

Conceptual Plan to Improve School Transportation Safety

Ver 5: 1/28/08

Goal: To determine what is needed to improve traffic and pedestrian safety to and from schools, then to put it in place for all schools in Arlington within 5 years. Inexpensive improvements that can be accomplished in the operating budget should be done as soon as practical. Capital improvements, mostly sidewalks, are to be done as soon as funds are available. School Administration, the Capital Committee, the Finance Committee and the Town need to cooperate to accomplish this goal.

Resources Needed:

1. A working group for each school, led by the principal and assisted by parents, the Town and the TAC. The working group will establish the needs for each school, and identify the improvements needed, both in the area of traffic/pedestrian safety and in instructions to parents and children, to enable safe transport to/from school.
2. Operational funds for paint, signs, school zones, etc.
3. Suggestion of locations of Crossing Supervisors based upon safety.
4. Police enforcement.
5. Funds for needed sidewalks and any other major work. In phase 1 below an estimate of capital funds needed for the project is to be made. Options to obtain these funds include Capital Planning, grants, CDBG and state funds.

Schools to be considered:

All public elementary, middle and high schools; all private elementary, special needs, and high schools.

Conceptual Phases for each school

- Phase 1
 - Formation of Safety Working Group, led by Principal
 - Establish walking routes and drop off/pickup circulation
 - Prepare parent instructions and communicate
 - Install signs/ crosswalks out of operating budgets; identify capital improv.
 - Establish plan and instructions for snow plowing/sidewalk clearing
 - Encourage participation in Safe Routes to School via walking
 - Encourage the school to consider a student safety patrol
- Planning Phase 2
 - Review activities across schools to establish the highest priority needs
 - Prioritize use of funds as they become available
- Phase 2
 - Perform capital improvements (e.g., new sidewalks)
- Review
 - How is it working? Adjustments need to be made?

| | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 |
|---------------------|----------|------------|------------|-----------------------|---------|
| Public Elem. | Phase 1 | Plan Ph. 2 | Phase 2 | | Review |
| Middle/High | | Phase 1 | Plan Ph. 2 | Phase 2 | |
| Private | Identify | | Phase 1 | Phase 1 Plan Ph. 2 | Phase 2 |