day at Our Lady of Lourdes

To get students excited for Winter Walk Day, Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School held “Heart Day” celebrations on February 14th, 2014. Prior to the event, students on the Health Action Team made announcements over the PA and created posters. At the event, they performed a cheer (with pompoms!) that they wrote together. Public Health Nurse Megan Georgieff, STP Facilitator Jennifer McGowan and Community Police Liaison Officer Constable Lynne Robertson spoke to the students to encourage them to keep walking to school throughout the year.

On the big day, Wednesday February 19th, 540 out of 600 students walked to school, compared to 330 on a typical week day. After walking with their children and dropping them off at the school, parents were invited to a “Meet & Mingle” in the front foyer where they had the opportunity to get to know other parents in their area with the idea that parents could form informal “route share” walking groups to take turns walking children to and from school.

Winter Walk Day was such a success that the school held April and May Walk Days with 80 per cent of students walking or biking to school. To celebrate the end of school and take advantage of the great weather, Our Lady of Lourdes also hosted it’s first-ever Walk Week during the last week of June.



Infrastructure Requests

Our Lady of Lourdes CS Main Infrastructure Issues:

- Make walking routes more visible. Also some signage is missing or improper as noticed on the walkabout. Possible solution: “Walking Route” signage on routes to school-figure out the common routes. Where do we want students to cross? Make sure best route for visibility. Replace or add appropriate signage where needed.
- Classes (on the way to church) and students on the way to school do not have enough time to cross the road at lights along Sherbourne St., especially at Wellesley St. Possible solution: Pedestrian crossing signal timing increase needed at Sherbourne St. and Wellesley St. and possibly other locations at certain times of day.
- Drivers are turning the corner too quickly at Sherbourne and Wellesley/not looking for pedestrians. Possible solution: Create a no right turn on red at Sherbourne and Wellesley? Either all day or at certain times of day?
- Cyclists are not always stopping at crosswalks along Sherbourne St. Possible solution: Crosswalk flashing light may not be as visible at cyclist level? Could add a flashing signal at bike sight level for crosswalks that cross bike lanes?
- No safe crossing at Homewood Ave. and Maitland Pl. (behind the school). Possible solution: Add a crosswalk behind school?
We should keep an eye on this – bus drop offs would need to change. Blessed Sacrament did this, so look to their example.
- Possible interest in bicycle parking on City of Toronto property, especially along the sidewalk near the front of the school (for both students and especially visiting adults). There is not a lot of school property space for bike racks. Access for the access-a-bus would need to be maintained.
- Interest in a Community Safety Zone? Flashing lights with signs-pilot studies in other areas-St. James Town could be another pilot study?

In July 2014, these infrastructure requests were sent to Councillor McConnell, her assistant Sean McIntyre, Councillor Wong-Tam, her assistant David Simor, and Roman Oleksij from City of Toronto Traffic Operations, along with Kevin Hodgkinson from TCDSB Transportation. Almost all of the infrastructure requests are under City of Toronto jurisdiction. Further follow up will be required to help support the integration of these requests into City of Toronto and TCDSB Transportation Plans going forward.



School Travel Plan Team and Endorsement

Committee members

Members of the School STP Committee

Principal: Jo Nazar

VP: Mike Bethke

Teacher Representatives: Robert Longo, Marie O'Brien

Parents: Joanna Cichocka and Jolante Kocinske (also a settlement worker at the school)

Students: Health Action Team Students Ralph, Samson, Duke, and "Lee"

City of Toronto Traffic Operations: Roman Oleksij (at arms length)

TDSB/TCDSB Transportation: Kevin Hodgkinson and Sheila Dove

Toronto Police 51 Division: Constable Lynne Robertson, Sergeant John Spanton, and other officers

Public Health: Julie Brandsma

Elected Councillors: Pam McConnell and Kristyn Wong-Tam

Constituency Assistants: Sean McIntyre and David Simor

School Trustee: Jo-Ann Davis

Heart & Stroke Foundation: Colleen Hill

University of Toronto PhD Candidate: George Mammen

STP Facilitator: Jennifer McGowan

Endorsement

The School Travel Plan for Our Lady of Lourdes CS has been endorsed by Principal Jo Nazar on behalf of the school, and by key representatives of the Municipal Stakeholder Committee.

School Principal: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Lead representative of the
Municipal Stakeholder Committee: _____

Signature: _____

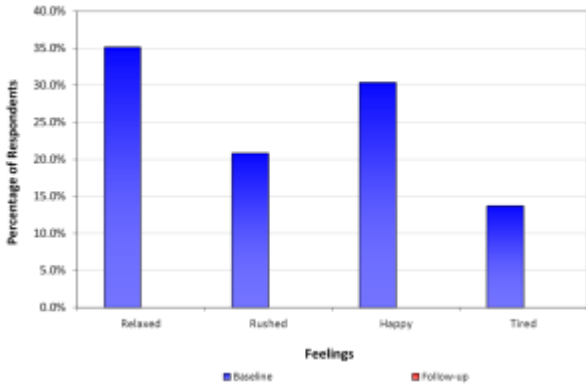
Date: _____



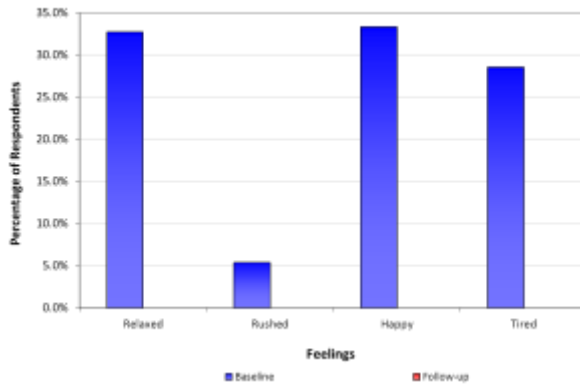
School Travel Plan Evaluation

Further Baseline Survey Results

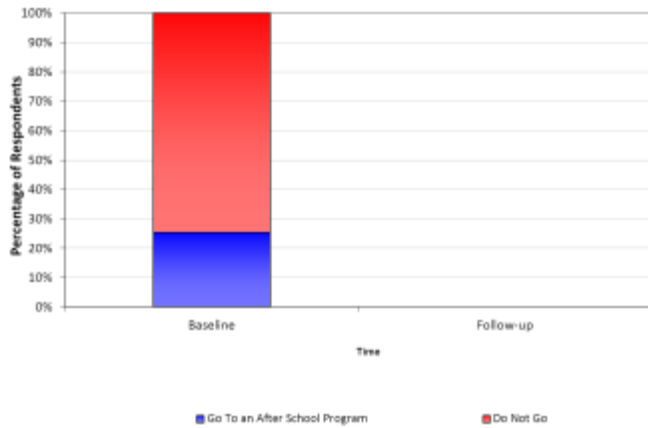
Q10a - What feelings do you have most of the time when you are travelling TO school? (CHILD)



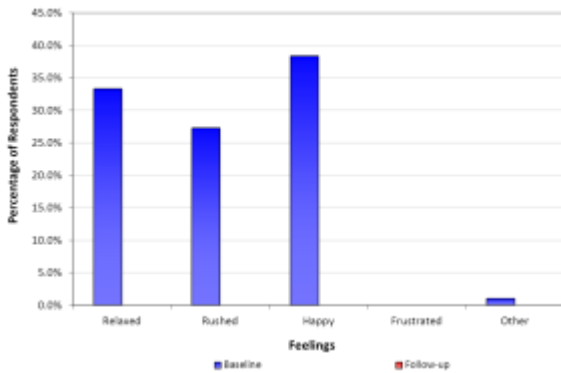
Q10b - What feelings do you have most of the time when you are travelling FROM school? (CHILD)



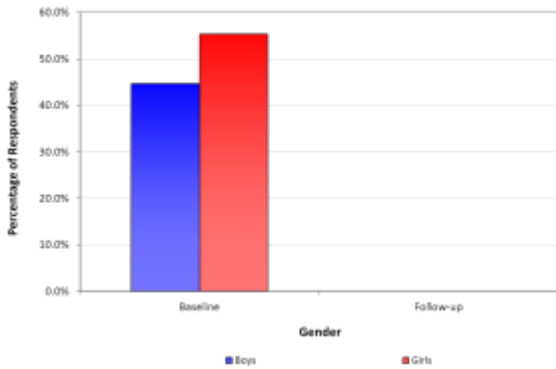
Q1c/2b - Was the travel FROM school to an after-school program?



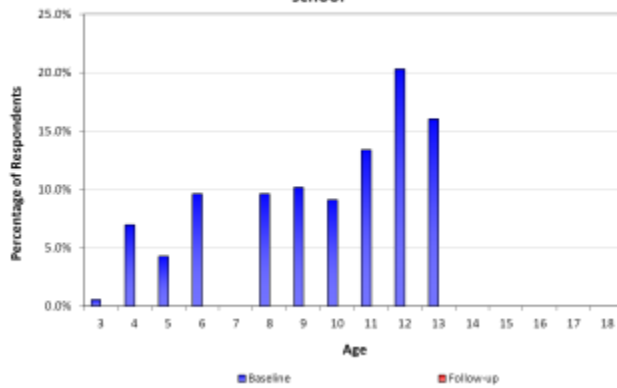
Q2b/3b - How do you usually feel on the trip to school? (ADULT)



Q3/4 - What are the gender ratios of each family's eldest child at the school



Q3/4 - Age distribution of each family's eldest child at the school



Follow-up Surveys

<Insert Follow-up Classroom Survey results in graph form; include date and brief summary statement>

<Insert Follow-up Family Survey results in graph form (those graphs that best reflect significant changes in behaviour); include date and brief summary statement>



School Travel Plan Annual Update

Principal

Municipal Lead

End of **Second** Year <Insert date> _____

End of **Third** Year <Insert date> _____

End of **Fourth** Year <Insert date> _____

End of **Fifth** Year <Insert date> _____

[Note: More dates can be added]