



84 W Santa Clara Street, Suite 830
San José, CA 95113
(408) 564-8606
www.altaplanning.com

MEMORANDUM

To: Chelsea Biklen and David Stillman, City of Cupertino

From: Lola Torney, Alta Planning + Design

Date: May 4, 2017

Re: Stevens Creek Elementary School Walk Audit Recommendations

Introduction

The City of Cupertino conducted a walk audit for Stevens Creek Elementary School with staff from Alta Planning + Design. The audit was held in the morning of March 15, 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 Stevens Creek Elementary School in a narrative and graphical format.

This memo provides programmatic and project recommendations for Stevens Creek 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

Stevens Creek Elementary School is located on Ainsworth Drive between Via Camino Court and Varian Way. Typically, the drop-off area is located in the parking lot off of Ainsworth Drive. Staff parking also occurs in this lot. During the walk audit, this parking lot was under construction and only buses were allowed to enter. Student drop-off and pickup was moved to the east side of Ainsworth Drive in front of the school during this time. Buses enter the parking lot at drop-off loop, but move through to the northern parking lot. The school has elected to maintain this configuration indefinitely.

Bicycle and pedestrian access is available from Ainsworth Drive and a back entrance via a path from Creston Drive.

Project Recommendations

1. Hartman Drive/Ainsworth Drive
 - Encourage City of Los Altos to install a vertical centerline treatment on Ainsworth Drive.
 - This will discourage drivers traveling northbound on Ainsworth Drive from cutting the corner.
 - Encourage City of Los Altos to install sidewalks near intersection.
2. Bahl Street/Ainsworth Drive
 - Conduct crossing guard study.
3. Vista Knoll Boulevard/Bahl Street
 - Install high-visibility crosswalk across Vista Knoll Boulevard.
 - Install ADA-compliant curb ramp.
 - Install KEEP CLEAR marking in intersection.
4. Ainsworth Drive/Vista Knoll Boulevard
 - Install red curb between curb ramp and Varian Way.
 - Conduct stop sign warrant analysis on Vista Knoll Boulevard.
5. Varian Way
 - Improve existing speed bump.
 - Existing speed bump has been paved over and is no longer as effective.
 - Ensure vehicle gates in the Varian Park parking lot are closed at all times.
 - Install red curb north of parking.

Program Recommendations

1. Encourage drivers to park along Creston Drive and walk to school via path.