

Ann Arbor Public Schools

Student & School Safety Update

December 2018

Submitted to the City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission

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Traffic Safety Considerations

Huron High

Fuller Rd. Crosswalk

AAPS issued a letter of support for the proposed new location for this crosswalk currently coming out of Gallup Park. Due to a new city council resolution this proposal has been delayed to provide city council with additional options for this crosswalk including improvements to current location.

AAPS still supports the new location as a matter of safety for students. The new location provides a pedestrian island and better visibility for pedestrians. Additionally, as part of the assessment city staff spent two lunch hours getting feedback from 110 Huron students who offered their input with the majority understanding and in favor of the new location.

AAPS will continue to work with city staff on the revisions as they prepare to present the options to city council – within 180 days as required by the resolution.

A2 STEAM (K-8)

City Council voted to delay the vote on the assessment for sidewalk gap construction as part of the A2 STEAM SRTS Michigan DOT grant. Council Members Bannister, Hayner and Griswold held a “public hearing” on Wednesday, November 28 to hear opposition to this resolution from the neighbors. I attended and spoke in support because it improves student safety allowing for improved and increased safe walk and bike paths. The neighbors believe since only one student lives on this section of Traver Rd. that a sidewalk isn’t warranted among other issues opposing this resolution.

It is expected that city council will bring this resolution to the table again on December 17.

Safe Routes to School Committees

These schools have engaged or plan to engage their SRTS teams to work with the City and AAPD on assessing and making improvements for the school commute (walk, bike, drop off and pick up):

- Dicken Elementary School – 2135 Runnymede
 - SRTS survey completed by parents and 3rd – 5th graders
 - Crosswalks identified for improvements and will be presented to City
 - PTO supports this effort
- King Elementary School – 3800 Waldenwood
 - Adjusted their drop off plan and will re-engage their SRTS teams for further updates to address congestion on the streets surrounding the school

- Bach Elementary School – 600 W. Jefferson
 - The SRTS team has developed a new pick up plan that includes one lane for pick up working to solve the issue of traffic pulling in and out of the curb creating dangerous situations for students
 - Issues continue with parents parking over crosswalks
 - AAPD is helping with enforcement
 - Parent and student survey will be conducted after winter break
- Lawton Elementary School - 2250 S. Seventh
 - SRTS team has begun a walk and bike to school day each First Friday
 - Buses also drop off two blocks from school for the First Friday SRTS event
- Bryant Elementary School – 2150 Santa Rosa
 - SRTS team has redeveloped their drop off and pick up plan and will begin this pilot after break – the goal is to pull more traffic off Champagne creating safer drop off and pick up locations
- Wines Elementary School – 1701 Newport Rd.
 - The district, city traffic engineer and AAPD visited behind the school to assess traffic issues and reports of speeding along these streets.
 - Some additional signage may be needed to deal with drop off at this location
- Ann Arbor Open (K-8) – 920 Miller
 - Will start their SRTS team after break
- Angell Elementary School – 1608 S. University
 - Will start their SRTS team after break
 - Note: AAPS and Angell Elementary School has applied for a Zendrive grant. Zendrive uses an app to measure and improve driving behavior. Via the app drivers can report problem areas and then using the captured data they rank the streets and intersections A – F. Non-profits and schools near the ranking areas are also given a grade. Due to Angell’s proximity to the Washtenaw/Hill intersection, one of the worst in the county, Angell was given an “F” rating. This rating allowed us to apply for a \$50,000 grant to help improve this area. We will know in January if we are a finalist and will use these funds for a traffic safety study and implementation of recommendations.

Traffic Control Orders

- **A2 STEAM** – No Right Turn 7:45-8:30am and 3-3:45pm out of Barton entrance
 - Right turn conflicts with major crosswalk at this location out of the school.
- **Pioneer High** – Right turn only out of Stadium Blvd. 7-9am and 2-4pm
 - Left turn conflicts with major crosswalk at this location out of the school.

AAPS Safety Initiatives:

- **ALICE intruder** training of staff is complete for this school year – 800 staff trained
 - Parent meeting will be scheduled for after break
- **Michigan State Police School Safety Grant**
 - **\$956,000 awarded (2nd highest award in the state)**

- Mobile Safety App
- Visitor Management System
- Public Address (PA) System Upgrades
- School evacuation signs for every classroom