

# Design Safety Prompt List

## School Zones

Design provides continuity and linkages to and from school facilities.

Can student to and from school? Whether walking, bicycling, drop-off/pick-up, school bus?

Design is compatible with School District plans and Safe Routes to School projects. Coordinated with School Principle, School Bus Manger, School District, etc.

Design consistent with adjacent roads, land forms, traffic management, and school site.

Consider linking multiple accesses into one service road or consolidating access points into shared use access been considered.

Major generators of traffic far enough away to avoid unsafe influences on design, e.g., spillover of traffic queues from the accesses into the school zone, excessive pedestrian activity with potential of illegal crossings etc.

Unintended consequences of the design upon the school zone and its users identified and adequately addressed.

Pedestrian/bicycle facilities or independent multi-use trails adequately drained. Water flows "uphill"?

Design adequately drains water away from the school and pedestrian-bicycle facilities.

Drivers able to see pedestrians/bicyclists including children and those in wheel chairs (and vice versa) past or over the landscaping, parked, waiting, or stopped vehicles, structures, poles, etc?

Access points to the school properties provide access for pedestrians, bicyclists and vehicles School buses, and pick-up and drop-off vehicles.

Consider visibility; availability of gaps in the traffic flow required for left and right turns to/from driveways, back ups to main road or sidewalks, waiting vehicles, vehicles (buses and passenger vehicles) entering and leaving the school site etc.

Driver's perception of the school zone, pedestrians, and bicyclists free of misleading effects of any lighting or traffic signals on an adjacent road.

Potential conflicts between pedestrians/bicyclists and turning, parked, and waiting vehicles been minimized.

Design provides for emergency and enforcement vehicles access and ability to park, stop, and turn around.

Design speed consistent with expected operating and posted speed.

Consider Speed Feedback signs and changeable School Zone Speed Limit sign and Beacons

Design free of sight line obstructions due to barriers? boundary fences? roadside hardware? parking facilities? signs? landscaping? bridge abutments? Parked, stopped, waiting vehicles? queued traffic?

Transition where the road environment changes to and from a school zone is appropriate.

Pedestrian and/or bicycle railing provided where needed. (e.g., to guide pedestrians or discourage parking through restricted access to/from parked vehicles)

Effect of parked or waiting vehicles on students.

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Median and island configurations accommodate pedestrians/bicyclists and vehicle types and turning paths.

Adequate time provided for traffic movements, pedestrian and bicyclist movement. Consider the duration of green, yellow, all-red, walk/clearance indications for all movements. Check whether the crossing time is sufficient school age children i.e., with rate of travel less than 3.5 feet per second (e.g., 2.8 ft per second).

Drivers potentially confused by or disregarding signals or crossing guards.

Prohibit right turn on red or provide additional signage warning of presence of pedestrians/bicyclists been considered.

Lighting adequate for pedestrians/bicyclists.

Are pedestrians/bicyclists deterred from crossing roads at unsafe locations?

Pedestrians/bicyclists related signs appropriate and adequate.

Channels and gullies been avoided at crossing.

Curb extensions and pedestrian refuges been provided where needed.

Design discourage inappropriate crossing.

Pedestrians/bicyclists traveling zone free of obstructions. Consider: obstacles, protruding objects, vertical obstructions, and parked, waiting, and stopped vehicles.

Safe Routes to School continuous (i.e., free of squeeze points or gaps)?

Where bicyclists are required to dismount (e.g., in front of shared pedestrian crossings), there is adequate warning (signage, marking, pavement surface, etc)?

At intersections with high volume of pedestrians: If right-turn channelization is present, is an acceleration lane adequate for passenger car characteristics provided?

At intersections with high volume of pedestrians: If right-turn channelization is present, is an adjacent pedestrian refuge island provided?

Where RTOR is permitted and a pedestrian crosswalk is delineated, is there a sign requiring turning traffic to yield to pedestrians? If the intersection is skewed (less than 75 degrees or greater than 105 degrees), is RTOR prohibited?

Where pedestrians and bicyclists travel behind the barrier; is the rear of the fence safe for them?

Is the sidewalk width adequate for pedestrian volumes?

Walking surface adequate and well-maintained.

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### **Pedestrians Behavior**

Are pedestrians using the crossings in place?

Are pedestrians waiting a safe distance from the edge of the road?

Are young children supervised by an adult?

Are adults acting as good role models?

Are parents/adults waiting on the same side of the road to greet their children?

Do parents walk with the children?

Do parents/adults hold young children's hands while crossing the road?

Do parents/adults call children across the road?

Do children wait on footpath until the bus has completely moved away from (stopped at) the bus stop?

### **Drivers Behavior**

Do drivers park in legal parking spaces?

Do drivers double park?

Do drivers make U-turns near the crossing?

Do drivers park on/across driveways?

Do drivers park their cars correctly, e.g., leaving sufficient space for passing vehicles?

Do vehicles stop at signals / crossings?

Do vehicles stop across or in a dangerous way at the crossing?

Do drivers use the drop-off and pick-up zone correctly?

Are vehicle speeds appropriate to allow children to cross safely?

Do drivers give way to pedestrians when turning at intersections?

Do drivers signal their intention to turn?

Are parking maneuvers causing any safety problems?

Do drivers turn at low speed and keep to the correct side of the road?

Do driver obey School Zone speed limits

Do bus flashing lights operate when buses drop-off or pick-up school children?

Do driver obey crossing guards?

### **Passenger Behavior**

Are children entering and exiting vehicles from the door closest to the curb?

Do passengers wear seat belts?

Are passengers being picked up / dropped off at locations other than the appropriate parking / standing zone?

Are there any safety issues regarding the drop-off and pick-up zone?

Are there any behavioral issues that may cause safety concerns, e.g., children calling their friends from their cars?

### **Cyclists Behavior**

Are cyclists walking when using the school crossing?

Are cyclists keeping to the correct side of the road when cycling?

Are there any behavioral issues that may cause safety concerns, e.g., cycling on footpath when there are a lot of pedestrians around?