

Informational Memorandum

Date: February 10, 2020

To: Honorable Mayor, Members of City Council, and Interim City Manager

From: Scott Schafer, Public Works Director

Subject: The Number of Students Walking to the Elementary Schools

City Council requested a follow up from staff on the “number of students walking to each of the elementary schools.” This information has been generated over the years as part of the application process when applying for Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) grants.

As reported in October by staff to the City Council, data submitted all of the elementary schools combined from the Yakima School District (YSD) indicated approximately 25% of the students utilized buses to get to and from the elementary schools; leaving 75% of the students either walking or taking private vehicles. Observations also indicate that a majority use private vehicles.

Attached is an example of a “Safe Routes to School Students Arrival and Departure Tally Sheet” used at Garfield Elementary by parents and School District staff as part of a recent grant application. The objective is to capture as much information as possible regarding the various modes of transportation taken by the students. Garfield Elementary has a high number of students that walk to school.

The “number” of students walking is important but is not as significant as to “where” the students are walking to and from school. Staff is coordinating its efforts with the YSD to further analyze the data to assist in prioritizing projects.

Staff recently completed the task of identifying the main “walking routes” to each elementary school with both YSD and the West Valley School District (WVSD). In addition, staff identified one street “east to west” and one street “north to south” at each elementary school while assessing for any lack of sidewalks along those specific routes. This yielded a tangible approach with the estimated cost for all of the elementary schools combined at approximately \$5 million.

It should be noted that not only was the Transportation Benefit Districts (TBD) (car tab fees) effectively eliminated with the recent passage of I-976, but also the ability for municipalities to apply for SRTS grants. TBD funds were a major funding source for the State’s SRTS program. Currently, no applications are being accepted by the State for the next SRTS grant cycle.

In the meanwhile, staff will continue to work collaboratively with YSD and WVSD in trying to quantify the number of students actually walking to and from each elementary school instead of waiting for a grant application for that particular school. This is vital information that the school districts must provide in order to prioritize projects.

Safe Routes to School Students Arrival and Departure Tally Sheet

+ CAPITAL LETTERS ONLY – BLUE OR BLACK INK ONLY +

School Name: Garfield Teacher's First Name: Lorita Teacher's Last Name: Stohr

Grade: (PK,K,1,2,3...) K Monday's Date (Week count was conducted) 04 23 2014 Number of Students Enrolled in Class: 24
 0 2 M M D D Y Y Y Y 1 5

- Please conduct these counts on two of the following three days Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday. (Three days would provide better data if counted)
- Please do not conduct these counts on Mondays or Fridays.
- Before asking your students to raise their hands, please read through all possible answer choices so they will know their choices. Each Student may only answer once.
- Ask your students as a group the question "How did you arrive at school today?"
- Then, reread each answer choice and record the number of students that raised their hands for each. Place just one character or number in each box.
- Follow the same procedure for the question "How do you plan to leave for home after school?"
- You can conduct the counts once per day but during the count please ask students both the school arrival and departure questions.
- Please conduct this count regardless of weather conditions (i.e., ask these questions on rainy days, too).

Step 1.

Fill in the weather conditions and number of students in each class

Step 2.

AM – "How did you arrive at school today?" Record the number of hands for each answer.
 PM – "How do you plan to leave for home after school?" Record the number of hands for each answer.

Key	Weather	Student Tally	Walk	Bike	School Bus	Family Vehicle	Carpool	Transit	Other
	S= sunny R= rainy O=overcast SN=snow	Number in class when count made	-	-	-	Only with Children from your family	Riding with children from other families	City bus, subway, etc.	Skate-board, scooter, etc.
Sample AM	S N	2 0	2	3	8	3		3	1
Sample PM	R	1 9	3	3	8	1	2	2	
Tues. AM	S	1 9	1 2		2	4	1		
Tues. PM	S	1 9	1 2		2	4	1		
Wed. AM	S	2 1	1 4		2	4	1		
Wed. PM	S	2 1	1 4		2	4	1		
Thurs. AM	R	2 0	1 2		2	6			
Thurs. PM	R	2 0	1 2		2	6			

Please list any disruptions to these counts or any unusual travel conditions to/from the school on the days of the tally.

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Safe Routes to School Students Arrival and Departure Tally Sheet

+	CAPITAL LETTERS ONLY – BLUE OR BLACK INK ONLY	+
School Name: GARFIELD		
Teacher's First Name: LEAH		
Teacher's Last Name: MEISER		
Grade: (PK,K,1,2,3...) K		
Monday's Date (Week count was conducted) 04 22 2014		
Number of Students Enrolled in Class: 24		
0	2	1 5

- Please conduct these counts **on two of the following three days Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday.** (Three days would provide better data if counted)
- Please do not conduct these counts on Mondays or Fridays.
- Before asking your students to raise their hands, please read through all possible answer choices so they will know their choices. Each Student may only answer once.
- Ask your students as a group the question **"How did you arrive at school today?"**
- Then, reread each answer choice and record the number of students that raised their hands for each. **Place just one character or number in each box.**
- Follow the same procedure for the question **"How do you plan to leave for home after school?"**
- You can conduct the counts once per day but during the count please ask students both the school arrival and departure questions.
- Please conduct this count regardless of weather conditions (i.e., ask these questions on rainy days, too).

Step 1.

Fill in the weather conditions and number of students in each class

Step 2.

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Key	Weather	Student Tally	Walk	Bike	School Bus	Family Vehicle	Carpool	Transit	Other
	S= sunny R= rainy O=overcast SN=snow	Number in class when count made	-	-	-	Only with Children from your family	Riding with children from other families	City bus, subway, etc.	Skate-board, scooter, etc.
Sample AM	S N	2 0	2	3	8	3		3	1
Sample PM	R	1 9	3	3	8	1	2	2	
Tues. AM			10		3	10			
Tues. PM			9		3	11			
Wed. AM			10		3	11			
Wed. PM			8		4	12			
Thurs. AM			12		3	9			
Thurs. PM			04		4	11			

Please list any disruptions to these counts or any unusual travel conditions to/from the school on the days of the tally.

Daisy Valenzuela absent on Tuesday.

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Safe Routes to School Students Arrival and Departure Tally Sheet

+	CAPITAL LETTERS ONLY – BLUE OR BLACK INK ONLY	+
School Name: Garfield Elementary Teacher's First Name: Angelina Teacher's Last Name: Romero		
Grade: (PK,K,1,2,3...) 04 Monday's Date (Week count was conducted) 04 21 2014 Number of Students Enrolled in Class: 24		
0 2	M M D D Y Y Y Y	1 5

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Key	Weather	Student Tally	Walk	Bike	School Bus	Family Vehicle	Carpool	Transit	Other
	S= sunny R= rainy O=overcast SN=snow	Number in class when count made	-	-	-	Only with Children from your family	Riding with children from other families	City bus, subway, etc.	Skate-board, scooter, etc.
Sample AM	S N	20	2	3	8	3		3	1
Sample PM	R	19	3	3	8	1	2	2	
Tues. AM			13	00	00	10	00	00	00
Tues. PM			11	00	00	11	01	00	00
Wed. AM			14	00	00	06	00	00	00
Wed. PM			14	00	00	06	00	00	00
Thurs. AM			17	00	00	11	00	00	00
Thurs. PM			10	00	20	12	00	00	00

Please list any disruptions to these counts or any unusual travel conditions to/from the school on the days of the tally.

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Safe Routes to School Students Arrival and Departure Tally Sheet

+ CAPITAL LETTERS ONLY – BLUE OR BLACK INK ONLY +

School Name: **GARFIELD ELEM.** Teacher's First Name: **KARI** Teacher's Last Name: **BRANDENBURG**

Grade: (PK,K,1,2,3...) **OK** Monday's Date (Week count was conducted) **04 21 2014** Number of Students Enrolled in Class: **24**
 0 2 M M D D Y Y Y Y 1 5

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Key	Weather S= sunny R= rainy O=overcast SN=snow	Student Tally Number in class when count made	Walk	Bike	School Bus	Family Vehicle Only with Children from your family	Carpool Riding with children from other families	Transit City bus, subway, etc.	Other Skate-board, scooter, etc.
Sample AM	S N	2 0	2	3	8	3		3	1
Sample PM	R	1 9	3	3	8	1	2	2	
Tues. AM	S	24	05	00	03	16	00	00	00
Tues. PM	S	24	09	00	03	12	00	00	00
Wed. AM	S	24	05	00	03	16	00	00	00
Wed. PM	O	24	09	00	03	17	00	00	00
Thurs. AM	R	23	04	00	02	17	00	00	00
Thurs. PM	R	23	08	00	02	13	02	00	00

Please list any disruptions to these counts or any unusual travel conditions to/from the school on the days of the tally.

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Safe Routes to School Students Arrival and Departure Tally Sheet

+ CAPITAL LETTERS ONLY – BLUE OR BLACK INK ONLY +

School Name:

Garfield

Teacher's First Name:

Dellia

Teacher's Last Name:

Ramirez

Grade: (PK,K,1,2,3...)

01

0 2

Monday's Date (Week count was conducted)

04

M M

21

D D

2014

Y Y Y Y

Number of Students Enrolled in Class:

25

1 5

- Please conduct these counts on two of the following three days Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday. (Three days would provide better data if counted)
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Sample AM	S N	2 0	2	3	8	3		3	1
Sample PM	R	1 9	3	3	8	1	2	2	
Tues. AM	O	24	07	0	2	12	0	0	0
Tues. PM	S	24	7	0	2	12	0	0	0
Wed. AM	S	25	7	0	3	14	0	0	0
Wed. PM	S	25	13	0	4	8	0	0	0
Thurs. AM	R	23	7	0	2	14	0	0	0
Thurs. PM	S	23	7	0	2	14	0	0	0

Please list any disruptions to these counts or any unusual travel conditions to/from the school on the days of the tally.

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Safe Routes to School Students Arrival and Departure Tally Sheet

+ CAPITAL LETTERS ONLY – BLUE OR BLACK INK ONLY +

School Name: G A R E T T Teacher's First Name: M A R I A Teacher's Last Name: G U T I E R R E Z

Grade: (PK,K,1,2,3...) 0 1 Monday's Date (Week count was conducted): M M D D Y Y Y Y Number of Students Enrolled in Class: 2 4
0 2 M M D D Y Y Y Y 1 5

- Please conduct these counts on two of the following three days Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday. (Three days would provide better data if counted)
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Sample PM	R	1 9	3	3	8	1	2	2	
Tues. AM									
Tues. PM									
Wed. AM									
Wed. PM									
Thurs. AM									
Thurs. PM									

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