



Fairfax County
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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**SCHOOL TRAFFIC &
PEDESTRIAN SAFETY
ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

Agenda

- Capital Improvements Plan Motion
- Timeline To Date
- Working Group
- Approach Development & Guidance Documents
- School Based Self-Assessment Process
- Next Steps

Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Motion

School Board, February 23, 2023

A proposal directing the superintendent to develop an annual School Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Assessment Program that will focus on addressing significant school traffic and pedestrian safety concerns, particularly those resulting from severely congested kiss and ride lines, bus traffic, and related challenges. This program would follow the model of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) in its approach to addressing capacity deficits by providing a comprehensive menu of potential mitigation strategies. It would also establish an equitable prioritization of schools based on the most urgent safety needs, along with clear implementation timelines and regular updates on pending, current, and completed remediation projects. This initiative will ensure a proactive and structured response to ongoing traffic and safety issues across the school district.

Timeline To Date

- **2023**
 - February: CIP Motion
- **2024**
 - January: Friday Letter with proposed approach
 - February: Working Group Formed/Starts Work
 - February-May: Initial Guidance Document Work
 - March-April: Fairfax High School Assessment Pilot
 - June: Initial Approach Lessons Learned
 - August-December: School Based Self-Assessment Approach Development
- **2025**
 - January - ADWS

Joint Working Group

- Co-Led by Andy Mueck, Janice Szymanski, Brian Lambert
- OSS (Safety)
 - Isaac Robertson, Senior Manager II
 - Derrick Gwyn, Safety Specialist
- OSS (SRTS)
 - Merari Zeman, Senior Manager I
- OTS (Transportation)
 - Paul D'Andrade, Executive Director
 - Traci Kubo-Carrera, Assistant Director
 - John McCracken, Senior Manager II



Approach Development & Guidance Documents

- School Traffic & Pedestrian Safety Assessment Guidelines
- Working Group Joint Assessment Pilot - Fairfax High School
- Review of Fairfax High School Assessment
- School Based Self-Assessment Approach
- School Based Self-Assessment Electronic Submission
- Mitigation Toolkit

School Traffic & Pedestrian Safety Assessment Guidelines

- Purpose: Provide a process and tools for improving school and student pedestrian safety.
- Scope: Focus on school traffic and pedestrian safety conditions within designated school zones, walk zones, roadways, crosswalks, and surrounding areas.
- Approach: **Central Office staff based approach.**

Working Group Joint Assessment Pilot - Fairfax High School

- Pilot Test
- Conducted by the Working Group
- Using Assessment Guidance Document
- 2 Days On-Site
- 3 Weeks to Draft Report



Review of Fairfax High School Assessment Pilot

Lessons Learned

- Time Required to Conduct Review
- Time Required to Draft the Assessment
- Data Collection - Manual
- Limiting Resource - Personnel
- Familiarity with Local Nuances
- Need for improved Stakeholder / Community Feedback



School Based Self-Assessment Approach

- Purpose: Enable schools to independently evaluate their traffic and pedestrian safety conditions and identify areas for improvement.
- Scope: Critical safety factors such as school population, modes of transit to school, transportation systems, physical infrastructure, and local enforcement.
- Approach: **Self-assessment guide** to streamline data collection, facilitate the development of actionable safety strategies, and prioritize schools in most need of central office assistance.

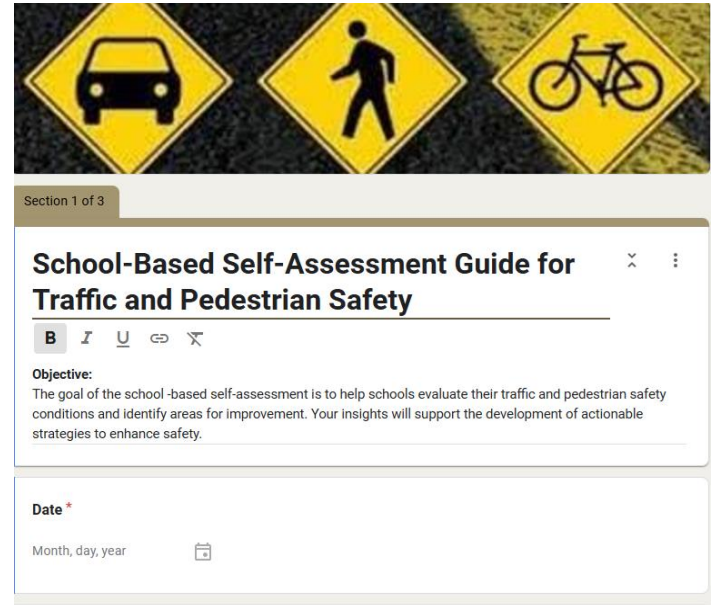
School Based Self-Assessment Approach

- Self-Assessment Questionnaire/Survey
- School Information - Transit Breakdown
- Walking / Biking Infrastructure
- Physical Safety Infrastructure
- Law Enforcement and Traffic Compliance
- Traffic Management
- Hazard Identification
- Stakeholder Feedback



School Based Self-Assessment - Electronic Submission

- Data Capture
- Trends ... by school, by year, by category
- Common Issues
- Year to Year Progress
- Highlight Schools in Most Need of Central Office Assets



Mitigation Toolkit

- Living Document
- Purpose: Provide schools with an easy-to-use guide full of practical strategies to reduce traffic congestion, increase safety, and encourage safe transportation options for students.
- Approach: Toolkit **aligned with the Self-Assessment Guide** for easy cross-referencing on possible solutions.



School Based Self-Assessment Approach - Path Forward

- Spring - Conduct 6 school pilot to validate process (cross-section of schools)
- Post Pilot - Analysis / Decision to implement beginning SY25/26

If approach adopted:

- October '25 (or month to be determined) - Schools conduct self-assessment
- November '25 (& throughout the year) - Schools use mitigation toolkit to solve issues
- November '25 - Working Group reviews self-assessment results & develop priority list
- December '25/January '26 - Working Group assists priority schools in developing mitigation plan and solution strategies
- January '26 - Full Schools Assessment Report Presented to School Board

Next Steps

- Spring 2025 - Conduct Small Pilot Test (6 schools)
- Spring 2025 - Complete Guides, Toolkits, Electronic Submission
- May 2025 - Confirm Full Implementation for SY25/26
- May 2025 - Develop FCPS Communications Plan (internal/external)
- SY25/26 - Implement Annual Review Process Division-Wide
- June 2026 - Provide Summary/Detailed Report to School Board