

School Traffic Management Program

Compared to previous generations, fewer students are walking and cycling to school, and more are being driven; a trend that is associated with rising environmental, health and safety concerns. In response to this issue, in the Fall of 2017 the TDSB will be launching a School Traffic Management Program to provide schools with more traffic management assistance.

To focus efforts and resources, the TDSB has been working closely with the City of Toronto's Transportation Services, Toronto Public Health, Green Communities Canada and Sick Kids/York University to identify schools under the most pressure from traffic and safety related issues. The selection of schools to receive traffic management support will be data driven, predominantly based on a school's proximity to a collision cluster (as identified by Transportation Services), and the percentage of students living within walking distance of the school.

This unique program aims to take a holistic approach to traffic management by investigating and responding to traffic-related concerns through both education and engineering interventions. During the 2017/18 school year, up to 15 schools will be enrolled in the TDSB's Traffic Management Program. Components of this program include:

1. Support from a School Traffic Management Facilitator

Through a Partnership with Green Communities Canada, participating schools will receive support from a dedicated School Traffic Management Facilitator who will:

- Investigate and respond to traffic related concerns on school sites and facilitate workable solutions in collaboration with Board administration, school staff and parent councils
- Design, schedule and conduct field studies, such as traffic observations and travel surveys
- Assess traffic flow and behaviour at school sites and prepare School Site Traffic Management Plans, giving consideration to pedestrian, vehicle, cyclist and school bus traffic
- Identify infrastructure improvements needed and maintain an Action Plan to monitor progress
- Liaise with City Transportation staff to address traffic-related concerns around school sites
- Develop a 'Routes to School Map' for schools, to provide information for families about popular routes to their school and to help them plan their journey
- Support schools to develop and implement initiatives to encourage active modes of school travel

Participating schools will receive a package in the fall, providing guidance on the program and outlining the types of activities a school could expect to undertake.

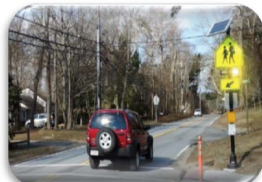


2. Designated City of Toronto “School Safety Zone”

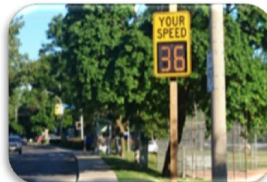
As part of the City of Toronto’s [Vision Zero Road Safety Plan](#), Transportation Services will be creating School Safety Zones around 20 Toronto schools per year, for the next five years. These School Safety Zones will introduce “gateway” features to help increase the visibility of the school zone with the goal of calming traffic. The features that will be installed will be site-dependent and determined by Transportation Services, but may include:



Flashing Beacon
with Timer



New Rapid Flashing
Beacons at Crosswalks
(Optional)



Watch Your Speed
Driver Feedback Signs



Speed Reductions
(Optional)



Data Driven Enforcement



School Stencil
Pavement Markings
Speed Markings (Optional)



Enhanced Pedestrian
Crosswalk Markings



Increased Pedestrian Walk
Times and Advanced Green for
Pedestrians
(Optional)



Designation as Community
Safety Zones
(Optional)



Automated Speed Enforcement
(FUTURE)
(Optional)



3. Support from a Toronto Public Health Nurse

A Public Health Nurse (PHN) will be available to help support school champion(s) create a plan to implement active transportation initiatives based on each school’s unique needs. Numerous resources and initiatives exist such as school zone activities/programs, walking/cycling awareness events, ongoing school activities, classroom activities and family programs. The PHN is available to act as a resource and a guide to bring active transportation resources and initiatives into schools.

All schools enrolled in the Traffic Management Program will be asked to commit to leading the promotion of active, safe and sustainable transportation amongst staff, students and families within their community. Encouraging active transportation is an essential component of this program and will help to compliment a school’s traffic management efforts.