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 (<u>https://www.ci.mendota.ca.us/saferoutes/</u>) 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**.

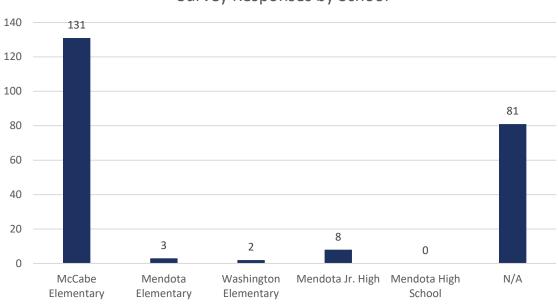
Survey Responses

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

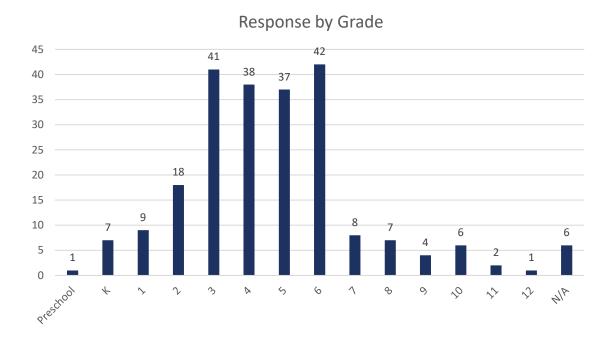
The following series of survey questions are intended to understand demographics of MUSD students (i.e., grade, how far they live from school) and how they travel to and from school.

What school does your child attend?1



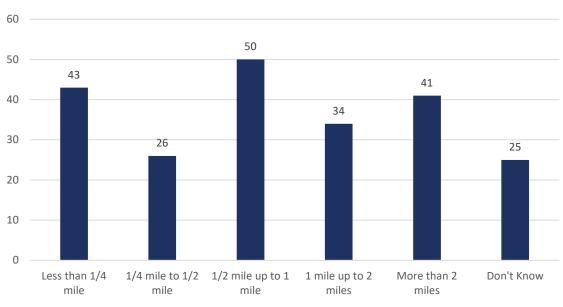
Survey Responses by School

What grade is your child in?



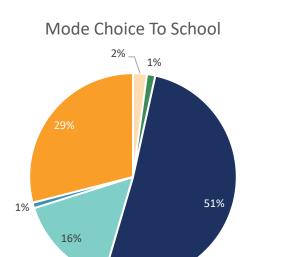
¹ Online surveys did not include this question, so school is unknown for those surveys. While other questions in the survey indicate that most responses pertain to an elementary school student, it is not known which elementary school these students attend.

How far does your child live from school?



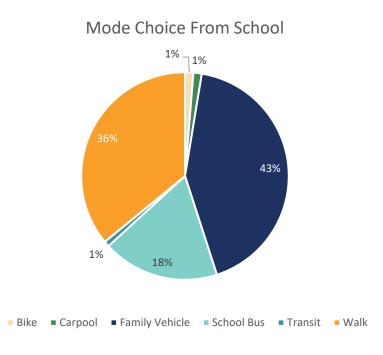
Distance from School

How does your child arrive for school?

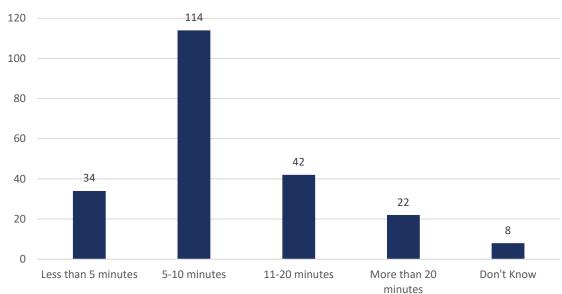


Bike
 Carpool
 Family Vehicle
 School Bus
 Transit
 Walk

How does your child leave from school?

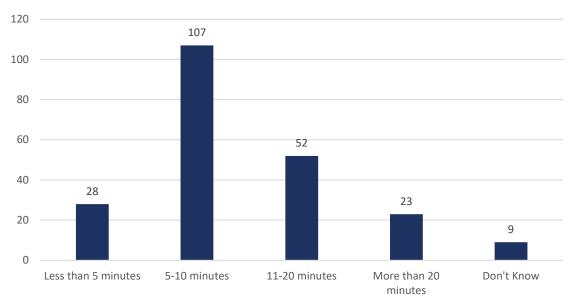


How long does it take to travel to school?



Travel Time To School

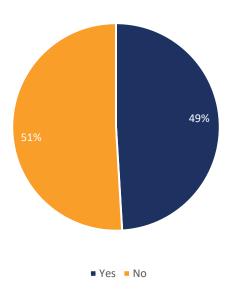
How long does it take to travel home from school?



Travel Time From School

Has your child asked to walk to school?

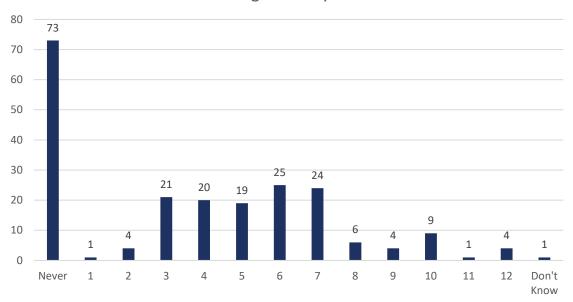




Does your child currently walk or bike to school?

 Walking or Biking to School

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



Walking Alone by Grade

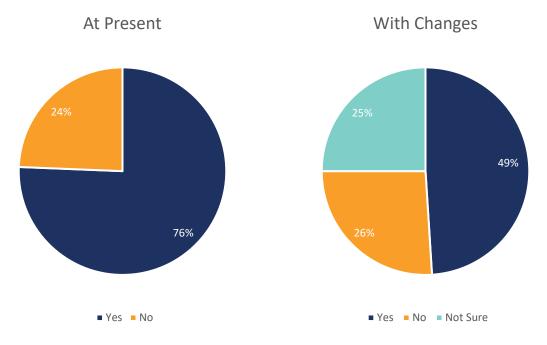
Travel Factor Questions

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

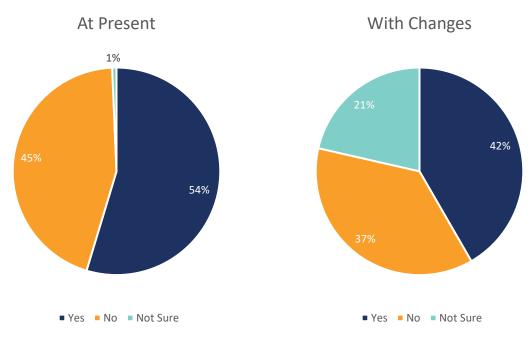
Does the distance between home and school influence your decision to allow your child to walk or bike to school? If the distance were changed, would your decision change?



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.

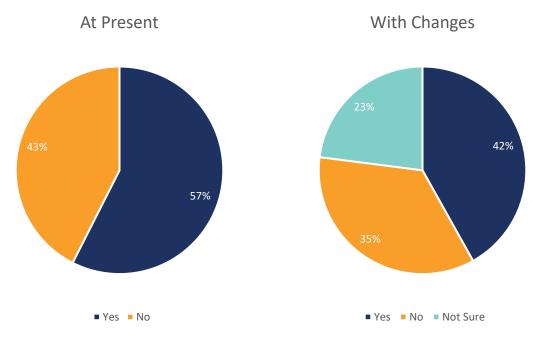
Convenience of Driving

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?



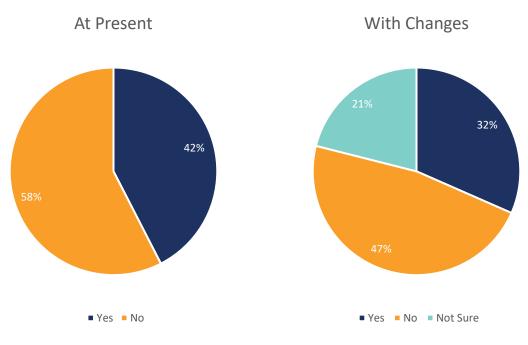
Time

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?



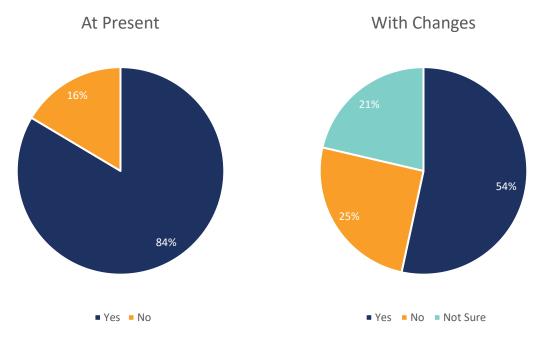
Before- or After-School Activities

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?



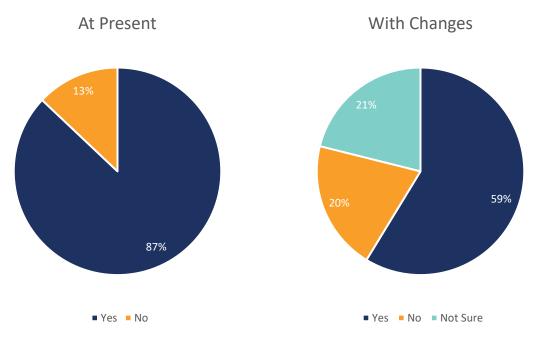
Speed of Traffic

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?



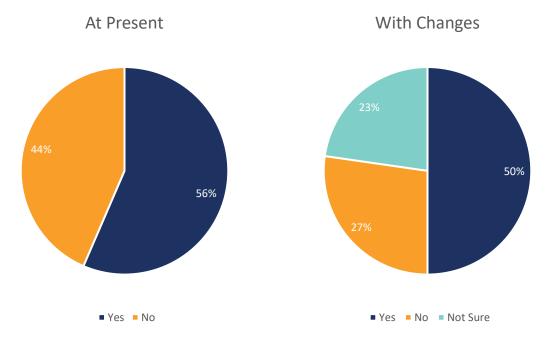
Amount of Traffic

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?



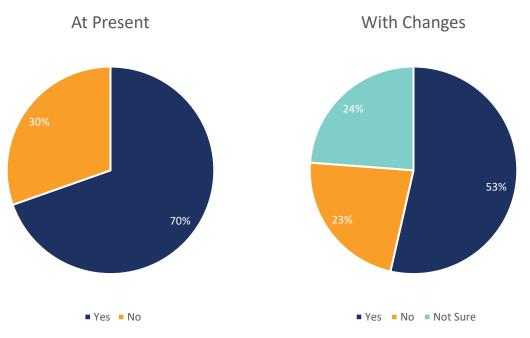
Adult Presence

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?



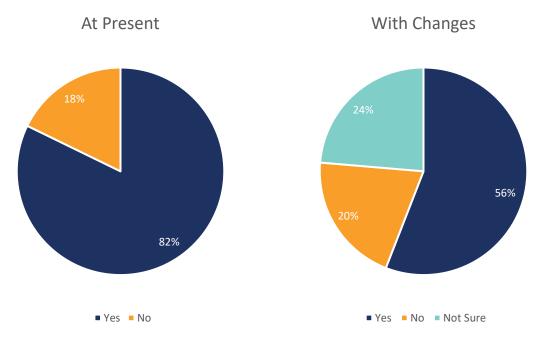
Sidewalks

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?



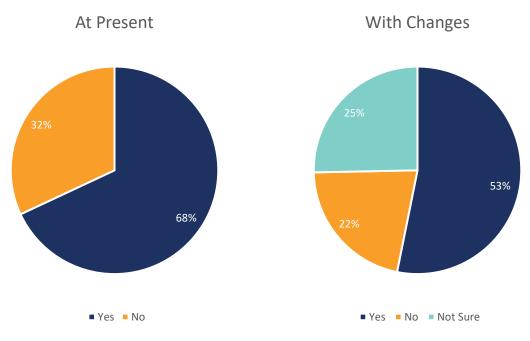
Intersection and Crossing Safety

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?



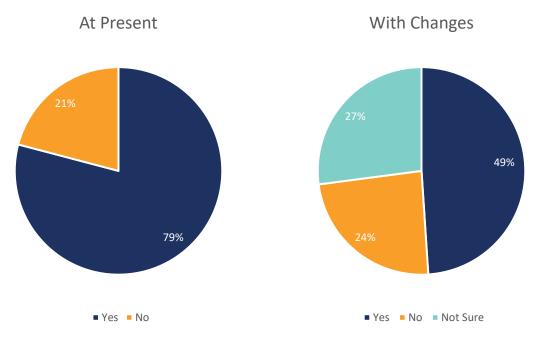
Crossing Guards

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?



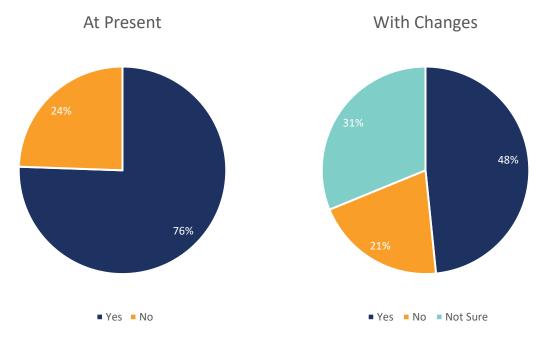
Violence or Crime

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?



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.

Rankª	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						

^a Ranked in order of greatest influence on travel mode to least influence.

Rank ^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%		

Table 2: Travel Factor's Influence Likelihood to Change

^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 SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL MASTER PLAN SURVEY RESPONSE SUMMARY

Attachment 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.

CAPITAL LETTERS ONLY — BLUE OR BLACK INK ONLY

CALINAL LETTERS ONLY DECE OR DEAL									
School Name:									
1. What is the grade of the child who brought home this survey? Grade (PK, K, 1, 2, 3)									
2. Is the child who brought home this survey male	2. Is the child who brought home this survey male or female? Male Female								
3. How many children do you have in Kindergarten through 8th grade?									
4. What is the street intersection nearest your hor	me? (Provide the names of two intersecting streets)								
Place a clear 'X' inside box. if you make a mista	ke, 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 t	to 1 mile More than 2 miles								
\square 1/4 mile up to 1/2 mile \square 1 mile up to 1/2									
Place a clear 'X' inside box. if you make a mistake, fill the entire box, and then mark the correct box.									
	eave for school? (Select one choice per column, mark box with X)								
ARRIVE AT SCHOOL	LEAVE FROM SCHOOL								
Walk	Walk								
Bike	Bike								
School Bus	School Bus								
Family Vehicle (only children in your family)	Family Vehicle (only children in your family)								
Carpool (Children from other families)	Carpool (Children from other families)								
Transit (city bus, subway, etc.)	Transit (city bus, subway, etc.)								
Other (skateboard, scooter, inline skates, et	c.) Other (skateboard, scooter, inline skates, etc.)								
Place a clear 'X' inside box. if you make a mista	ke, fill the entire box, and then mark the correct box.								
	t to/from school? (Select one choice per column, mark box with X)								
TRAVEL TIME TO SCHOOL	TRAVEL TIME FROM SCHOOL								
Less than 5 minutes	Less than 5 minutes								
5-10 minutes	5-10 minutes								
11-20 minutes	11-20 minutes								
More than 20 minutes	More than 20 minutes								
Don't know / Not sure	Don't know / Not sure								



SKIP THE PAPER RETURN AND FILL OUT THIS SURVEY ONLINE!

SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW OR VISIT

Place a clear 'X' inside box. if you make a mistake, fill th	ne 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?							
9. At what grade would you allow your child to walk or bike to/from school without an adult?								
	I would not feel comfortable at any grade							
Place a clear 'X' inside box. if you make a mistake, fill th	he entire box, and then mark the correct box.							
10. What of the following issues affected your decision 1	1. Would you probably let your child walk or bike to/from							
to allow, or not allow, your child to walk or bike to/	school if this problem were changed or improved?							
from school? (Select ALL that apply)	(Select one choice per line, mark box with X)							
_	My child already walks or bikes to/from school							
Distance	Yes No Not Sure							
Convenience	Yes No Not Sure							
Time	Yes No Not Sure							
Child's before or after-school activities	Yes No Not Sure							
Speed of traffic along route	Yes No Not Sure							
Amount of traffic along route	Yes No Not Sure							
Adults to walk or bike with	Yes No Not Sure							
Sidewalks or pathways	Yes No Not Sure							
Safety of intersections and crossings	Yes No Not Sure							
Crossing guards	Yes No Not Sure							
Violence or crime	Yes No Not Sure							
Weather or climate	Yes No Not Sure							
Place a clear 'X' inside box. if you make a mistake, fill th	ne entire box, and then mark the correct box.							
12. In your opinion, how much does your child's school end	courage or discourage walking to/from school?							
Strongly Encourages Encourages Neithe	er Discourages Strongly Discourages							
13. How much fun is walking or biking to/from school for y	our child?							
Very fun 📃 Fun Neutr	al Boring Very boring							
14. How healthy is walking or biking to/from school for you	ur child?							
Very Healthy Healthy Neutr	al 🔄 Unhealthy 📄 Very Unhealthy							
Place a clear 'X' inside box. if you make a mistake, fill th	ne entire box, and then mark the correct box.							
15. What is the highest grade or year of school you comple	vted?							
Grades 1 through 8 (Elementary)	ge 1 to 3 years (Some college or technical school)							
Grades 9 through 11 (Some high school) 🔲 Colleg	ge 4 years or more (College graduate)							
Grades 12 or GED (High school graduate) 🔲 Prefer	r not to answer							
16. Please provide any additional comments below.								
								
	CITY OF MENDOTA SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL							

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.

LETRA MAYUSCULA SOLAMENTE USE TINTA AZUL O NEGRA

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3.	έCu	iántos	s niños	tiene	uste	d en	tre Ki	nder	garte	en y e	e l 8v e	o gra	do?	Ľ										
4.	¿Cu	iál es	la inte	rsecci	ón m	ás ce	rca d	e su	casa	? (el c	ruce	de la	s dos	calles)										
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OMITA LA DEVOLUCIÓN DE LA ENCUESTA EN PA-PEL Y COMPLETE ESTA ENCUESTA EN LÍNEA!

ESCANEE EL CÓDIGO QR A CONTINUACIÓN O VISITE

¿Cómo llenar este formulario?: Escriba en letras MAYUS	CULAS. 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? Sí No								
عن خلاف و علم عنه المعني عنه المعني عنه المعني عنه المعني عنه المعني عنه و عنه المعني عنه المعني عنه و عنه المع								
(seleccione un grado entre PK,K,1,2,3) grado (o)	No me sentiría cómodo/a en ningún grado							
¿Cómo llenar este formulario?: Escriba en letras MAYUS	CULAS. 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)	 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) Mi hijo(a) ya viaja a pié o en bicicleta a/desde la escuela 							
Distancia	Sí No No estoy seguro/a							
Conveniencia de manejar	Sí No No estoy seguro/a							
Tiempo	Sí No No estoy seguro/a							
Actividades antes o después de la escuela	Sí No No estoy seguro/a							
Velocidad del tránsito en la ruta	Sí No No estoy seguro/a							
Cantidad de tránsito en la ruta	Sí No No estoy seguro/a							
Adultos que acompañen a su niño	Sí No No estoy seguro/a							
Aceras o caminos	Sí No No estoy seguro/a							
Seguridad de las intersecciones y cruces	Sí No No estoy seguro/a							
Guardias de cruce peatonal	Sí No No estoy seguro/a							
Violencia o crimen	Sí No No estoy seguro/a							
Tiempo o clima	Sí No No estoy seguro/a							
¿Cómo llenar este formulario?: Escriba en letras MAYUS	CULAS. Marque las cajas con "X"							
12. En su opinión, ¿cuánto apoyo provée la escuela de su hijo a Anima Fuertemente Anima Ni un	a caminar y usar la bicicleta para ir o regresar de la escuela?							
13. ¿Qué tan DIVERTIDO es caminar o andar en bicicleta ha	acia o desde la escuela para su niño?							
Muy Divertido Divertido Neuti	ral 📃 Aburrido 📃 Muy Aburrido							
14. ¿Qué tan SANO es caminar o andar en bicicleta hacia o	o desde la escuela para su niño?							
Muy Sano Sano Neuti	ral 📃 Malsano 📃 Muy Malsano							
¿Cómo llenar este formulario?: Escriba en letras MAYUS	CULAS. Marque las cajas con "X"							
 15. ¿Cuál es el grado o el año más alto de educación que u Grados 1 a 8 (Escuela primaria) Grados 9 a 11 (alguna High School/secundaria) Grado 12 o GED (graduado High School/secundaria) 	usted terminó? 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:	-							
· ·								