## CITY OF MENDOTA

# SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL MASTER PLAN PARENT SURVEY RESPONSE SUMMARY 

## Memorandum

June 29, 2022

## Introduction

The City of Mendota is developing a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Master Plan through a Caltrans Active Transportation Program (ATP) grant. The primary objectives of the SRTS Master Plan are to increase accessibility and safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists going to and from schools within the city and to improve student health by actively supporting walking and bicycling to and from school. Secondary objectives include increasing driver awareness and promoting safe driving habits.

As part of the Safe Routes to School program, a standard parent survey has been established. This survey asks about how families get to school, how long the trip takes, and what influences their decisions regarding travel to and from school and is included in Attachment A. This memorandum documents the results of the survey, which was distributed directly through McCabe Elementary School, Mendota Elementary School, Washington Elementary School, Mendota Junior High School, Mendota High School, and Mendota Unified School District (MUSD) administrative offices between March and May 2022. Surveys were also made available online through the City of Mendota Safe Routes to School Master Plan website (https://www.ci.mendota.ca.us/saferoutes/) and promoted at various city events.

In total, 225 survey responses were received, in both English and Spanish and from paper and online surveys. Survey responses will be evaluated as part of the SRTS Master Plan.

## Summary of Survey Responses

Data collected through the parent survey was organized into two categories. The first category, Demographic Questions, includes information such as how far students live from the schools they attend, how long it takes them to travel to school, and how the student usually travels to school. The second category, Travel Factor Questions, is more concerned with what about the existing conditions in Mendota stops people from using alternative transportation to reach their destination and asks questions that determine what factors contribute to the decision to walk or bike and how changes to those factors would influence mode choice. Finally, written comments are summarized in Comments.

## Survey Responses

225 survey responses were collected and compiled. With the different ways the survey could be completed, there are some slight discrepancies in the way the data was recorded. Additionally, some parents completed the survey for multiple children or had multiple responses for questions, such as questions about mode choice, while others did not answer every question. Because of this, question totals will not always equal 225.

## Demographic Questions

The following series of survey questions are intended to understand demographics of MUSD students (i.e., grade, how far they live from school) and how they travel to and from school.

What school does your child attend?


## What grade is your child in?

Response by Grade


[^0]How far does your child live from school?
Distance from School


How does your child arrive for school?


- Bike ■ Carpool ■ Family Vehicle ■ School Bus ■ Transit ■ Walk

How does your child leave from school?

Mode Choice From School



- Bike ■ Carpool ■ Family Vehicle ■ School Bus ■ Transit ■ Walk


## How long does it take to travel to school?



How long does it take to travel home from school?


Has your child asked to walk to school?

Desire to Walk to School


- Yes ■ No

Does your child currently walk or bike to school?
Walking or Biking to School


- Yes ■ No

At what grade would you let your child walk or bike to school alone?


## Travel Factor Questions

The following series of survey questions is intended to understand what factors influence people's decision to use active transportation methods to get to school, and how changes to those factors would change that decision. ${ }^{2}$ An additional summary comparing the travel factors and the likelihood to change based on those factors is included in Travel Factor Summary.

## Travel Factors

## Distance

Does the distance between home and school influence your decision to allow your child to walk or bike to school? If the distance were changed, would your decision change?


[^1]
## Convenience of Driving

Does the ease of driving influence your decision to allow your child to walk or bike to school? If it were easier to take other transportation modes would your decision change?

At Present


- Yes - No Not Sure

With Changes


- Yes - No Not Sure


## Time

Does the amount of time it takes to drive to school, as opposed to the time for other transportation modes, influence your decision to allow your child to walk or bike to school? If the time of using other transportation modes was reduced, would that change your decision?

At Present


- Yes - No

With Changes


■ Yes ■ No ■ Not Sure

## Before- or After-School Activities

Does your child have before- or after-school activities that influences your decision to allow your child to walk or bike to school? If those activities changed would your decision change?

At Present


- Yes - No

With Changes


- Yes ■ No $■$ Not Sure


## Speed of Traffic

Does the speed of traffic or the presence of speeding drivers influence your decision to allow your child to walk or bike to school? If speed were reduced would your decision change?

At Present


- Yes - No

With Changes


- Yes - No Not Sure


## Amount of Traffic

Does the amount of traffic influence your decision to allow your child to walk or bike to school? If the amount of traffic were reduced would your decision change?

At Present


- Yes - No

With Changes


- Yes ■ No Not Sure


## Adult Presence

Does having an adult accompanying your child or accompanying your child yourself influence your decision to allow your child to walk or bike to school? If more adults were present along the route would your decision change?


With Changes


■ Yes ■ No ■ Not Sure

## Sidewalks

Does the presence or absence of sidewalks along the route influence your decision to allow your child to walk or bike to school? If the sidewalk network were more complete would your decision change?

At Present


- Yes - No

With Changes


- Yes - No Not Sure


## Intersection and Crossing Safety

Does the safety of crossing infrastructure at intersections influence your decision to allow your child to walk or bike to school? If intersections were safer for pedestrians and bicyclists would your decision change?


With Changes


- Yes - No Not Sure


## Crossing Guards

Does the presence of crossing guards influence your decision to allow your child to walk or bike to school? If more crossing guards were present would your decision change?

At Present


- Yes - No

With Changes


- Yes ■ No Not Sure


## Violence or Crime

Does the presence of violence or crime along the route influence your decision to allow your child to walk or bike to school? If violence and crime were reduced would your decision change?
At Present
With Changes


- Yes - No

■ Yes ■ No ■ Not Sure


## Weather or Climate

Does the weather or climate influence your decision to allow your child to walk or bike to school? If weather or climate impacts were lessened would your decision change?


## Travel Factor Summary

The following tables also summarize the responses to the travel factor questions on the survey. The first table ranks the factors by how likely people are to choose their travel mode based on that factor. The second table ranks the factors by how likely people would be to change their travel mode choice if that factor were improved in Mendota. Both tables rank the factors based on the total number of "yes" responses. However, a different number of people answered each portion of the question, so while percent is also provided it may not represent the same ranking as the votes category. Generally, a factor's influence on people's willingness to walk or bike to school and the likelihood for that answer to change based on improvements were about the same.

Table 1: Travel Factor's Influence on Travel Mode

| Rank $^{\text {a }}$ | Travel Factor | Votes | Percent |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Speed of Traffic | 122 | $84 \%$ |
| 2 | Amount of Traffic | 121 | $87 \%$ |
| 3 | Distance | 118 | $76 \%$ |
| 4 | Intersection and Crossing Safety | 111 | $82 \%$ |
| 5 | Violence or Crime | 106 | $79 \%$ |
| 6 | Weather or Climate | 102 | $76 \%$ |
| 7 | Sidewalks | 87 | $70 \%$ |
| 8 | Crossing Guards | 83 | $68 \%$ |
| 9 | Convenience of Driving | 82 | $54 \%$ |
| 10 | Time | 77 | $57 \%$ |
| 11 | Adult Presence | 61 | $56 \%$ |
| 12 | Before- or After-School Activities | 45 | $42 \%$ |
| ${ }_{a}$ Ranked in order of greatest influence on travel mode to least influence. |  |  |  |

Table 2: Travel Factor's Influence Likelihood to Change

| Rank $^{\text {a }}$ | Travel Factor | Votes | Percent |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Amount of Traffic | 64 | $59 \%$ |
| 2 | Speed of Traffic | 55 | $54 \%$ |
| 3 | Intersection and Crossing Safety | 52 | $56 \%$ |
| 4 | Distance | 49 | $49 \%$ |
| 5 | Violence or Crime | 47 | $49 \%$ |
| 6 | Sidewalks | 45 | $53 \%$ |
| 7 | Weather or Climate | 45 | $48 \%$ |
| 8 | Crossing Guards | 42 | $53 \%$ |
| 9 | Convenience of Driving | 35 | $42 \%$ |
| 10 | Adult Presence | 33 | $50 \%$ |
| 11 | Time | 31 | $42 \%$ |
| 12 | Before- or After-School Activities | 18 | $32 \%$ |
| ${ }^{a}$ Ranked in order of greatest influence on travel mode to least influence. |  |  |  |

## Comments

The survey also provided an opportunity for additional comments. Comments are split into three categories and summarized below. First, some comments added additional detail about the factors that influenced their mode choice decisions. Second, some comments provided more detailed observational information about transportation to and from schools. Finally, some comments made suggestions or provided specific requests and suggestions for improvements. It should be noted that some comments which reflected information that was collected elsewhere in the survey are not also included in this section of the summary.

## Mode Choice Decisions

Several comments expressed an unwillingness to allow their child walk or bike to school if it would require them to cross either State Route 33 or State Route 180.

## Observational Data

The following observations were made about traffic conditions related to schools:

- There are significant distances between crosswalks
- Cars do not stop for pedestrians in crosswalks, even when crossing guards are present
- People do not cross within designated crosswalks
- Between people traveling to work and school, traffic is worst in the mornings
- Driver speed is consistently dangerous
- Drivers do not respect bike lanes
- Stray dogs are a concern


## Suggestions

The following suggestions were included in the comments:

- Installation of additional Pedestrian Rapid Flashing Beacons
- Additional crossing guards on the route to school
- Additional training for crossing guards
- Increased police presence during arrival and dismissal
- Installation of speed bumps
- Additional bike lanes
- Education program for drivers on best safety practices
- Additional school bus routes
- Inclusion of section about accommodations for people with disabilities into the final plan


# CITY OF MENDOTA <br> SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL MASTER PLAN 

 SURVEY RESPONSE SUMMARYAttachment A

## Parent Surveys

## Parent Survey about Walking and biking To school

## Dear Parent or Caregiver,

Your child's school wants to learn your thoughts about children walking and biking to school. This survey will take about 5-10 minutes to complete. We ask that each family complete only one survey per school your children attend. If more than one child from a school brings a survey home, please fill out the survey for the child with the next birthday from today's date.
After you have completed this survey, you can send it back to the school with your child, give it to the teacher, or drop off at Mendota City Hall during normal business hours 8am-5pm, Mon - Fri. Your responses will be kept confidential and neither your name nor your child's name will be associated with any results.

SKIP THE PAPER RETURN AND FILL OUT THIS SURVEY ONLINE!
SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW OR VISIT WWW.CI.MENDOTA.CA.US


## CAPITAL LETIERS ONLY - BLUE OR BLACK INK ONLY

School Name:


1. What is the grade of the child who brought home this survey?
2. Is the child who brought home this survey male or female?

3. How many children do you have in Kindergarten through 8 th grade?

4. What is the street intersection nearest your home? (Provide the names of two intersecting streets)


Place a clear ' $X$ ' inside box. if you make a mistake, fill the entire box, and then mark the correct box.
5. How far does your child live from school?


Less than $1 / 4$ mile
$1 / 2$ mile up to 1 mile

口More than 2 miles $1 / 4$ mile up to $1 / 2$ mile
 1 mile up to 2 miles Don't know

Place a clear ' $X$ ' inside box. if you make a mistake, fill the entire box, and then mark the correct box.
6. On most days, how does your child arrive and leave for school? (Select one choice per column, mark box with X ) ARRIVE AT SCHOOL

LEAVE FROM SCHOOL

Walk
Bike
School Bus
Family Vehicle (only children in your family)
Carpool (Children from other families)
Transit (city bus, subway, etc.)
Other (skateboard, scooter, inline skates, etc.)
$\square$ Walk
Bike
School Bus
Family Vehicle (only children in your family)
Carpool (Children from other families)
Transit (city bus, subway, etc.)
Other (skateboard, scooter, inline skates, etc.)

Place a clear ' $X$ ' inside box. if you make a mistake, fill the entire box, and then mark the correct box.
7. How long does it normally take your child to get to/from school? (Select one choice per column, mark box with X )

## TRAVEL TIME TO SCHOOL

TRAVEL TIME FROM SCHOOLLess than 5 minutes
5-10 minutes
11-20 minutes
More than 20 minutes
Don't know / Not sure

品
Less than 5 minutes
5-10 minutes
11-20 minutes
More than 20 minutes
Don't know / Not sure

Place a clear ' $X$ ' inside box. if you make a mistake, fill the entire box, and then mark the correct box.
8. Has your child asked you for permission to walk or bike to/from school in the last year? $\square$ Yes $\square$ No
9. At what grade would you allow your child to walk or bike to/from school without an adult? (Select a grade from PK, K, 1,2,3...) $\square$ grade (or) $\square$ I would not feel comfortable at any grade

Place a clear ' $X$ ' inside box. if you make a mistake, fill the entire box, and then mark the correct box.
10. What of the following issues affected your decision to allow, or not allow, your child to walk or bike to/ from school? (Select ALL that apply)
11. Would you probably let your child walk or bike to/from school if this problem were changed or improved? (Select one choice per line, mark box with X)
$\square$ My child already walks or bikes to/from school

Place a clear ' $X$ ' inside box. if you make a mistake, fill the entire box, and then mark the correct box.
12. In your opinion, how much does your child's school encourage or discourage walking to/from school?
$\square$ Strongly Encourages $\square$
Encourages $\square$
Neither $\square$
Discourages $\square$ Strongly Discourages
13. How much fun is walking or biking to/from school for your child?
$\square$ Very fun $\quad \square$ Fun $\quad \square$ Neutral $\quad$ Boring $\quad \square$ Very boring
14. How healthy is walking or biking to/from school for your child?

$\square$
Very Healthy $\square$ Healthy $\square$ Neutral $\square$ Unhealthy $\square$ Very Unhealthy

Place a clear 'X' inside box. if you make a mistake, fill the entire box, and then mark the correct box.
15. What is the highest grade or year of school you completed?
 Grades 1 through 8 (Elementary) Grades 9 through 11 (Some high school)
 College 1 to 3 years (Some college or technical school) Grades 12 or GED (High school graduate) $\square$ College 4 years or more (College graduate) Prefer not to answer

## 16. Please provide any additional comments below.

$\qquad$
$\qquad$

## ENCUESTA SOBRE IR CAMINANDO O ANDANDO EN BICICLETA A LA ESCUELA - Para Padres -

## Estimado Padre o Encargado,

La escuela donde su hijo/hija asiste desea saber sus opiniones sobre niños caminando y andando en bicicleta a la escuela. Esta encuesta tomará entre 5 y 10 minutos para completar. Le pedimos a las familias que completen sólo una encuesta por escuela a la que asisten sus niños. Si recibe más de un formulario de la misma escuela, por favor complete solo una encuesta, la del niño que cumpla años en la fecha más próxima al día de hoy.
Después de completar esta encuesta, puede enviarlo a la escuela con su hijo, dárselo al maestro o dejarlo en el Ayuntamiento de Mendota durante el horario comercial normal de 8 a. m. a 5 p. m., de lunes a viernes.

OMITA LA DEVOLUCIÓN DE LA ENCUESTA EN PA-
PEL Y COMPLETE ESTA ENCUESTA EN LÍNEA! ESCANEE EL CÓDIGO QR A CONTINUACIÓN O VISITE WWW.CI.MENDOTA.CA.US


## LETRA MAYUSCULA SOLAMENTE USE TINTA AZUL O NEGRA

Nombre de la Escuela:


1. ¿En qué grado esta el niño que trajo esta encuesta al hogar?
2. ¿El niño que trajo a casa la encuesta es niño o niña?


Grado (PK, K, 1, 2, 3...)
Niño $\square$ Niña
3. ¿Cuántos niños tiene usted entre Kindergarten y el 8 vo grado? $\square$
4. ¿Cuál es la intersección más cerca de su casa? (el cruce de las dos calles)

¿Cómo Ilenar este formulario?: Escriba en letras MAYUSCULAS. Marque las cajas con "X"
5. ¿A qué distancia vive su niño de la escuela?

$\square$Menos de $1 / 4$ milla $\square$ media milla hasta 1 milla $\square$ Más de 2 millas Entre $1 / 4$ y $1 / 2$ milla Entre 1 y 2 millas No lo sé
6. La mayoría de los días, ¿cómo va su niño a la escuela y cómo regresa a la casa después de la escuela?
LLEGA A LA ESCUELA
REGRESA A CASA

Caminando
Caminando
Bicicleta
Bicicleta
Autobús escolar
Autobús escolar
Vehículo de la familia (solo con niños de la familia)
Compartiendo el viaje en auto con niños de otras familias
Tránsito (autobús de la ciudad, subterráneo, etc.)
Otro (patineta, monopatín, patines, etc.)

Vehículo de la familia (solo con niños de la familia) Compartiendo el viaje en auto con niños de otras familias Tránsito (autobús de la ciudad, subterráneo, etc.)

Otro (patineta, monopatín, patines, etc.)
¿Cómo Ilenar este formulario?: Escriba en letras MAYUSCULAS. Marque las cajas con "X"
7. ¿Cuánto tiempo le toma a su niño para ir y regresar de la escuela? (una respuesta por columna con una " $X$ " en la caja) TIEMPO DEL RECORRIDO A LA ESCUELA

Menos de 5 minutos
TIEMPO DEL RECORRIDO PARA LLEGAR A CASA

Menos de 5 minutos
5 a 10 minutos
11 a 20 minutos
Más de 20 minutos
No lo sé / No estoy seguro/a
¿Cómo llenar este formulario?: Escriba en letras MAYUSCULAS. Marque las cajas con "X"
8. ¿En el último año, le ha pedido permiso su hijo para caminar o andar en bicicleta hacia desde la escuela? $\square$ Sí $\square$ No
9. ¿En qué grado permitiría que su hijo camine o ande en bicicleta solo a/o de la escuela? (seleccione un grado entre $\mathrm{PK}, \mathrm{K}, 1,2,3 \ldots$ ) $\square \square$ grado (o) $\square$ No me sentiría cómodo/a en ningún grado

## ¿Cómo llenar este formulario?: Escriba en letras MAYUSCULAS. Marque las cajas con "X".

10. ¿Cuáles de las siguientes situaciones afectaron su decisión de permitir, o no permitir, que su niño camine $o$ ande en bicicleta hacia o desde la escuela? (marque todas las que correspondan)


Distancia
Conveniencia de manejar
Tiempo
Actividades antes o después de la escuela
Velocidad del tránsito en la ruta
Cantidad de tránsito en la ruta
Adultos que acompañen a su niño
Aceras o caminos
Seguridad de las intersecciones y cruces
Guardias de cruce peatonal
Violencia o crimen
Tiempo o clima
11. ¿Probablemente dejaría que su hijo caminara o usara la bicicleta para ir a /regresar de la escuela si este problema cambiara o mejorara? (elija una respuesta por línea)

$\square$
Mi hijo(a) ya viaja a pié o en bicicleta a/desde la escuela

¿Cómo llenar este formulario?: Escriba en letras MAYUSCULAS. Marque las cajas con "X"
12. En su opinión, ¿cuánto apoyo provée la escuela de su hijo a caminar y usar la bicicleta para ir o regresar de la escuela?
$\square$ Anima Fuertemente $\square$ Anima $\square$ Ni uno ni otro $\square$ Desalienta $\quad \square$
Desalienta Fuertemente
13. ¿Qué tan DIVERTIDO es caminar o andar en bicicleta hacia o desde la escuela para su niño?

$\square$Muy Divertido

Divertido

$\square$Neutral $\square$ Aburrido

$\square$ Muy Aburrido
14. ¿Qué tan SANO es caminar o andar en bicicleta hacia o desde la escuela para su niño?
$\square$ Muy Sano $\square$ Sano $\square$ Neutral $\square$ Malsano
¿Cómo llenar este formulario?: Escriba en letras MAYUSCULAS. Marque las cajas con "X"
15. ¿Cuál es el grado o el año más alto de educación que usted terminó?


Grados 1 a 8 (Escuela primaria)
Grados 9 a 11 (alguna High School/secundaria)
Grado 12 o GED (graduado High School/secundaria)


Universidad 1 a 3 años (alguna universidad o escuela técnica) Universidad 4 años o más (graduado de la universidad) Prefiero no contestar
16. Por favor proporcione comentarios adicionales:


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Online surveys did not include this question, so school is unknown for those surveys. While other questions in the survey indicate that most responses pertain to an elementary school student, it is not known which elementary school these students attend.

[^1]:    ${ }^{2}$ There was a slight discrepancy in how answers were recorded between the online and paper surveys. Because of this, there are fewer responses represented in this summary for questions related to decision changes based on improvements.

