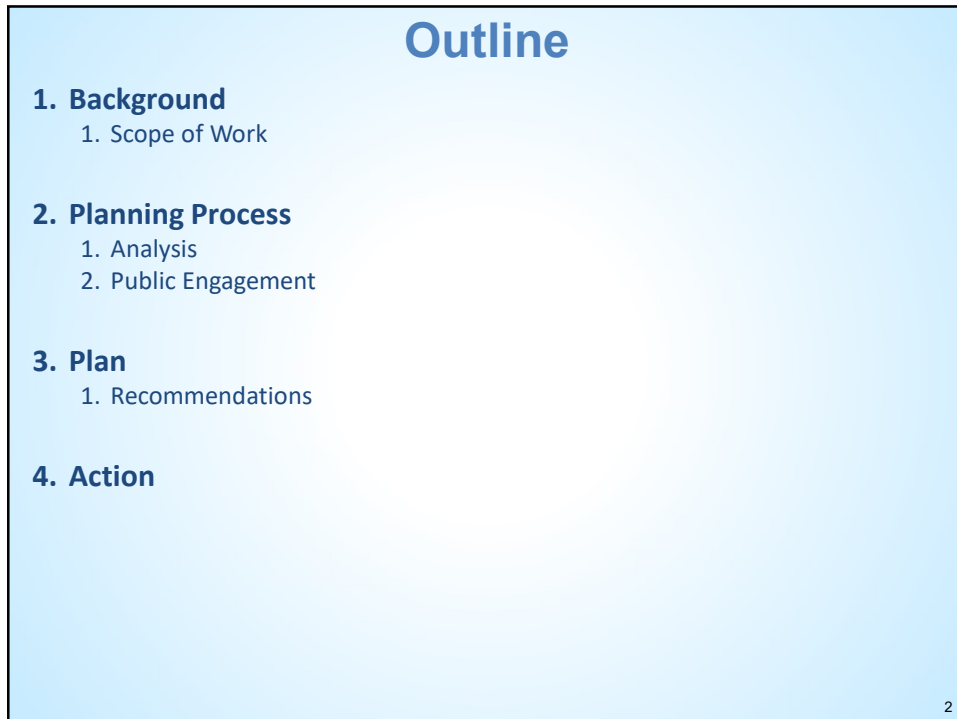





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Background – 2014 Plan


SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL
Strategic Action Plan
ORANGE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA



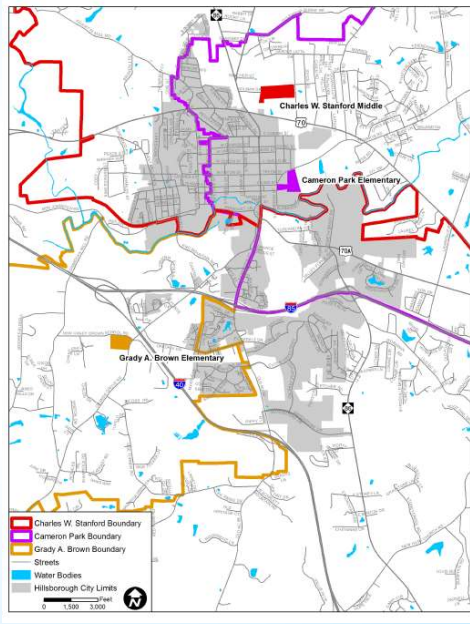
Prepared by:
Greene Transportation Solutions
& Greenways Incorporated, 2012

Updates by Orange County Planning & Town of Hillsborough Planning 2013

Prepared for: Orange County, NC



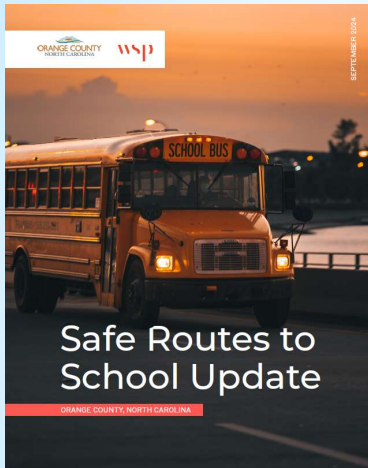
Adopted by Orange County Schools: March 10, 2014
Adopted by the Town of Hillsborough: March 10, 2014
Adopted by Orange County: April 15, 2014



- Existing Conditions & Recommendations
 - Grady Brown Elementary
 - CW Stanford Middle
 - Cameron Park Elementary

3

Background – 2024 Update



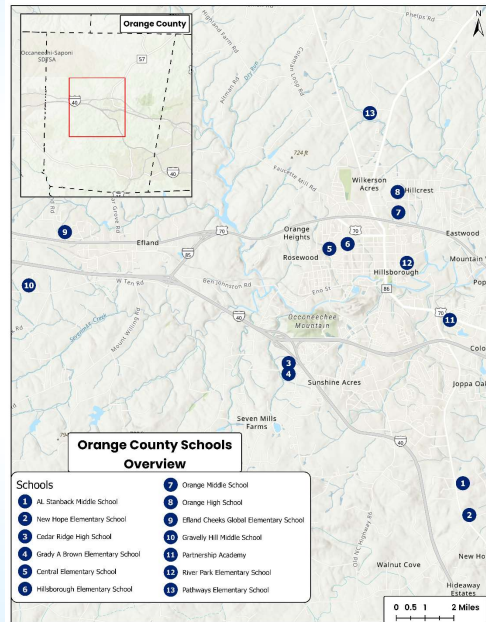
ORANGE COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA **wsp**

SEPTEMBER 2024

Safe Routes to School Update

ORANGE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

- Existing Conditions & Recommendations
 - All 13 County Public Schools



4

Background – 2014 Plan

Safe Routes To School
Scope of Work

Scope of Work

- In-House - County transportation staff is of professional planners, business administrators, and public servants with combined over 50 years of experience.
- Anticipated Schedule – January 2024 kick-off - December 21
- Infrastructure and non-infrastructure plan around all 13 Districts
- Public Engagement during Summer (June and July) only, lin and school transportation director.

Task A – Analysis of Existing Conditions

Staff will conduct a general planning level analysis of the current Orange County public schools, this includes:

- Study of the current plan and accomplishments
- Infrastructure – Route - multimodal inventory and planning
 - Scope: Limited to external elements (e.g. public neighborhoods)

This is the key task for this project. Staff will collect all relevant (off school property), and independent research (e.g. data c information will be consolidated into clear and concise format to be presented before determining any recommendations.

Key Deliverables:

- GIS map of all 13 Orange County public schools
- Charts, graphs, tables and associated narrative
- Multimodal network analysis
- Existing Conditions Report

Should individual schools wish to reevaluate their internal to School will recommend that each school independently see (MSTA) study with North Carolina Department of Transportation initiate an MSTA study between a school and NCDOT, the who in appendix and any other information requested by NCDOT.

Task B – Public Engagement

Staff will use the recently approved department Public Involvement the summer (June and July) when school is not in session. This i

- One summer (June and July) meeting with Principals, V Director
 - Only those interested in participating in public process
- All 13 Orange County Public Schools are invited to the publi
- One round of public workshops during the summer (June an

OCs

- Mr. James Merrill
- Dr. Danielle Jones
 - Kevin Smith
 - Larry Albert

WSP

- Shivang Shelat
- Alexa Kennedy

Task C – Draft Plan

After finalizing the Existing Conditions Analysis and Public Engagement report, staff will draft alternatives and recommendations for short, mid and long term strategies. They will be presented the draft plan to the Orange Unified Transportation Board for feedback before getting they take action. The final approved plan will be presented the Orange County Board of County Commissioners for public hearing and subsequent action.

Key Deliverables:

- Draft alternatives and recommendations
- Draft Orange County Safe Routes to School Plan

Task D – Final Plan

The project will begin in December 2023 and is planned to end before the end of June 2024. The table below shows the task-wise schedule through the project.

Task	January - May	June - July	August - September	October - December
A - Existing Conditions Report				
B - Public Engagement Report				
C - Draft Plan				
D - Final Plan				

Action Strategies

In this task, the staff will develop an action strategies that outlines the steps of data collection, timeline, costs, responsible parties and other information necessary to realize the recommendations identified in the plan. The action strategies will highlight coordination efforts between different members, potential partnerships with relevant agencies, and strategies to engage the community in the implementation process. Staff will present the draft action strategies plan to the OUTBoard for their comments, and will revise before drafting the final plan.

Final Plan and updated graphics

A final plan will conclude the project. This includes a final table of projects, with updated maps, and recommendations. Staff will present the final plan to the County's Transportation Advisory Service for technical approval, OUTBoard for public approval and Board of County Commissioners for final approval.

Key Deliverables:

- Action Strategies
- Final Report

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Existing Conditions Analysis

Figure 2.12. Orange High Campus Map

Grades Served	9 th -12 th
Total Enrollment	1200
Number of Buses	22
Number of Students Riding the Bus	470 in the AM, 472 in the PM
Number of Students Walking	15
Number of Students Cycling	2
Number of Students Driven	730
Special Needs Population	Yes (# Unknown)
Land Uses Surrounding School	Residential, Commercial
Presence of Bike Racks	Yes
No Walk Zones	None
Crossing Guards	No
Policies that Restrict Walking or Bicycling	No
Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Taught to Students	Yes
Existing Parking Capacity	600 spaces
Presence of Car Waiting Zones	Yes
Number of Staff Managing Drop off/Pick up	3
Residences within a 10-min bike ride from the school	2908

Example

- Orange High School
- Field visit with pictures
- Detailed tables each school
- Travel behavior
- Infrastructure

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Planning Process - Analysis



New Hope Elementary: Afternoon pick-up line along New Hope Church Road



Cedar Ridge High: Traffic from the afternoon pick up is heavily backed up at the New Grady Brown School Road and Orange Grove Road intersection



Efland Cheeks Global Elementary: Afternoon pick-up line on School House Road. Several parents walking to pick up students.



Gravelly Hill Middle: Traffic in the left-turn lane during the afternoon pick up



Orange High: Students walking on the opposite side of the road to get to a car



Hillsborough Elementary: Looking south along N Nash St at the pick-up line for grades 2-5. A bus is passing on the left, while a car coming from the opposite direction is also passing.

- Field visit – am and pm peak
- School input and staff input
- Characteristics table for each school

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Planning Process – Engagement

- March 7, 2024 – Stakeholder Meeting
- July 9 to August 9 – Existing Conditions Report with Recommendations out for public review

On July 8, 2024, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, OCTS conducted a Public Engagement event with all Orange County Public Schools in accordance with the approved SOW. All the principals, vice-principles, school board staff were invited to participate in an open discussion.

Key highlights from the event include:

- Students continue to walk and bike along dangerous roads like NC 86 (AL Stanback Middle and New Hope Elementary), Orange Grove Road (Cedar Ridge High and Grady Brown Elementary), Richmond Road (Efland Cheeks Elementary)
- Increasing population is resulting in increasing impact on schools, and subsequent increase in walking and biking to/from schools.
- All schools are working on transitioning to Infinite Campus (from Power School) to help improve messaging to students and parents.
- The Existing Conditions report was very helpful and informative to the schools.

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Plan Recommendations - Strategies

Task	January - May	June - July	August - September	October - December
A - Existing Conditions Report				
B - Public Engagement Report				
C - Draft Plan				
D - Final Plan				

Infrastructure Strategies

- Bicycle Lane, Sidewalk, Greenways
- Buffered Bicycle Lane and Paved Shoulder
- Bike-Ped Bridges
- School Zones and Speed Limit Reductions
- Crosswalks and Midblock Crossings
- Signals
- High-Intensity Activated Crosswalk (HAWK) Signal
- Speed Hump/Cushion

Encouragement Strategies

- Promote School Bus Use
- Walking School Bus
- Safety Education Programs
- Walking & Biking Incentive

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Plan Recommendations

Project ID	Recommendation	Issue Addressed	Need	MTF Reference
7a	Construct 0.2 miles of sidewalk or shared-use path connecting from Orange Middle School building along the driveway to the short section of existing sidewalk along Orange High School Road.	There are no on campus sidewalks connecting to the school entrance.	High	
7b	Construct 0.7 miles of sidewalk or shared-use path along Orange High School Road from Harold Latta Drive to US 70.	The lack of bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure along Orange High School Road present key infrastructure gaps for cyclists and pedestrians.	High	DCHC MPO 2017 CTP, Hillsborough CSP 2030
7c	Construct 2.1 miles of 4' paved shoulders and a shared-use path along US 70 from Combs Circle to N Scottwood Boulevard.	The lack of bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure along US 70 present key infrastructure gaps for cyclists and pedestrians.	High	DCHC MPO 2017 CTP, Hillsborough CSP 2030
7d	Construct 0.2 miles of sidewalk or shared-use path along Harold Latta Drive from Orange High School Road to Cloverfield Drive.	The lack of bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure along Harold Latta Road, present key infrastructure gaps for cyclists and pedestrians.	High	DCHC MPO 2017 CTP, Hillsborough CSP 2030
7e	Construct 0.5 miles of sidewalk or a shared-use path along Orange High School Road from Harold Latta Road to Miller Road to fill in infrastructure gaps.	The lack of bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure along Orange High School Road present key infrastructure gaps for cyclists and pedestrians.	High	
7f	Construct 0.1 miles of sidewalk or a shared-use path along Ann Road to fill in infrastructure gaps.	The lack of bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure along Ann Road present key infrastructure gaps for cyclists and pedestrians. There is a crosswalk at Orange High School Road and Ann Road with no connecting sidewalks.	High	



Figure 4-7. Orange Middle Recommendations

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Plan Recommendations - Funding

Federal

- Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)
- Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG)
- Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A)
- Carbon Reduction Program

State and Local

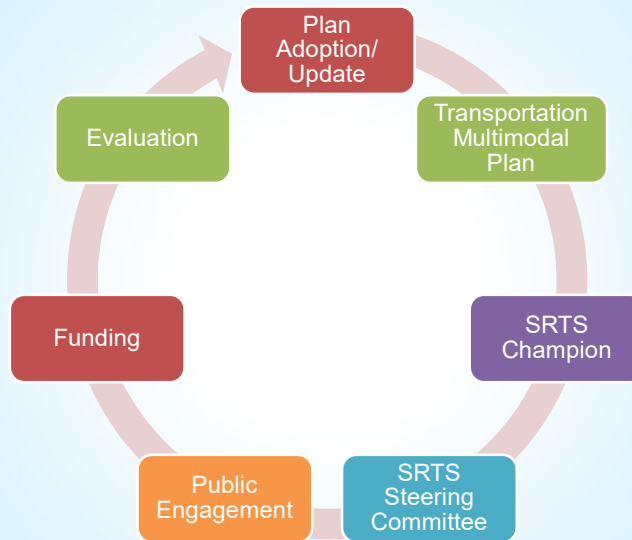
- NCDOT Safe Routes to School
- Scholl District Budget

Staff will also work with NCDOT for SPOT Safety/Mobility, resurfacing, bridges, etc.
And other locally administrative processes as they become available

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Plan Recommendations



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Action

- **September 30, 2024** – OUTBoard - Unanimous approval with:
 - Narrative emphasizing each school to pursue Municipal and School Transportation Assistance (MSTA) with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) to address car line and its impact on State roads.
 - Add lineal feet or miles - to each sidewalk, bike lane, and/or side path
 - Increase priority for - No parking on state/town roads near schools, speed limit reduction and bike/ped recommendations.

Incorporated into Final Plan

- **October 10, 2024** - CPRPO – Endorsed Plan
- **October 15, 2024** - BG MPO – Approved Plan for use in CTP, MTP, and STIP
- **November 5, 2024** - DCHC MPO – TC recommended Board incorporate in CTP, MTP, and STIP
- **November 7, 2024** – Orange County BOCC – Unanimous approval

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Action

- Request approval of Orange County SRTS Plan.

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