

Safe Routes to School



**Yakima City Council Study Session
August 29, 2019**



Safer Routes - Projects



**City-wide LED lighting
Upgrade Project (2017)**
\$2.8 Million
(Approx. 4,700 lights)



**Traffic-Calming
(2018)**
\$130,000
(Evaluating 20 requests)



Yakima Transit Sidewalk Policy Issue (2017)

\$200,000

- 2017/2018 - Sidewalk installation along the east side of 40th Avenue north of Chestnut Avenue. This project complimented the installation of the crosswalk at the intersection of 40th Avenue and Chestnut Avenue.

\$200,000

- 2019/2020 – Proposed sidewalk installation along the west side of 16th Avenue, north of Fruitvale Boulevard.

Complete Streets Policy (2016)

2019 - \$500,000 (Transportation Improvement Board Grant)

- Installation of sidewalk on the south side of Swan Avenue from McGuiness Park to Campbell Lane (tie into sidewalk installed as part of Garfield Safe Routes To Schools (SRTS) project).
- Installation of sidewalk on Race Street between 8th Street and Naches Avenue (tie into sidewalk installed as part of Adams/Washington SRTS project).

Complete Streets Policy (2016)

(continued)

- Installation of sidewalk on the south side of Prash Avenue from 20th Avenue to 16th Avenue (tie into sidewalk installed as part of the McClure Elementary SRTS project).
- Installation of sidewalk on the south side of Viola from 10th Avenue to 4th Avenue (adjacent to Hoover Elementary).
- Installation of sidewalk on the west side of Powerhouse Road from Robertson Elementary to Englewood Avenue.

Safe Routes To School

Washington State Department of Transportation Program (Competitive Grants)



Goal: Increase the number of children walking and biking to school safely.

Focuses on how students kindergarten through 8th grade travel to and from school, and specific barriers to walking, biking or riding the school bus.



Completed Safe Routes To School Projects

- **Adams/Washington Elementary Schools (2018) - \$380,000**

1. Installed sidewalk, ADA ramps and crosswalks at various locations around each of the schools.
2. Relocated the school flashers to cover a larger area.

- **West Valley Middle School Vicinity Improvements (2016) - \$600,000**

1. Installed sidewalk on the south side of Zier Road from 72nd Avenue to 75th Avenue.
2. Installed a traffic signal at the intersection of 72nd Avenue and Mead Avenue.



Current Safe Routes To School Projects



Garfield Elementary - \$200,000

1. Installation of sidewalk and ADA ramps along east side of Campbell Lane from Jerome Avenue to Willow Street.
2. Installation of curb, sidewalk, gutter, ADA ramps and stormwater treatment system on the west side of 6th Avenue from Jerome Avenue to Willow Street.
3. Improving roadway crossing and installing flashers.
4. Converting Jerome Avenue (east) and Fairbank Avenue (west) to "one-way" streets.

McClure Elementary - \$300,000

1. Replacing and constructing new sidewalk and ADA ramps.
2. Constructing sidewalk and ADA ramps on Lia Avenue between Karr Avenue and 24th Avenue.
3. Improving roadway crossing and installing flashers.



Safe Routes To School Applications 2019-21

The following 2019-2021 Safe Route To School applications were unsuccessful
(competitive grant process)

- **McKinley Elementary School Vicinity Safety Improvements - \$500,000**

1. Install a high-intensity activated cross walk (HAWK) pedestrian crossing signal at the intersection of Tieton Drive and 13th Avenue.
2. Replace damaged sections of sidewalk on MacLaren Street, 12th Avenue and 13th Avenue.
3. Install ADA ramps and crosswalks at various intersections.
4. Install a bike rack at the school.

- **Apple Valley Elementary School 88th Avenue Sidewalk Project - \$500,000**

1. Install sidewalk, curb, and gutter on the east side of 88th Avenue between Tieton Drive and Summitview Avenue.
2. Install ADA ramps at various intersections.
3. Install raised crosswalks across 88th Avenue. north of Chestnut Avenue. and north of Barge Street.
4. Install a bike rack at the school.

The estimated total cost of this project is \$800,000. Safe Routes to Schools grant application was for \$500,000. This project is on the approved TBD list (\$300,000).

Comprehensive Plan

Determine safety needs of each Elementary School

Steps:

- Fill vacant positions
 1. City Engineer (in process)
 2. Traffic Engineering Supervisor
- Evaluate sidewalk needs near each school; installation/repair.
- Evaluate street lighting along designated school routes.
- Conduct traffic studies; evaluate vehicle counts, speeds, traffic-calming needs, congestion issues, clear-view issues, marked pedestrian crossings, etc.
- Work closely with Yakima School District to identify specific issues; data to support and enhance City's SRTS grant application process.



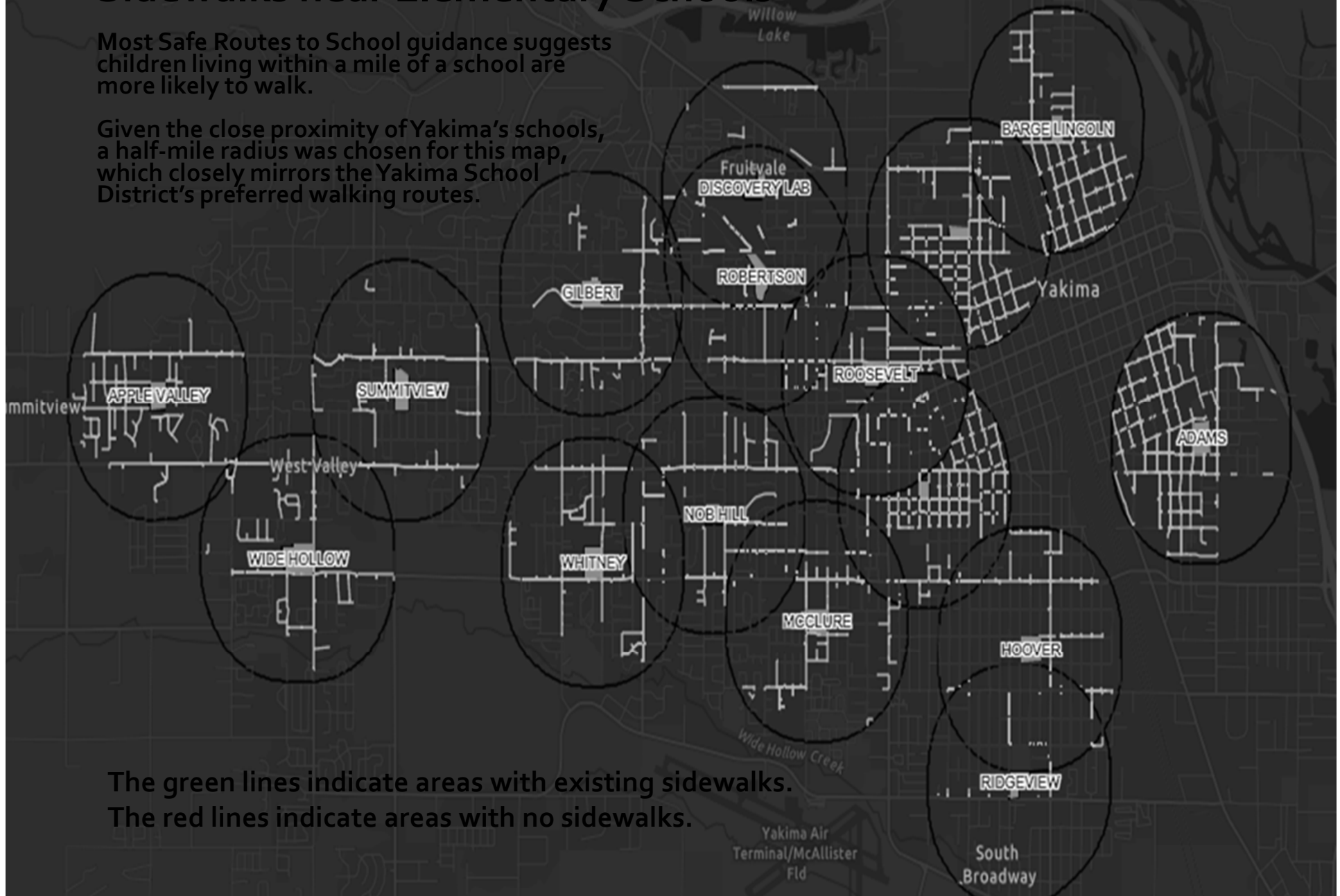
Goals:

- Safety needs for each school are identified and prioritized.
- Begin addressing safety needs independently of SRTS grants.
- Projects are "shovel ready," available for funding.

Sidewalks near Elementary Schools

Most Safe Routes to School guidance suggests children living within a mile of a school are more likely to walk.

Given the close proximity of Yakima's schools, a half-mile radius was chosen for this map, which closely mirrors the Yakima School District's preferred walking routes.



School	Estimated Cost
Adams	\$ 3,412,500
Barge Lincoln	\$ 3,609,850
Garfield	\$ 2,720,426
Ridgeview	\$ 6,644,333
Hoover	\$ 5,907,226
McKinley	\$ 3,479,043
McClure	\$ 8,637,800
Nob Hill	\$ 7,665,072
Roosevelt	\$ 3,158,457
Robertson	\$ 9,792,041
Discovery Lab	\$ 4,368,507
Gilbert	\$ 6,058,162
Summitview	\$ 6,108,026
Wide Hollow	\$ 3,488,178
Apple Valley	\$ 2,595,434
Whitney	\$ 3,741,153
Total: \$ 81,386,207	

Estimated cost to install missing sidewalks within half-mile radius of elementary schools



City Council Requests of the Yakima School District

(Presented at the May 16, 2019 joint City/YSD meeting)

The City has requested the following data and information from the Yakima School District (YSD) in order to be as thorough as possible in addressing areas of concern and better define the scope of work required of each project:

- The percentage and number of students for mode of transportation to and from school for each of the elementary schools. This data is collected for each grant application, but it would be helpful in further prioritizing projects.
- The percentage and number of students bused from other school areas to each school. For example, we know Gilbert Elementary has many students that actually live in the Adams or Garfield school areas, but get bused to Gilbert because they have capacity.

City Council Requests of the Yakima School District

(Continued)

- Map of each bus route. The City has the list of major stops from the school district web site, but would like to illustrate the actual routes.
- Updated data on recommended school routes, including crossing guard locations. The last data the City has is from 2011.
- Does YSD have a “Walking School Bus Program”? If not, are there plans to develop such a program? What other educational and encouragement materials does YSD utilize to encourage walking and biking to reduce individual family vehicles delivering students to each elementary school?



Priority Projects (2020 Safe Routes To School Application)

Selected by YSD based on need:

- **Robertson Elementary** – Englewood Avenue both to the east and west of Powerhouse Road are heavily utilized by students. This is extremely dangerous as there is no curb or gutter to separate the roadway from the shoulder. The same occurs along Powerhouse Road. south of Englewood Avenue. Approximately \$500,000
- **Hoover Elementary** – No sidewalks at Hoover Elementary. Observations indicate students are heading in all four directions. Will need to determine where students live in order to determine the highest use locations for sidewalk installation. Approximately \$350,000
- **Nob Hill Elementary** – The School District is concerned with the lack of sidewalk along 32nd Avenue near Nob Hill Elementary and the speed of traffic. Approximately \$400,000



Questions?

