



Safe Routes to School Results *Meadow View Elementary*

Purpose of the Safe Routes to School Evaluation

- To gather information on the self transport patterns and issues for Bethel elementary students.
- To use information to apply for federal Safe Routes to School educational and infrastructure funding to help increase safe, active child transport to and from schools.

Overall Participation

- Data were collected during October/November 2008.
- *Teacher Tallies:* 65% of teachers completed classroom tallies (13 of 20 classrooms).
- *Parent Surveys:* 51% of Meadow View parent surveys were completed on enrolled students (243 of 479 surveys distributed).

Results of Teacher Tally

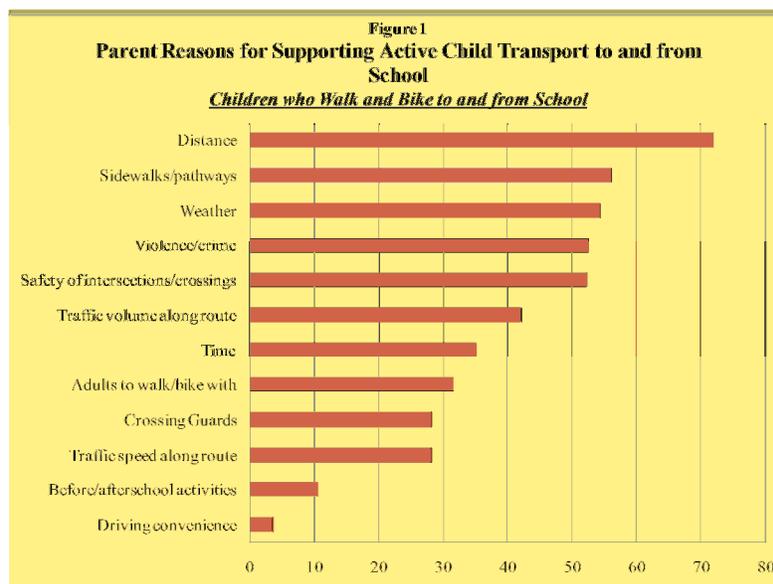
- 76% of Meadow View students arrived and departed from school by motor vehicle (40% by families, 31% by school bus).
- 20% of Meadow View students actively self-transported to and from school.

Results of Parent Survey

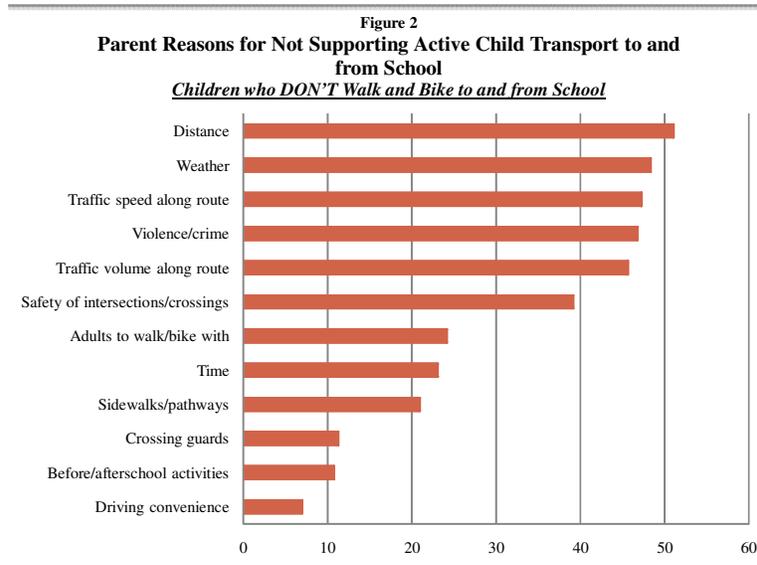
Active transport by students

- For students who lived within a quarter mile of school, 47% actively transported themselves to school and 51% from school.
- Parents indicated they were more comfortable with children walking or biking to school by grades 3-5.

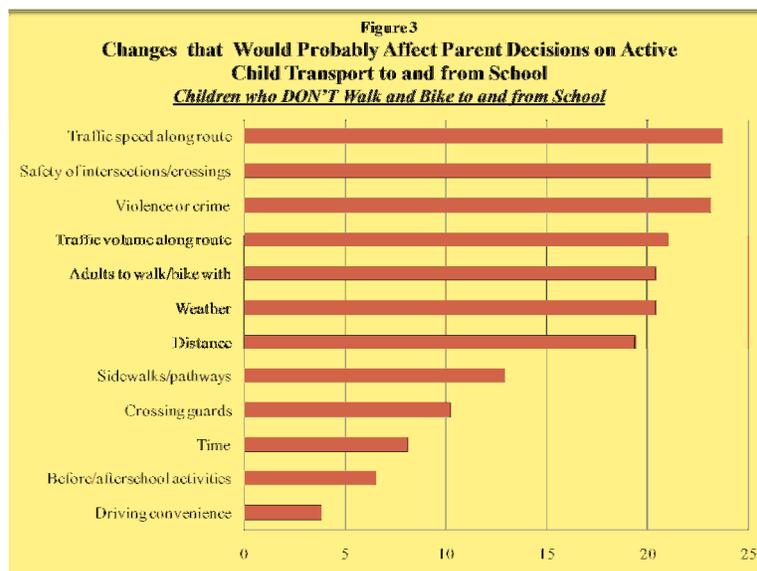
Issues which affect parents' decisions to allow or not allow their children to actively transport themselves to school, for children who walk or bike to and from school were: distance to school, sidewalks/pathways, and violence/crime (including harassment from older children) (Figure 1).



Issues which affect parents' decisions to allow or not allow their children to actively transport themselves to school, for children who DON'T walk or bike to and from school were: distance, traffic speed along the route, and violence/crime (including harassment from older children) Figure 2).



Changes parents indicated **WOULD PROBABLY** allow children to walk/bike to and from school: traffic speed along child walking and biking routes, safety at intersections/crossings, violence and crime, and traffic volume along routes to and from school (Figure 3).



Summary

The Safe Routes to School assessment highlighted important areas Meadow View could address to promote active child transport to and from school. The most important changes for increasing student walking and biking to and from school were reducing speed and volume along routes to school, increasing safety of intersections and crossings, reducing violence, and having more adults willing and able to accompany students in along school routes.