



# 2022 Report

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## **Champaign-Urbana Safe Routes to School Project (C-U SRTS)**

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City of Urbana - Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission

Tuesday, January 17, 2023 - 7:00 PM CST



# AGENDA

## What is Walk n' Roll to School Day?

### 2022 USD #116 Events Highlights

- Dr. Williams
- Leal
- King
- Yankee Ridge

### Key Data Collection Resources

- Safe Walking Route Map
- Walkability Checklist Questionnaire
- Online Parent Attitude Survey

### Survey Results

### Proposed Recommendations

## **What is Walk n' Roll to School Day?**

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An international event that encourages students to make healthier choices for themselves by choosing to walk and bike to school

The C-U SRTS Project hosted our local event on Wednesday, October 12th, 2022 in partnership with Urbana School District #116

A total of six elementary schools across Urbana participated

The events were accompanied by U of I student athletes, public officials and other community volunteers

Urbana Mayor Diane Marlin signed a proclamation declaring Walk n' Roll to School Day in the City of Urbana





**Dr. Williams**





Leal







King





## Yankee Ridge



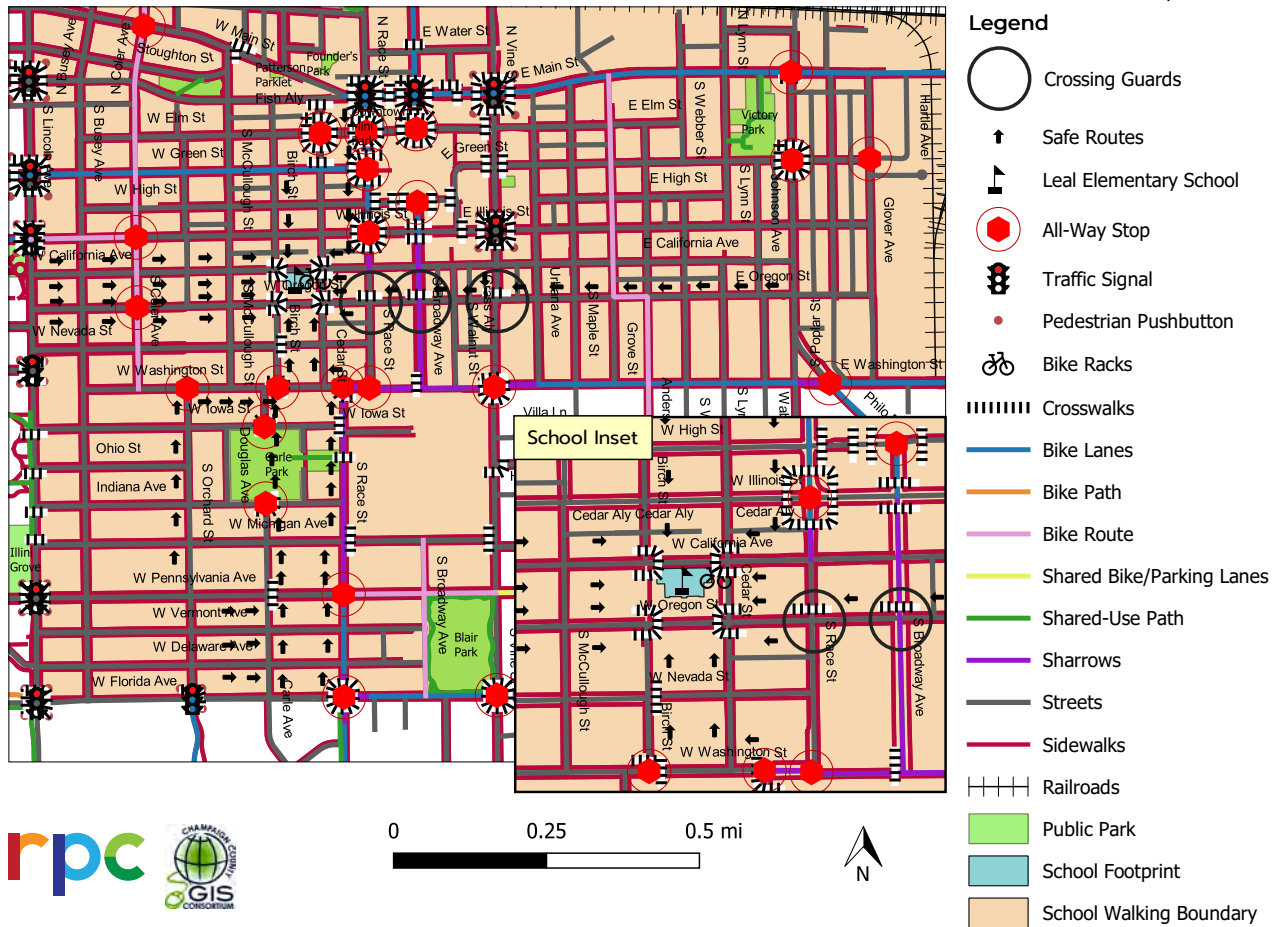
# Safe Walking Route Map

# Safe Walking Route Maps 2021

# Leal School

312 West Oregon Street

Urbana, IL 61801





Take a walk and use this checklist to rate your neighborhood's walkability.

# How walkable is your community?

Location of walk \_\_\_\_\_

Rating Scale: 

## Walkability Checklist

### 1. Did you have room to walk?

Yes      Some problems:  
Sidewalks or paths started and stopped  
Sidewalks were broken or cracked  
Sidewalks were blocked with poles, signs, shrubbery, dumpsters, etc.  
No sidewalks, paths, or shoulders  
Too much traffic  
Something else \_\_\_\_\_  
Locations of problems: \_\_\_\_\_

Rating: (circle one)  
1 2 3 4 5 6 \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Was it easy to cross streets?

Yes      Some problems:  
Road was too wide  
Traffic signals made us wait too long or did not give us enough time to cross  
Needed striped crosswalks or traffic signals  
Parked cars blocked our view of traffic  
Trees or plants blocked our view of traffic  
Needed curb ramps or ramps needed repair  
Something else \_\_\_\_\_  
Locations of problems: \_\_\_\_\_

Rating: (circle one)  
1 2 3 4 5 6 \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Did drivers behave well?

Yes      Some problems: Drivers...  
Backed out of driveways without looking  
Did not yield to people crossing the street  
Turned into people crossing the street  
Drove too fast  
Sped up to make it through traffic lights or drove through traffic lights?  
Something else \_\_\_\_\_  
Locations of problems: \_\_\_\_\_

Rating: (circle one)  
1 2 3 4 5 6 \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. Was it easy to follow safety rules?

#### Could you and your child...

|     |    |  |
|-----|----|--|
| Yes | No | Cross at crosswalks or where you could see and be seen by drivers?           |
| Yes | No | Stop and look left, right and then left again before crossing streets?       |
| Yes | No | Walk on sidewalks or shoulders facing traffic where there were no sidewalks? |
| Yes | No | Cross with the light?  |

Rating: (circle one)  
1 2 3 4 5 6 \_\_\_\_\_

### 5. Was your walk pleasant?

Yes      Some unpleasant things:  
Needed more grass, flowers, or trees  
Scary dogs  
Scary people  
Not well lighted  
Dirty, lots of litter or trash  
Dirty air due to automobile exhaust  
Something else \_\_\_\_\_  
Locations of problems: \_\_\_\_\_

Rating: (circle one)  
1 2 3 4 5 6 \_\_\_\_\_

### How does your neighborhood stack up? Add up your ratings and decide.

- |                    |              |   |
|--------------------|--------------|---|
| 1. _____           | <b>26-30</b> | Celebrate! You have a great neighborhood for walking. |
| 2. _____           |              |   |
| 3. _____           | <b>21-25</b> | Celebrate a little. Your neighborhood is pretty good. |
| 4. _____           |              |   |
| 5. _____           | <b>16-20</b> | Okay, but it needs work.                              |
|                    | <b>11-15</b> | It needs lots of work. You deserve better than that.  |
| <b>Total</b> _____ | <b>5-10</b>  | It's a disaster for walking!                          |

Now that you've identified the problems,  
go to the next page to find out how to fix them.

# Walkability Checklist Highlights

We only recieved three surveys total, all from Yankee Ridge

Each survey had high scoring regarding overall walkability of their neighborhood

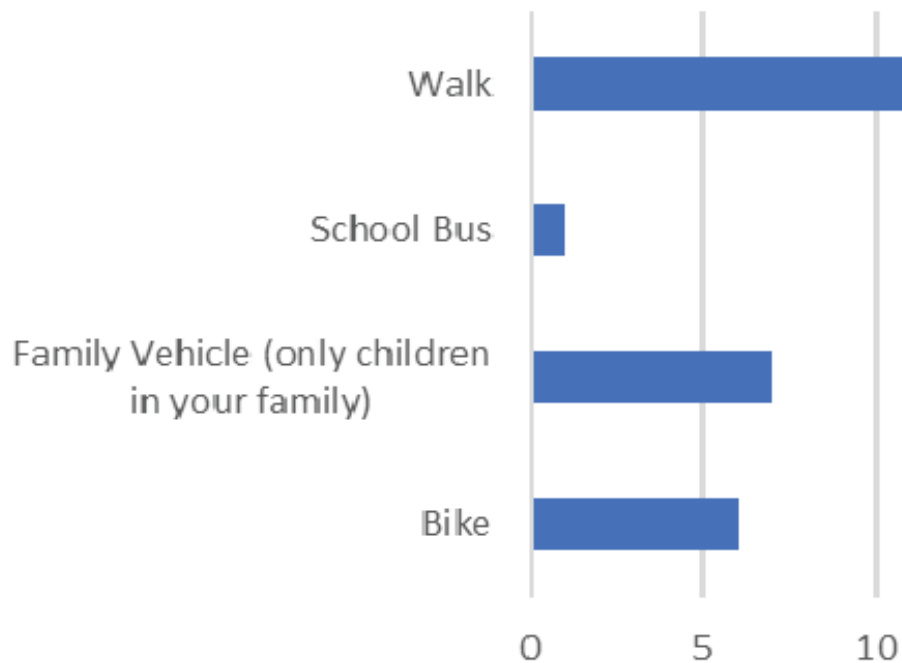
Concerns that were noted:

- **Parked cars blocking view of traffic at Mumford & Cottage Grove**
- **No sidewalks, paths, shoulders, or light near Liberty Commons**

# Online Parent Attitude Survey Results

**\*Only Leal parents submitted surveys\***

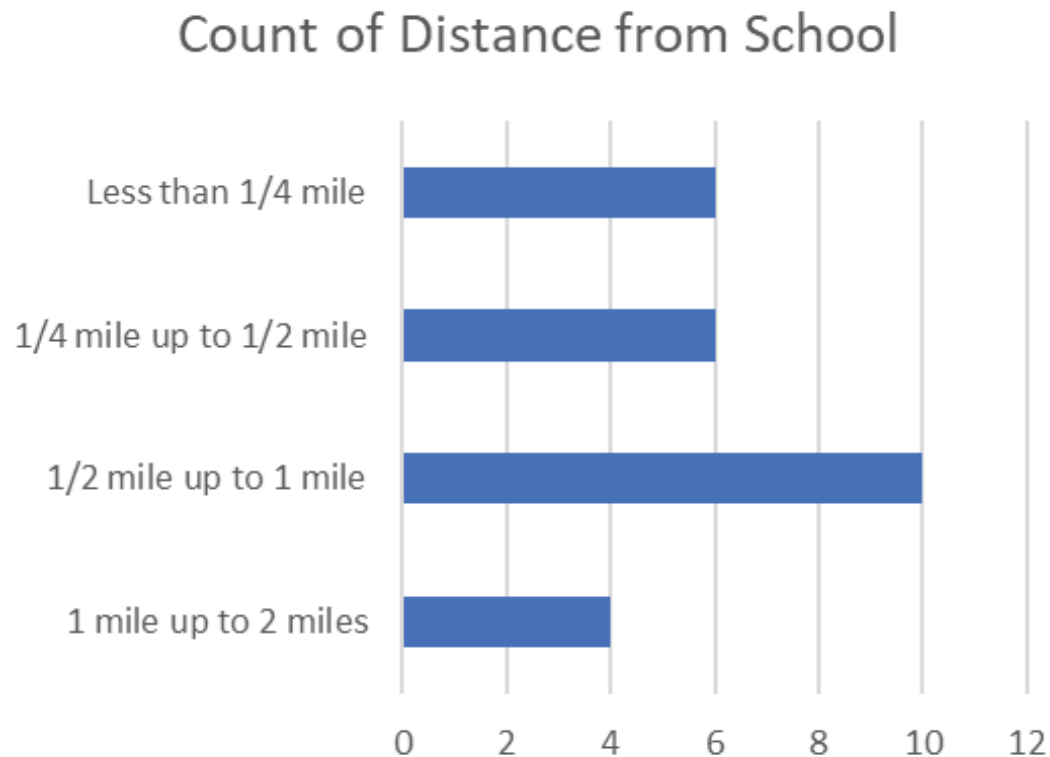
## Count of How Child Gets to School





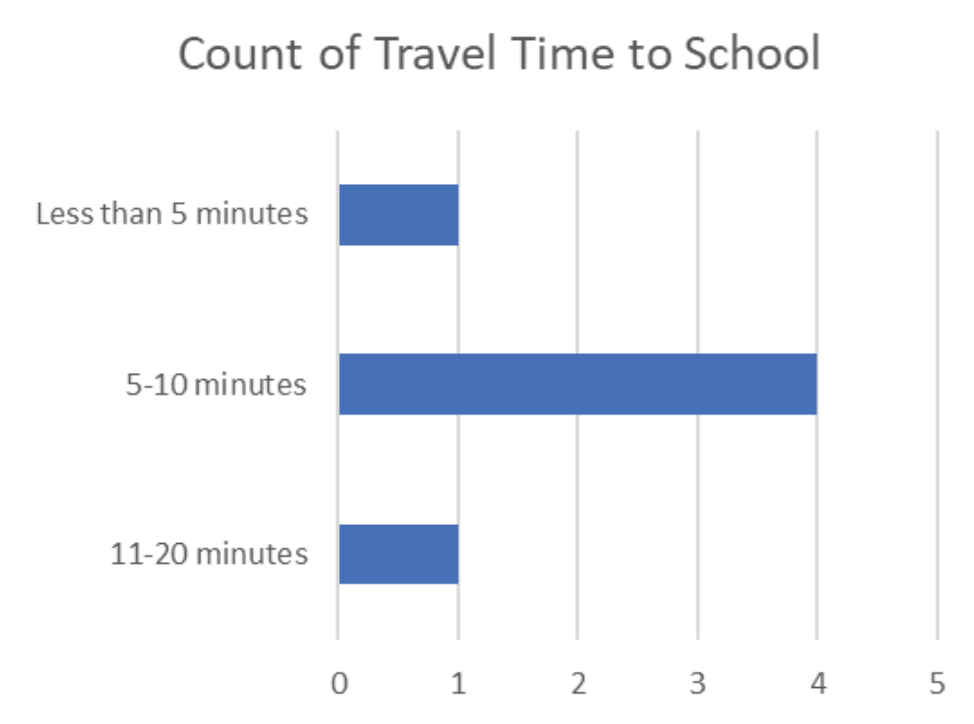
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"I have a younger child, and it has been very **difficult to push a stroller along the sidewalk on Oregon St.** Also, **I don't feel safe biking on the street with my kids on the route to school**"

"**Living about half a mile away from school has been really great**, and allows for us to walk or bike. It's faster than getting in and out of the car."

"**We regularly see cars speeding or rolling through stop signs which makes it unsafe to send our child unattended.** We also need to drop our child off for before care on our way to work so we need our cars with us. After school pick up is not facilitated by school staff which makes us concerned that our child wouldn't know when to cross the street when so many cars are present."

"My 3rd grader and Kindergartener together walk to school by themselves."

"**Establish routes to school where it is not necessary to traverse on main roads and to create meeting points for children who walk or bike to school**, such as a meeting point at Carle Park and avoid the high school traffic."  
(translated from Spanish)



# Proposed Recommendations

## **Fix infrastructure within a half-mile radius of schools**

- Prioritize sidewalks
- Develop traffic calming on streets
- Construct traffic circles at identified intersections

## **Address speeding problems that have a continuing pattern:**

- “There are many children now crossing in front of speeding traffic at Birch and Illinois to get to Leal” (October 2019)
- “Illinois Street does not have a stop sign at the intersection of Illinois and Birch and drivers drive way too fast down Illinois Street for me to feel comfortable” (October 2021)
- “We regularly see cars speeding or rolling through stop signs which makes it unsafe to send our child unattended” (November 2022)

## **The City of Urbana and Urbana School District #116 should seek funding for a community Safe Routes to School Plan**

- The Village of Rantoul and Rantoul City Schools District #137 teamed up with RPC to develop SRTS Plans for each elementary school in 2020