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MEMORANDUM

To: Chelsea Biklen and David Stillman, City of Cupertino

From: Lola Torney, Alta Planning + Design

Date: March 16, 2017

Re: Eaton School Walk Audit Recommendations

Introduction

The City of Cupertino conducted a walk audit for Eaton Elementary School with staff from Alta Planning + Design. The audit was held in the morning of February 13, 2017 to observe the morning arrival time at the school.

A walk audit is an assessment of travel behaviors for drivers, bicyclists, pedestrians (both parents and students), developed by observing a school pick-up or drop-off period on and around school grounds. Walk audits provide insight into the specific barriers to walking and biking at each school. The assessment team included Alta Planning + Design staff; City of Cupertino staff, and concerned parents. The audit began with a discussion of current challenge areas and the types of issues to focus on for the walk audit. The team then observed student and parent travel activities during the drop-off period, and reviewed the immediate school zone area for quality of sidewalks, curb ramps, signage, and other engineering elements and patterns of activity. After the audit period was over, audit participants returned to discuss and document their findings on a large scale school area map. Based on observations and input provided by school staff, audit participants, and others, the project team developed recommendations which are presented for Eaton Elementary School in a narrative and graphical format.

This memo provides programmatic and project recommendations for Eaton Elementary School. It includes both on-campus recommendations that can be implemented by the school district and off-campus improvements that can be implemented by the City. The map of recommended projects is attached to this memo.

Existing Conditions

Eaton Elementary School is located on Suisun Drive between Farallone Drive and La Roda Drive. Drop-off areas are located in the eastern staff parking lot off of Suisun Drive and the Farallone Drive parking lot. Staff can park in both Suisun Drive parking lots while parents and visitors use the Farallone Drive parking lot. Bus drop off occurs in the western Suisun Drive staff parking lot. Bicycle and pedestrian access is available from Suisun Drive and Farallone Drive. On-campus bicycle parking is located on the southeastern side of the school.

Project Recommendations

1. Pacifica Drive/Whitney Way
 - o Install speed limit sign east of Whitney Way.
2. Suisun Drive/Farallone Drive
 - o Install stop sign and pavement marking on Suisun Drive.
 - o Remove “State Law Yield to Pedestrians in Crosswalk” sign.
3. Farallone Drive
 - o Install red curb on southwest corner of mid-block crosswalk to address sight distance issues.
 - o Consider installing raised crosswalk.
4. Farallone Drive Parking Lot
 - o Convert some eastern parking spaces to loading zone to increase loading zone size.
5. John Drive/Farallone Drive
 - o Install red curb on east side of Farallone Drive south of parking lot driveway.
6. Suisun Drive/East of Eastern Staff Parking Lot
 - o Unlock trail gate during school commute hours.
 - o Install bicycle parking in open spaces behind gate.
7. La Roda Drive/Suisun Drive
 - o Install yield sign and yield line on La Roda Drive.
 - o Install high-visibility crosswalk on La Roda Drive.
8. Blaney Avenue/Suisun Drive
 - o Install ADA-compliant Type F curb ramp north of driveway and south of fire hydrant.
 - o Pivot eastern end of southern crosswalk to connect to new ramp.

Program Recommendations

1. Expand drop-off loop volunteer program to Farallone Drive parking lot.
 - o Consider a pilot test to assign a specific parking lot to parents who drive to ensure traffic remains even between the two lots.
2. Move one volunteer to driveway loop entrances during busy periods to stop drivers from turning into driveway when pedestrian is crossing.