



CITY OF OAK CREEK  
**SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL**  
**ACTION PLAN**



**Carollton Elementary School**



**OAKCREEK**  
— WISCONSIN —

# SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL ACTION PLAN



## Carrollton Elementary School

### Why Safe Routes to School?

SafeRoutes to School (“SRTS”) is a set of programs and investments that make it safer, more convenient, inviting, and fun for children and their families to walk and bike to school.

SRTS initiatives contribute to our children’s social and academic success, and provide a foundation for life-long healthful habits.

### What’s included in this action plan?

This Safe Routes to School Action Plan is one of nine school-level SRTS plans prepared for the Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District. The plan includes an inventory and evaluation of **Existing Conditions** for walking and biking around the school, as well as **Recommendations** for both programming and infrastructure improvements.

**Programming Recommendations** include fun and engaging programs for students and families to increase walking and biking to school. Programs can be relatively easy and inexpensive to implement, and can produce significant results even in the near-term.

**Infrastructure Recommendations** include a range of physical improvements to a school and its surroundings to improve the safety, comfort, and convenience of walking and biking. This may include upgrading sidewalks or crossings, repairing facilities, filling network gaps, or adding paint, signage, and signals.

### The 6 Es of SRTS

Safe Routes to School planning is based on a framework known as the Six Es, which provides a way of thinking about and organizing improvements in and around a school. The 6Es include:



#### EDUCATION

Education programs and initiatives provide information to children, parents, and community member on safe walking and biking practices.



#### ENCOURAGEMENT

Encouragement programs inspire families to try walking or biking through fun and inviting activities such as friendly competitions and incentive programs.



#### ENGINEERING

Engineering includes upgrades to and upkeep of the physical landscape in and around the school such as sidewalks, bikeways, intersections and signs.



#### ENFORCEMENT

Enforcement programs often include participation from police with a focus on enforcing traffic safety laws, like speed limits, in the vicinity of a school.



#### EVALUATION

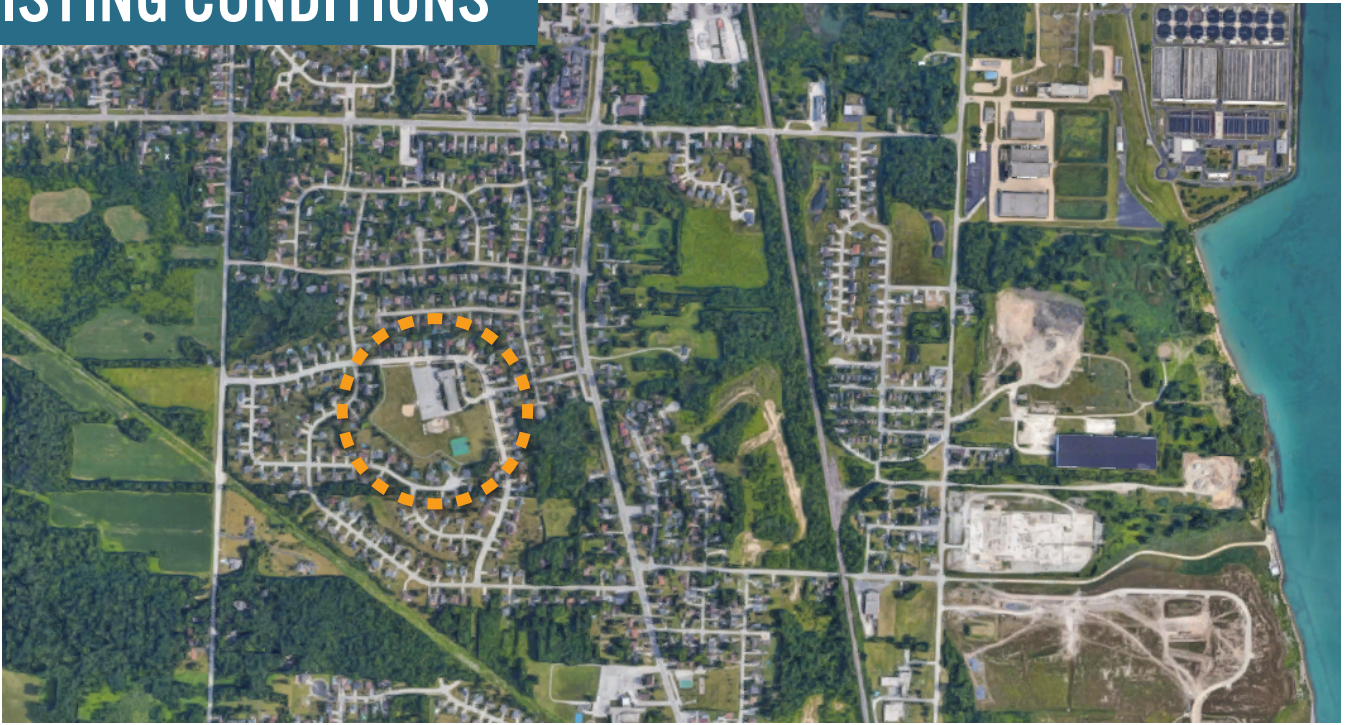
Evaluation measures conditions before, during, and after implementation, helping guide priorities and goals and ensuring efficient use of resources.



#### EQUITY

Equity focuses on distributing resources fairly throughout a community to ensure all students have equal access to high quality infrastructure and programming.

# EXISTING CONDITIONS



## CONTEXT

Carrollton Elementary is one of seven elementary schools, two middle schools, and one high school in the Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District. The District serves over 6,400 students residing in Oak Creek and in a portion of Franklin. The District's school campus facilities also provide access to recreational, cultural and social activities for the neighborhoods where they are located.

Carrollton Elementary School is bounded by East Carrollton Drive on the north and east sides, South Patricia Boulevard on the west and East Gracie Court on the south. The school campus is over one quarter-mile north of Saint Matthew Parish School and one quarter-mile southeast of Grace Lutheran School. South Chicago Road is located two blocks east of the school.

### Carrollton Elementary Quick Facts:



**Principal**  
Paul Kenwood



**Number of Students**  
417



**Health and Physical Education**  
Matt Bersch + David Knoernschild



**Arrival Time**  
8:00 a.m.



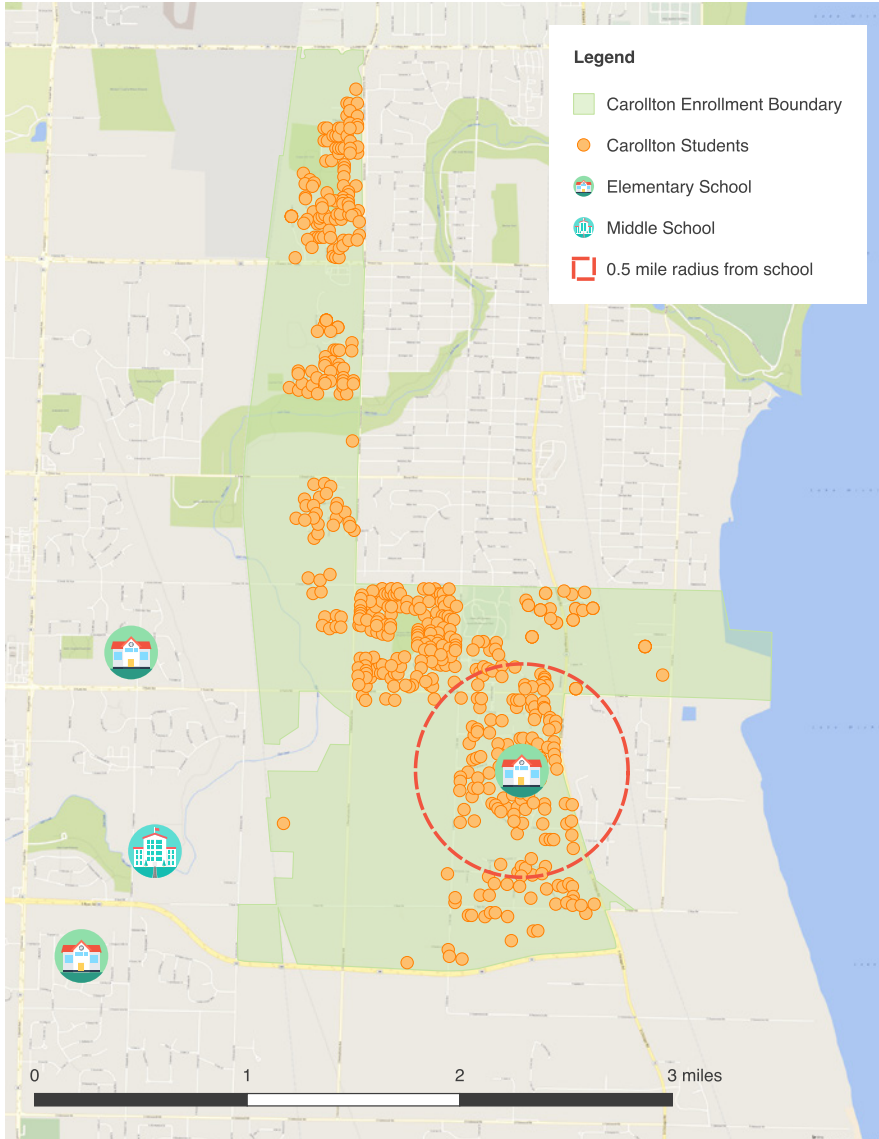
**Grades**  
PK-5



**Dismissal Time**  
3:05 p.m.

## ENROLLMENT DENSITY

Residential locations for enrolled students cluster throughout the northern and central portions of the Carrollton Elementary School attendance area. Approximately one-quarter of Carrollton students live within a half-mile of the school.



### WALKING/BIKING POTENTIAL:

Approximately **twenty-five percent** of all students live within a walkable or bikeable distance from school (that is, one half-mile), but only **five percent** of students walk or bike today.

*How might we grow this number?*



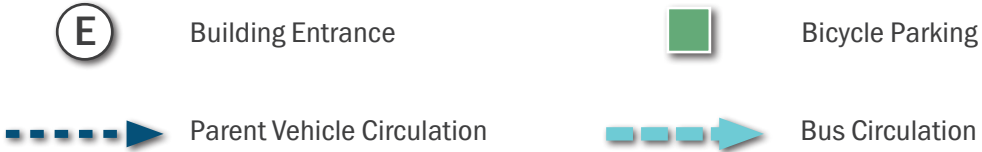
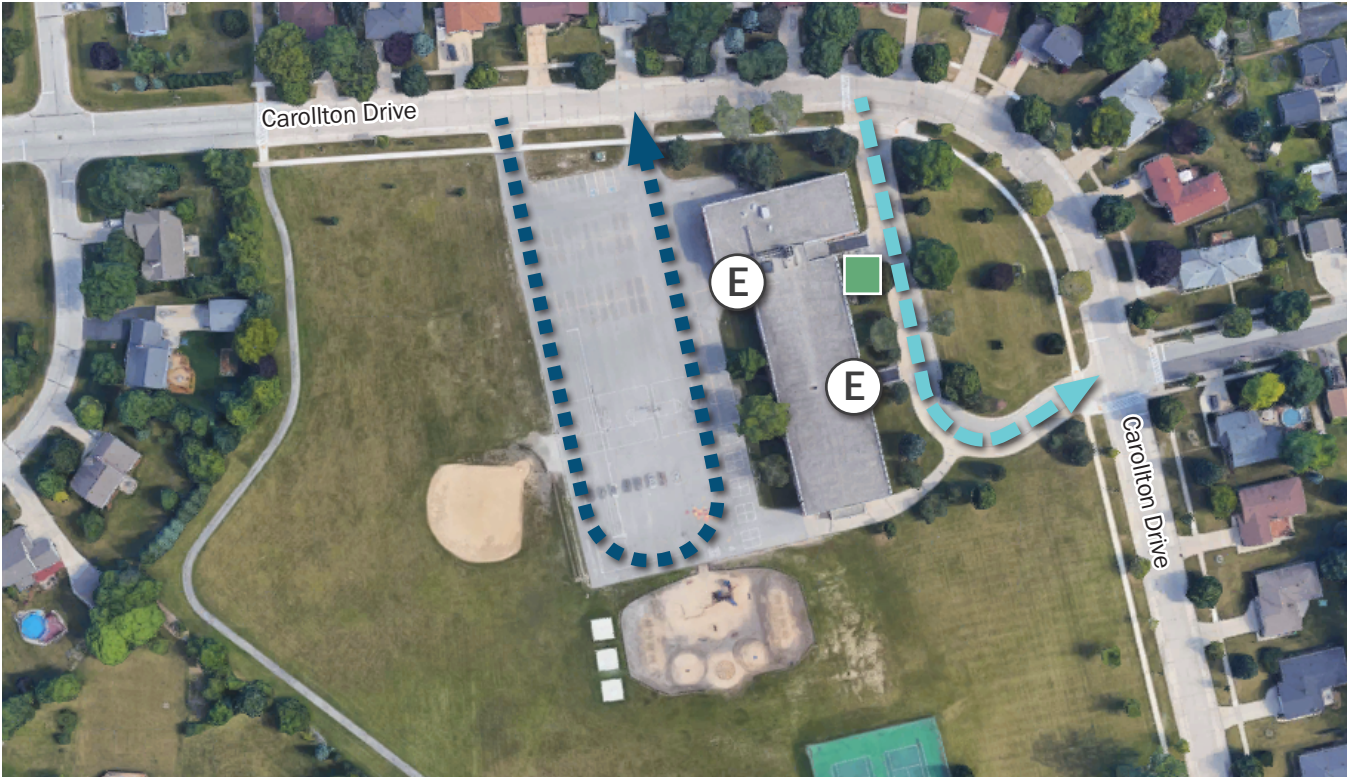
# ACCESS AND CIRCULATION

Several apartment buildings are located a half-mile to the north along South Chicago Road. Single family residential development is located along all sides of the campus. The closest library is about 3 miles from the school.

Carollton Elementary School’s main entrance is on the east side of the building, facing the bus loop. Students who arrive and leave by bus use this main entrance. Buses queue up along the loop prior to dismissal periods.

Parent pick-up and drop-off is located at the west entrance. Parents enter from Carollton Drive and queue up on the designated lane in the west parking lot before exiting through a different driveway back onto Carollton Drive. School staff supervise the drop-off procedure.

Bicycle parking is located at the main east entrance near the bus loop. Students who walk or bike are dismissed through the main east doors after the buses have departed.



## EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE



**Sidewalks** are present on both sides of Carrollton Drive adjacent to the school and terminate near the campus boundaries in the absence of residential sidewalks.



**High-visibility crosswalks and pedestrian crossing signs** along Carrollton Drive were recently added as a result of close coordination between the city and school district during the SRTS planning process.



**A paved path** surrounds the school and connects to Gracie Lane south of campus. This paved path also connects to Oak Creek Drive and Bonnie Drive to the north.



**School Speed Zone signs** are posted along Carrollton Drive indicating a limit of 15 mph when children are present.

# EXISTING PROGRAMMING

Crossings are supervised by staff at the main entrances. No other walk/bike related programs occur at the school, or information was not provided to the project team.

# OTHER DATA

## Student Travel Tallies

All twenty classrooms submitted walk and bike numbers during the week of November 15, 2016. From the hand tallies submitted by participating classrooms, it was determined that 19 students walked and four students biked to school. Based on enrollment at the time of the study, approximately 4% of Carrollton Elementary School students walk and approximately 1% of students bike to school.

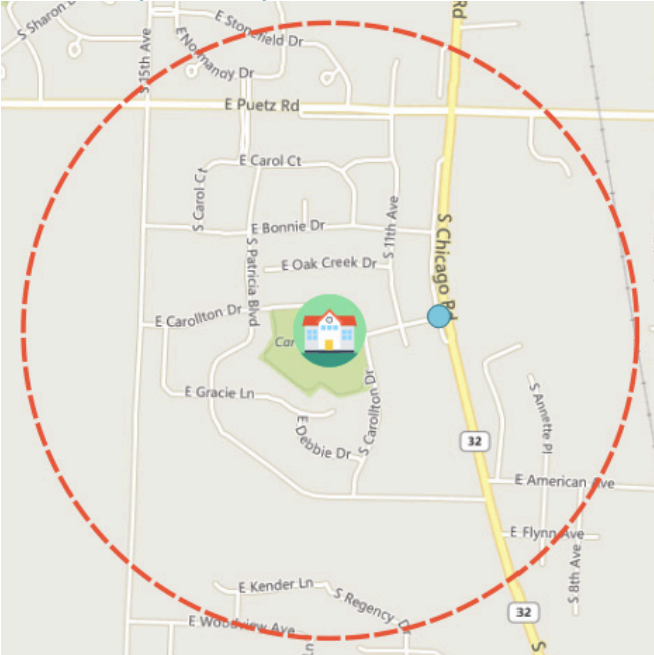
## Parent Survey Summary

No data collected.

## Crash History

Crash data obtained from the City of Oak Creek was mapped by the location of each incident. The data was analyzed by collision type, including crashes between motor vehicles and bicycles and crashes between motor vehicles and pedestrians. Between 2006 and 2015, there was one collision involving a motor vehicle and bicycle within a half-mile radius of Carrollton Elementary School. This crash occurred at the intersection of S Chicago Road and E Madeira Drive.

**CRASH DATA (2006-2015):**



- Legend**
- Carrollton Elementary School
  - Bicycle Crashes
  - Pedestrian Crashes
  - 0.5 mile radius from school

## WALK AUDIT

On 11/14/16 a walk audit and arrival/dismissal observation were completed by the audit team. Two students were observed biking to campus, and several students walked to campus from all directions. Some walkers were accompanied by an adult; crossing guards did not have safety equipment. Buses circulated at the bus drop-off at the front of the school during arrivals and one short bus was present in the back parking lot during departure. No adults were observed supervising the bus drop-off during arrival. One adult was observed standing near the parent vehicle drop-off area during arrivals, however, they were standing by the building entrance rather than by the car lanes where they could provide assistance. During parent pick-up time, two to three teachers were observed assisting with departures. The line of vehicles backed up onto Carrollton Drive by 2:53p.m. and vehicles were leaving the designated pick-up line before being instructed to do so.

### WALK AUDIT CONDITIONS:

**Date:** 11/14/2016

**Day of the Week:** Monday

**Time:** 7:00-9:00 am / 2:20-3:20 pm

**Weather:** Clear/Cloudy, Cool

**Audit Team:** Rudy Uumbs,  
David Maier, Matt Sullivan





# ASSETS AND CHALLENGES

Several assets and challenges in and around the school site were identified. These assets and challenges include both programming and infrastructure and are listed below. Specific programming and infrastructure recommendations are detailed in the following section of this report.

- ### Assets
- › Existing crossing guard program
  - › Proximity to single family and multifamily housing densely populated by students within the Carrollton Elementary School enrollment boundary
  - › Engaged parents observed walking with students
  - › Defined parent pick-up and drop-off procedure

- ### Challenges
- › Crossing guards do not have or do not always use equipment
  - › Missing or incomplete sidewalk links
  - › Non-ADA compliant infrastructure
  - › Inconvenient location of ADA parking
  - › Pavement in need of repainting and restriping
  - › Asphalt and crosswalk surfaces in need of repair
  - › Little or no signage posted



Crossing guard outside of Carrollton Elementary



Some sidewalk links are missing or incomplete

# RECOMMENDATIONS

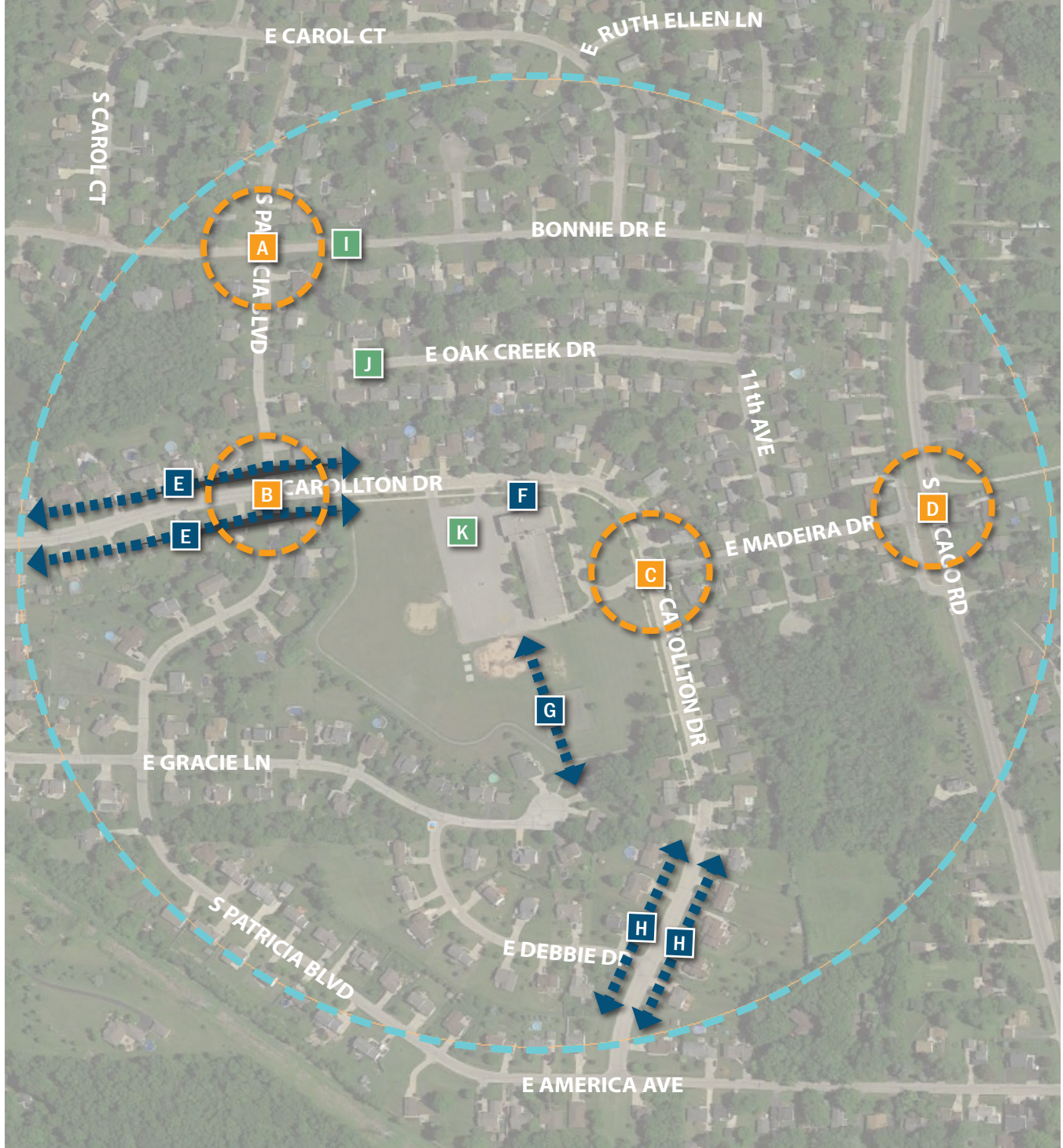
## OVERVIEW





Effective Safe Routes to School initiatives include both programming and infrastructure components.

The recommendations listed here offer a selection of location-specific ideas that can be implemented in and near the vicinity of the school - please refer to the table below and the map on the facing page for more details.

ID	TYPE	RECOMMENDATION	PRIORITY
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE</b>			
A	Intersection	High-visibility crosswalks and curb radius reduction on all four legs of South Patricia Blvd and Bonnie Drive	High
B	Intersection	Curb extensions and high-visibility crosswalks on all four legs of South Patricia Blvd and East Carrollton Drive	High
C	Intersection	Curb extensions and high-visibility crosswalks on all four legs of East Madeira Drive and South Carrollton Drive	High
D	Intersection	Stop bars and high-visibility crosswalks on all three legs of East Madeira Drive and South Chicago Road	High
E	Sidewalk	Install a sidewalk or painted sidewalk along both sides of East Carrollton Drive connecting to existing sidewalks	High
F	Sidewalk	Add sidewalk with ADA ramp to connect the existing sidewalk along East Carrollton Drive to the gym	High
G	Sidewalk	Create a direct route from the paved path on Gracie Lane to the south entrance of campus	Low
H	Sidewalk	Install a sidewalk along both sides of South Carrollton Drive connecting to existing sidewalks; add school zone signs	Low
<b>PROGRAMMING</b>			
I	Programming	Potential Park and Walk location for parents to drop children off for a 1/2 mile walk to school	Medium
J	Programming	Potential Park and Walk location for parents to drop children off for a 1/4 mile walk to school	Medium
K	Programming	Delineate a student wait area and drop-off zone supervised by an adult	Medium

MAP OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CAROLLTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:



- 
Route Identified for improvement
- 
Intersection Improvement
- 
Programming Improvement
- 
Walk Boundary

## PROGRAMMING

This plan includes a number of programming recommendations to grow walking and biking to school and promote the safety of all students arriving and departing from Carrollton Elementary School.

### PROGRAMMING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CAROLLTON ELEMENTARY:

#### Park and Walk Programs

Park and walk programs are designed to encourage families to park several blocks from school and walk the rest of the way. Not all students are able to walk or bike the whole distance to their school, as they may live too far away or their route may include hazardous traffic. This program allows students who are unable to walk or bike a chance to participate in the Safe Routes to School program. It also helps reduce traffic congestion at the school as fewer parent vehicles will be circulating in the campus area.

#### Crossing Guard Training

The crossing guard patrol should be equipped with safety equipment, including paddles, vests, and high-visibility gear for all weather and/or seasons. Members of the patrol should also be trained on where to be stationed each day and when to allow students to cross.

#### Pick-up/Drop-off Procedures

The parent and bus pick-up and drop-off procedures may be refined through better signage that clearly instructs parents and bus drivers on the proper vehicle movement through the campus parking lot and bus loop. Parents picking up and dropping off students should adhere to clearly communicated procedures that instruct parents when to exit the pick-up or drop-off line.



# INFRASTRUCTURE

This plan recommends several infrastructure improvements to intersections, sidewalks, and signage. Intersection enhancements will make street crossings safer for students, improve ADA-compliance, and resurface and repaint crosswalks that need maintenance and repair.

For a full description of each of these improvement recommendations, please see the **Infrastructure Reference Guide** in Appendix E.

## INFRASTRUCTURE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CAROLLTON ELEMENTARY:



**High-Visibility Crosswalks**



**Curb Radii Reduction**



**Curb Extensions**



**Raised Crosswalks**



**Painted Stop Bars**



**Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacons (RRFB)**

*Photos 2 and 4 courtesy of Dan Burden from pedbikeimages.org, photo 3 courtesy of emersongarfield.org.*

## IMPLEMENTATION + NEXT STEPS

Sometimes starting a new project within a busy school can seem like a daunting task. Implementing your Safe Routes to School Action Plan doesn't have to be hard. Here are some ideas to get you started:

### Organize

Find your school's champions for Safe Routes - including teachers, parents and students. Start with the teachers who are already helping with departure and arrivals at the school, and bring others who are excited about more kids walking or biking to school. Bring the parents in: work with the school's parents' association to help coordinate support for walking school buses, for volunteer adult crossing guards and other ideas. Work with your city's Public Works and Planning to coordinate and prioritize improvements at your school.

### Prioritize + Plan

This one is done already (it's the plan in your hands) - Congratulations! Now all you have to do is work with your team and select a couple of ideas to implement!



### Share + Celebrate Success

Success is the best foundation for future success! Don't forget to review your accomplishments every year, and to note the goals you achieved, the people who helped you get there, and the tasks that remain for the coming year!

### Start Small

Commit to implementing just one program or initiative in your first year (if you want to do two or more that's great also, but give yourself time and space to organize your team, to identify common priorities, and to get the help and resources that you need to succeed).

Some great ideas for starting small include:

- › Develop a map showing the best routes from surrounding neighborhoods to your school, and distribute it to parents a couple of times in the fall of the school year, and again during spring. Make sure to note the location of crossing guards, traffic signals, and sidewalks and trails.
- › Celebrate international walk and bike to school day - in 2019, it'll be on May 8 - learn more and start planning here: [www.walkbiketoschool.org](http://www.walkbiketoschool.org)
- › Start a student safety patrol at your school - it's a great way to develop students' leadership skills and build a culture of walking and biking at your school. You can find more resources in the Action Plans' Appendix.
- › Work with your PTA or other involved parents to start a walking school bus route: [www.walkingschoolbus.org](http://www.walkingschoolbus.org)
- › Establish a yearly school-wide tally of student travel to and from school. This will help provide the baseline of information you will need to determine which programs are yielding the best results for your school, and can help focus your efforts and priorities. They also show potential funders that your school is already making gains and is well-prepared to benefit from more expensive infrastructure improvements. Find out more in the Appendix and here: [www.saferoutesdata.org](http://www.saferoutesdata.org)
- › Work with your school's safety officer and other police partners to host a bike rodeo where students learn and practice how to safely ride and interact with traffic.
- › Get your students involved in planning for Safe Routes - ask them for their preferred routes and ideas for making walking and biking to school easier for them!

This Safe Routes to School Action Plan was prepared by Community Design Group for the City of Oak Creek, the Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District, and the Carollton Elementary School community. For more information about Safe Routes to School planning and programming efforts, please contact Matthew Sullivan at the City of Oak Creek or Andrew Chromy at the Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District.