# Active and Safe Routes to School

**Arbutus Global Middle** is participating in the District of Saanich's Active and Safe Routes to School 2018-19 program. The program is designed to encourage and enable more students and their families to walk, bike or roll for the trip to/from school all or part of the way.

#### Where are we now?

Introduction

September 2018

**Data Collection** 

Oct - Dec 2018

Infrastructure, mapping and events Jan - May 2019

Wrap Up

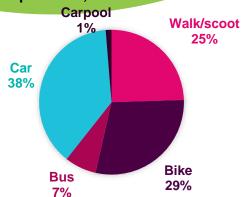
June 2019

#### **Data Collection**

An on-line school travel survey was distributed to parents between October 15-26, 2018. From Arbutus Middle, 155 families completed the survey representing approximately 38% of the school's population.

# 90% of parents would prefer their child to use active transportation to travel to and from school

Of the survey respondents, Arbutus Global students usually get to school by...



For the trip home, only 20% of students are picked up in a car, and as a consequence there is an increase mode share of walking and bussing.

# The main reasons Arbutus students are being driven to school:

- Convenience/Time pressures
- Traffic safety concerns
- Distance from home is too far

# Parents would encourage their eldest child to walk or bike to school if...

- Continuous sidewalk/trails and bike routes
- Additional marked crossings
- Lower vehicle volumes/speeds



Additional data was collected at a **Neighbourhood Walkabout** held on Wednesday, November 16 at 7:30-9:30am. Arbutus Global parents, school and municipal staff, and BC Transit identified concerns and discussed potential improvements.

#### **Action Plan**

Based on consultation, concerns were reviewed and potential solutions identified.

#### Key concerns:

- Edgelow St and Dawnview Cres
  - No marked crosswalk at this popular intersection
- Edgelow St and Finnerty Rd
  - Busy intersection, cars not stopping at crosswalk
- Gordon Head Rd and Feltham
  - Busy intersection with one crosswalk and no flashing beacons
- Gordon Head Rd and Edgelow
  - Busy intersection with one crosswalk and many turning movements
- Lexington St and pathway
  - Busy local street with low visibility of pathway and students

We worked with District of Saanich staff to review each location and identify next steps and timeline for work to be completed. Does the DRAFT Action Plan respond to these concerns?

#### **Best Routes to School**

Routes were developed based on information from parents, your school community and the municipality's engineering department. The routes use the current infrastructure available and the safest crossings.

Does the DRAFT Best Routes map capture the best routes?

#### **Programming**

Frank Hobbs would like to jointly hold an after school bike maintenance/tune-up event with Arbutus. Is your school interested in this, Bike to School Week, Think of Me, Drive to 5, movie/fundraiser or other activities?

#### Cadboro Bay Local Area Plan

You are invited to participate in the Local Area Plan, which will guide growth and future development. Visit the Saanich.ca website for more information.

#### **Next steps**

- Finalize School Travel Plan (including Action Plan) and Best Route Map
- Program wrap-up

#### For more information:

Kate Berniaz Lead, Active and Safe Routes to School kberniaz@crd.bc.ca 250-360-3240





## DRAFT Arbutus Global Action Plan

### Engineering – Responsibility of District of Saanich unless otherwise noted

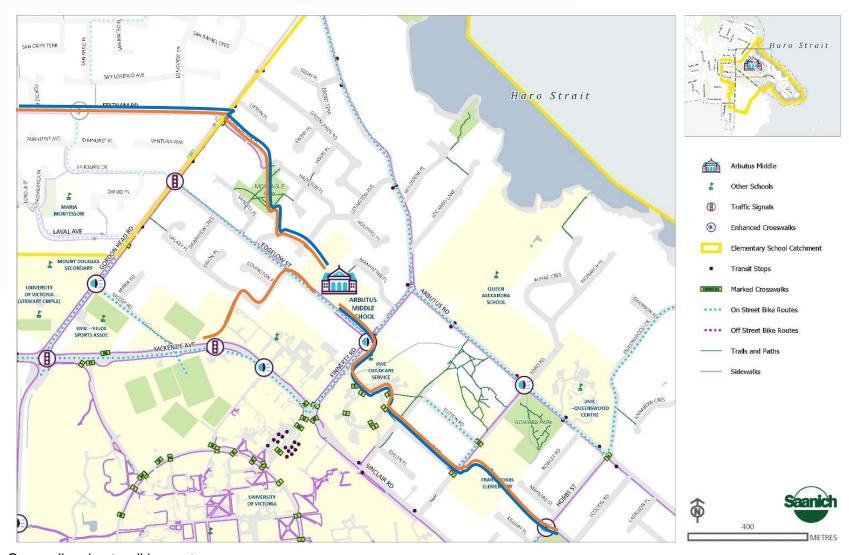
Location	Consultation Feedback	Recommended Action	Details	Timeline
Edgelow St and Dawnview	No marked crosswalk at busy multi-modal Restrict parking at the intersection Improve per visibility		Improve pedestrian visibility	Spring 2019
Cres	intersection; low visibility of students	Install crosswalk	Consider enhancements such as raised crosswalk, curb bulges and/or beacons	2019
Dawnview Cres pathway to UVic	Busy paved path is narrow; muddy entrance from Dawnview; UVic direct connection to McKenzie Ave is an informal dirt path	Request vegetation maintenance by owner	Improved pedestrian visibility entering Dawnview Cres; Bylaw enforcement issue	Fall 2018
		Widen entrance of path at the road	Respond to desire lines where people are walking over the grass and creating mud	Align with UVic Work
		Pave multi-use path on UVic grounds to connect to McKenzie Ave	Responsibility of University of Victoria. Identified in the 2018 Campus Cycling Plan	Short term (1-3 years)
Edgelow St and Finnerty Rd	Busy multi-modal intersection; drivers not stopping at crosswalk	Move crosswalk to north side of intersection; install raised intersection	Part of the Finnerty Rd infrastructure upgrade project to increase safety and comfort of people walking and biking	2019
Path to Lexington Ave	Low visibility of students exiting the pathway	Request vegetation maintenance by owner	Increase visibility between the trail and the road	Complete
	Cars stopping at pathway entrance to drop off students	Evaluate installation of wider landing pad/signage/flexi posts at trail	Restrict parking and increase visibility between the trail and the road	2019
Lexington Ave	Busy local street with conflicts between students walking/biking and being dropped off; concern of speed and volume of vehicles	Reduce vehicle traffic speed	Advisory 20 km/hr signs currently in place; assess visibility of signs; monitor changes from improving the entrance to the path	2021

Location	Consultation Feedback	Recommended Action	Details	Timeline
Edgelow St	Congestion during pick- up and drop off in front of the school	Programming and education	Encourage active transportation and Drive to 5; Communication to parents	Ongoing
	Lack of bike lanes	Installation of bike facilities	Part of the Long-term Bicycle Network Priorities (All Ages and Abilities Spine)	TBD
Gordon Head Rd and Edgelow St	Lack of crosswalk crossing one side of	Remove vegetation and restrict parking	Improve sightlines and visibility of pedestrians	2019
	Gordon Head Rd; conflict between pedestrians and high volume of turning vehicles; drivers entering	Make the signal cycle automatically during peak hours (7:30-8:30 am, 2:30-3:30pm)	Improve level of service for pedestrians and cyclists. Reduce long queues of vehicles exiting the school.	2019
	the bike lane	Consider installing bike buttons	Improve crossing for cyclists	TBD
Gordon Head Rd and Feltham Rd	Lack of crosswalk crossing one side of Gordon Head Rd; high vehicle volumes and speed; no flashing beacons, low visibility of students	Install pedestrian controlled flashing lights	Improve visibility of pedestrian	2020
	Drivers entering the bike lane	Install delineators (plastic posts) on bike lanes near intersection	Discourage vehicles turning into the bike lane	TBD
	High volume of turning vehicles conflict with pedestrians	Re-configure intersection with sidewalk connections	Connect to sidewalk planned for Gordon Head and Feltham	TBD (long term)
Connection to Frank Hobbs Elementary	Request for improved walking and biking connection	Enhance the family friendly route	Ongoing discussion with partners	TBD
School bike racks	Bike racks are at capacity in good weather; interest in covered bike rack	Expand bike parking and install covered bike racks	Responsibility of Arbutus Global/School District 61; District-wide program to provide covered bike racks	As funding is available

## **Education and Encouragement**

Activity	Details	Timeline	Comments
Bike skills course – Grade 7	Delivered by Bike to Work Society with 2019 funding from CRD/CRD Traffic Safety Commission/Arbutus Global	Spring 2019	To prepare students for the annual multi-day bike trip
Grade 7 bike trip	Annual multi-day bike trip led by Aaron Maxwell, Vice Principal, to Sooke	May 2019	
Bike maintenance workshop	After school bike maintenance workshop with Frank Hobbs grade 5 students	Spring 2019	To be determined based on discussions between schools and PACs
School zone enforcement	Request to Saanich Police for school zone enforcement	As resources allow	
Bike to School Week	Bike to Work Society program held in May	Annually	
Drive to 5	Potential locations at Lexington, Dawnview, and Graduation Dr.		CRD Toolkit and signs available
Walk and Wheel to School Week	CRD program held in October	Annually	

## DRAFT Best Routes Map



Orange line- best walking routes Blue line – best cycling routes