



Implementing the “Three Es of School Zone Traffic Calming”

Use this evaluation tool as a guide to analyze the specific safety needs of your school.

SCHOOL PROFILE

School Name: _____

School District: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Principal/Administrator: _____

What objectives does the school expect to achieve by instituting a traffic calming plan?

1. Grades, e.g. K-6, K-8 _____
 Elementary Junior/Middle School High School

2. How many students are enrolled in the school? _____

3. School bell times _____

4. Name of school-based traffic calming coordinator:

Phone: _____

Email: _____

5. Does the school have an “on-site management or cooperative decision making team”?
- No *Then a team should be created to provide counsel, feedback and oversight. The team might consist of teachers, administrators, parents and other community leaders.*
 - Yes. List the team here.

Name	Role	Phone	Email

TRANSPORTATION CONSIDERATIONS

1. Is the school on a standard nine month schedule, year-round or other?

Are there seasonal traffic calming needs associated with this schedule? (e.g. near shopping center so holiday traffic is problematic, summer school hours, etc.)

2. Does the school have a policy on how students can/must be transported?

No Yes *

3. Do public transit buses serve the school?

No Yes

4. Campus Traffic Plan

- a. Is there a campus access and egress plan?

No Yes *

- b. If yes, does the plan address buses, private vehicles and pedestrians?

No Yes

When developing a comprehensive campus traffic plan, a traffic/pedestrian risk assessment should be completed to identify potential hazards. The plan should address these risks by implementing controls which could include:

- *identifying a separate pedestrian-only campus entrance/exit*
- *restricting vehicle traffic in certain areas at key times*
- *using vehicle gates to reroute traffic*

5. Is there a designated parent drop-off/pick-up area separate from the school bus zone?

No.

- Is one needed?
- Would the campus layout allow one to be created?

Yes.

- Are there safety concerns within this plan that must be addressed?
- What are they?

6. Walking and Biking to School

a. How many children currently walk or bike to school. _____

b. Considering accessibility, proximity and other factors, how many students could potentially walk or bike to school? _____

c. Does the school have a map of walking and biking routes?

No *Is one needed?*

Yes * *Is it current? Has it been shared with students?*

d. What portion of those walking/biking to school must cross a:

- State highway _____
- Major road _____
- Residential street _____
- Road right in front of the school _____

A walking and bicycling route map provides guidance for students to safely walk and bicycle to and from school. It should identify where school crossing guards, curb ramps, and traffic control devices such as signs, crosswalks, and traffic signals exist to facilitate safe travel. Community leaders, including parents and law enforcement, may provide input to develop these plans and to propose traffic calming solutions which could improve overall safety.

7. Open or Closed Campus

a. Are students allowed to leave campus during the school day, i.e. for lunch?

No

Yes

b. If it is an Open Campus, are students allowed to leave on foot and in vehicles?

No *Students may only leave via _____*

Yes *Students may leave using any means they choose?*

- c. If it is an Open Campus, is there a current lunchtime traffic plan in place?
- No *A plan should be established and communicated to students and staff.*
 - Yes *Has it been shared with the students and staff this year?*

Traffic concerns related to an Open Campus are almost exclusively a high school issue. Students who leave campus for lunch are particularly exposed to traffic perils as they attempt to leave and return to campus within a short period of time. For this reason, open campuses should consider traffic calming solutions that address speed zones during lunch time, as well as mid-day pedestrian safety.

ENGINEERING CONSIDERATIONS

1. General traffic issues:
- a. Is the school located in a residential area? No Yes
 - b. Is large truck traffic limited on street/s in the school zone? No Yes
 - c. Is large truck traffic limited on adjacent streets? No Yes

Describe the unique traffic issues of this school. e.g. traffic speed, limited bus access, commercial traffic, etc.

2. Has a traffic analysis been conducted in the school zone area? No Yes

Results: _____

3. School Zone Signage

- a. Are appropriate school zone signs in place? No Yes
 - School zone speed limits posted in both directions
 - School zone timed flashing lights in both directions
 - Radar speed signs/driver feedback signs utilized
- b. Is signage in good condition? No Yes
- c. Updated or additional signage needed: _____

4. Pavement Markings

- a. Are appropriate pavement markings in place? No Yes
 - Crosswalks
 - Directional arrows in parking lot

b. Are pavement markings in good condition? No Yes

c. Updated or additional markings needed: _____

School zone signage and pavement markings are efficient, low-cost traffic calming solutions. It is important to be aware that these types of signs and markings should comply with MUTCD guidelines.

5. Are there sidewalks along the designated route to the school? No Yes

6. Parking situation:

a. Is diagonal parking prohibited near the school? No Yes

b. Is diagonal parking prohibited on school grounds? No Yes

c. Is it difficult to see pedestrians in the crosswalk? No Yes

7. Does the municipality/county have a traffic engineer?

No Then who is responsible for traffic engineering decisions?

Chief of Police

Sheriff

Other: _____ Title: _____

Yes Name: _____

8. Are children directed to designated crossing locations by secured fencing?

No Yes If no, does your campus design and space allow for this?

9. Is the school playground protected with secured fencing?

No Yes

10. Are there multiple schools on the same grounds? No Yes

ENFORCEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

1. Does the school have an adult crossing guard program? No Yes

2. Is there a training program for crossing guards? No Yes

3. Is there a school safety patrol? No Yes

4. Number of participating students? _____

5. Who administers the crossing guard program?

School

PTA

Municipality

County

Other _____

EDUCATION CONSIDERATIONS

1. How does the school educate adult audiences about school zone speed and traffic safety?
 - a. Newsletter
 - b. Email
 - c. Text
 - d. PTA
 - e. School website
 - f. Media relations - Working with local news reporters to share impactful stories
 - g. Community workshops and/or awareness campaigns
2. Does the school have a safety education program that:
 - a. Addresses pedestrian behavior? No Yes
 - b. Addresses bicycle safety? No Yes
 - c. Addresses seat belt usage? No Yes

LAW ENFORCEMENT

1. What is the posted speed limit on the street/s in the school zone? _____
School zone speeds vary from community to community but the slower the speed, the better. Typically, posted speeds are reduced by 10 mph on roads within the school zone.
2. Is there good compliance with existing speed limits? No Yes
3. What law enforcement agency is responsible for this school zone? (e.g. State Patrol, Sheriff's office, City police)? _____
4. How often does the responsible law enforcement agency patrol the area during the school day? (Average number of patrols per day.) _____
5. Is this sufficient for the traffic in the area? No Yes

KEY CONTACT INFORMATION

School Principal

- Name: _____
- Phone: _____
- Email _____

PTA President

- Name: _____
- Phone: _____
- Email _____

City/County traffic engineer or traffic administrator

- Name: _____
- Phone: _____
- Email _____

Law enforcement officials:

● **Local police department and Police Chief**

- Name: _____
- Phone: _____
- Email _____

● **Sheriff**

- Name: _____
- Phone: _____
- Email _____

● **State police or school resource officer**

- Name: _____
- Phone: _____
- Email _____

* Provide a copy of all traffic management plans to the Traffic-Calming Team