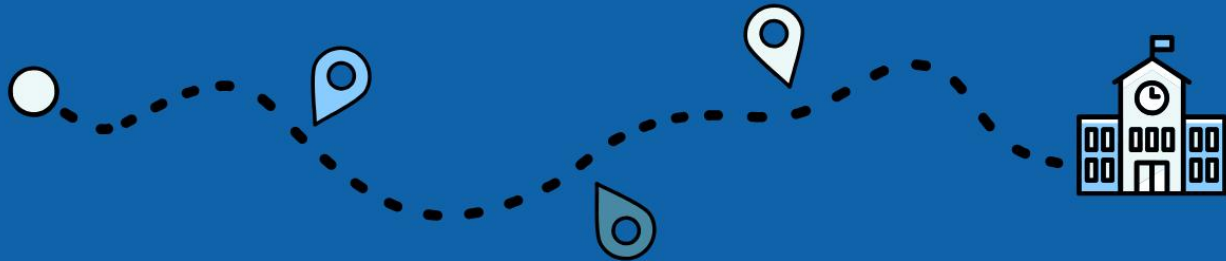


SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL ACTION PLAN



Engagement Summary



TOWN OF CARRBORO • NC



Introduction

Updating Carrboro's Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Action Plan is essential to reflect changes in travel habits, school populations, and community priorities since the 2012 plan. The town has made significant strides in equity, safety, and climate objectives, alongside changes in school enrollment, development, and infrastructure. The update will guide efforts to make it safer, easier, and more enjoyable for students to walk, bike, or roll to Carrboro Elementary, McDougle Elementary, Morris Grove Elementary, McDougle Middle School, and Carrboro High School.

To create a plan that is responsive, inclusive, and actionable, the Town partnered with each school to engage students, parents, and staff through a multi-layered strategy. The engagement strategy emphasized meeting people where they already are—at school, online, and existing events—while offering repeated opportunities for input throughout the planning process.

Participation Context

Engagement occurred during a period of heightened concern (September-November 2025) among some immigrant and multilingual families across North Carolina. Several school principals and staff reported challenges reaching and engaging families who typically rely on English as a Second Language (ESL) support.

To reduce barriers for participation, the Town and project team offered multiple engagement formats, provided translated materials at every event, and offered native Spanish interpretation at five events, prioritizing schools with the largest number of Spanish-speaking students. The team also left materials with El Centro Hispano for staff to share with their clients and families, and explore potential collaboration opportunities, though none were identified. Therefore, the team focused on leveraging school-base channels to connect with the Latinx and as a result, outreach efforts focused on trusted, school-based channels to connect with Latinx and Hispanic families.

This context is important for understanding participation levels and highlights the need for ongoing, relationship-based outreach and culturally responsive strategies in future Safe Routes to School efforts.

Equity Context

Although the survey did not collect demographic or racial data, the project team intentionally designed outreach to reach families who are often underrepresented in traditional planning processes, including People of Color and lower-income residents. Engagement included in-person conversations and the distribution of Safe Routes to School materials at two Carrboro in Motion events, which are existing, Town-led programs focused on engaging historically marginalized community members. Additionally, the project team distributed postcards, digital

and print flyers, and bookmarks at 18 multifamily apartment complexes across Carrboro. Outreach materials were also posted at all ten Town Information Centers and at the Drakeford Library Complex to increase visibility and access.

Engagement Activities

Engagement activities were tailored to reflect each school's unique character, location, and travel patterns, while maintaining a consistent approach across the Town. This flexible framework allowed the project team to adjust timing, format, and emphasis based on each school community, while still ensuring broad and equitable participation. Across all five schools, engagement included the following core categories of outreach and input:

- **Pop-up outreach events** timed to coincide with arrival, dismissal, and school activities
- **Tabling** at pre-existing, family-focused Town events to capture families outside of the school setting and promote the project and opportunities to participate
- An **interactive project website and online survey** to collect input from parents and students regarding their current travel habits and suggestions for improvements
- **Digital promotion** through the Town's website, press releases, social media, and CHCCS parent communication channels
- **Printed outreach materials**, including flyers distributed to families through classrooms and 18 multifamily apartment complexes to ensure a broad reach
- **Walk audits** at each school, engaging students, parents, school staff, and Town representatives in on-the-ground safety assessments
- **Walk and Roll to School Day 2025 promotion**, including morning student travel tallies and an after-school tabling to collect feedback and raise awareness at all five schools

The following pages summarize what we heard through this engagement effort. First, a townwide overview highlights common themes, shared barriers, and recurring priorities across all schools. This is followed by school-specific engagement summaries that document input received and capture unique conditions, concerns, and ideas raised by students, families, and staff. Together, these summaries ensure that both systemwide trends and school-level experiences directly inform the recommendations in the updated SRTS Action Plan.

What We Heard: Townwide Themes

This section summarizes engagement findings collected across all five Carrboro-based schools. Input reflects shared experiences from students, parents, school staff, and community partners, and highlights common barriers, priorities, and opportunities. While each school has unique conditions, the themes below represent issues and ideas heard consistently across Carrboro.

By the Numbers

Engagement Results

- **1,670+** students, parents, and school staff engaged in person
- **332** survey responses received
- **22** events and pop-up activities
- **2,145** flyers distributed through classrooms

Existing Travel Behavior

- **49%** of survey respondents drive their children to school; **35%** walk; and **33%** bike or roll to school
- Top three reasons they do not walk, bike, or roll: **Distance to school (26%), Time constraints (24%), and Unsafe conditions (21%)**

How We Engaged

Promotional Efforts

- Social media and online project website
- CHCCS PeachJar updates and individual school newsletters
- Print collateral included bookmarks, postcard mailers, and project flyers

2025 Townwide Events

- Carrboro in Motion on September 12, 5:00-8:00 pm
- Carrboro Farmers' Market on October 4, 9:00 am-12:00 pm
- Walk & Roll to School Day on October 8, 7:00-8:55 am & 2:30-4:30 pm
- Carrboro in Motion on October 11, 11:00 am-2:00 pm
- Carrboro Halloween Carnival on October 31, 5:30-8:00 pm

Common Safety Concerns

- Drivers speeding or not paying attention, especially near schools and crossings
- Missing or incomplete sidewalks, crosswalks, and bike paths that make walking or biking feel unsafe
- Busy intersections and difficult crossings where kids don't feel visible or protected

- Traffic congestion causes high-stress drop-off and pick-up
- Limited crossing guards or adult help and personal safety concerns
- Unclear routes and poor lighting or visibility make kids feel confused and unsafe
- Long distances and weather conditions make journeys untenable

Where People Are Most Concerned

- Major arterial and collector roads connecting neighborhoods to schools
- Intersections with multiple turning movements and limited sight distance
- Routes that connect to Chapel Hill, like Eubanks Rd and through Carolina North Forest

Improvements People Want to See

- More visible and predictable crossings near schools
- Traffic calming measures on main roads
- Enhanced signage, markings, and driver awareness within and before school zones
- Visible, covered, and protected bike parking
- Widened and separated bike lanes
- Completion of greenway and sidewalk gaps

Ideas for Education, Encouragement & Programs

- Walking school buses and bike trains
- Student-led safety ambassadors and peer education
- Traffic safety education integrated into classrooms
- Driver awareness and school zone campaigns
- Incentives and celebrations tied to Walk/Bike & Roll to School Days
- Documentation of actual speeds on high-risk roads

Carrboro and Chapel Hill Cross-Jurisdictional Needs

Engagement highlighted distinct challenges for students who attend Carrboro schools but live in Chapel Hill, and vice versa. Key themes included:

- Gaps in pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure along major corridors such as Homestead Rd and NC 54, and near neighborhoods including Royal Park and Carolina Apartments
- Requests for safer crossings over busy roadways and creeks, improved maintenance of informal walking paths, and clearer wayfinding
- School assignment boundaries that limit realistic walking or biking options
- The need for continued coordination among Carrboro, Chapel Hill, and CHCCS to align traffic enforcement, school zone operations, and infrastructure investments across municipal boundaries

Pull Quotes

- *"We need greenway connections from Carrboro to the schools on Seawell School Rd FROM the neighborhoods in Carrboro." (From Chapel Hill High)*
 - *"We live 6.3 miles from elementary school. There is no way any elementary school kid is going to walk, bike or roll 6.3 miles! This is also down Jones Ferry Rd, a very busy two lane road with narrow bridges, steep hills, and wooded curves. Let's be realistic and say that the school bus is an absolute necessity. That's what makes school accessible. Reliable bus service." (from McDougle Elementary)*
 - *"I strongly support planning and investing in more safe routes to school so more families can benefit from the ease, mental and physical health benefits, and positive child development that walking, biking, scooting, etc. to school offers. In addition to physical infrastructure, I encourage use of social infrastructure like walking/biking bus routes within and beyond current walk zones. My only reason for not leading a walking bus is that we live extremely close to the school and already know the other students who are walking in our neighborhood, so can take care of that informally. Thank you for this effort!" (from McDougle Elementary)*
 - *"Advertisement to drivers. Many drivers go over the speed limit when driving in school areas and only slow down if they See 1 student. The drivers should be going slower regardless and accidents can happen because they can't See the student. I also think that student should be taught to be more aware of their surroundings. Not just them not being on their phone but to actively look around and know where cars are." (from Carrboro High teen survey)*
 - *"A consistent crossing guard is key. It seems like training for crossing guards and intermittent coaching supports could be helpful. Watching cars speed through the school zone everyday is scary. There are also drivers who don't stop for the crosswalk even when there is a crossing guard. Thank you for making safe walking/biking a priority." (from McDougle Middle)*
 - *"Unnecessary, non school related traffic should be redirected during school drop off and pickup hours. There is no reason to endanger students when traffic can be rerouted during these brief periods and allow a safe, low-stress walking and biking experience for young children." (from Carrboro Elementary)*
-

What We Heard: Carrboro Elementary

Carrboro Elementary School (CES) serves a diverse student body and is located just off West Main St in downtown Carrboro. Many families live nearby within walking distance, and the surrounding area features a variety of homes, parks, shops, and community spaces. The school is accessible by sidewalks and bike lanes along major streets, including West Main St, Hillsborough Rd, Jones Ferry Rd, and Poplar Ave, making walking and biking to school a feasible option.



Carrboro Elementary 2025 Walk and Roll to School Day Event

By the Numbers

Engagement Results

- **152** students, parents, and school staff engaged
- **54** survey responses received
- **4** school-based events and pop-up activities
- **520** flyers distributed through classrooms

Existing Travel Behavior

- **52%** of survey respondents drive their children to school; **46%** bike or roll; and **44%** walk to school
- Top three reasons they do not walk, bike, or roll: **Time constraints (26%), Unsafe conditions (24%), and Distance to school (19%)**

How We Engaged

Input from the Carrboro Elementary community was gathered using multiple methods to ensure broad and inclusive participation, and through partnership with Principal Jordi Roman, the CES PTA, and the Carrboro Elementary School PTA Road Safety Committee:

2025 Events

- Road Safety Committee Meeting on September 17, 3:00-3:40 pm
- Elementary Curriculum Night on September 25, 5:00-6:30 pm
- Walk to School Day on October 8, 7:00-8:55 am & 2:30-4:30 pm
- Carrboro Elementary Walk Audit on November 3, 4:00-5:30 pm

Key Safety Concerns

- People driving too fast and not obeying stop signs, or yielding to people and/or crossing guards in crosswalks
- Limited sightlines caused by landscaping, topography, and large vehicles or trailers
- Sidewalk gaps along Shelton St

Improvements People Want to See

- **Greensboro St/Shelton St:** Relocate the crosswalk to W Main St (near Lanza's Café/art gallery) and add a pedestrian refuge island
- **Hillsborough Rd (Pine St–Shelton St):** Narrow travel lanes using curb extensions and install speed humps
- **Hillsborough Rd Corridor:** Enhance school zone signage with flashing beacons and collect vehicle speed data
- **West Main St/Hillsborough Rd:** Improve visibility and intersection awareness
- **Greensboro St, Hillsborough Rd, Estes Dr:** Add dedicated or protected bike lanes
- **Cheek St/Hillsborough Rd/High St:** Add a crossing guard

Ideas for Education, Encouragement & Programs

- Establish a bike bus along Greensboro St and Hillsborough Rd routes
- Improve traffic management during arrival and dismissal periods
- Separate bus and carpool drop-off areas to reduce conflicts
- Clarify signage and operations for the two-way to one-way transition on Shelton St
- Document and share vehicle speed data on Hillsborough Rd

Pull Quotes

- *“For CES, it's the speeding cars at the Hillsborough/W Main intersection. People simply won't stop to let kids cross on the crosswalks, and they don't look ahead to the crosswalk when taking a right on Hillsborough St.”*
- *“...road rage is insane in this community. East Poplar Avenue by Carrboro Elementary, for example, is well-known as a commuter short-cut, and people fly through the stop signs at high speed every morning... just the other week, a motorist blew through the crosswalk in front of the school crossing guard. No one could do anything. I wish I felt safe riding here, but I don't.”*
- *“...the only place I feel it's dangerous is where we have to cross Greensboro St. at Shelton St., where Breakaway is...we have been nearly hit more than once - breaks screeching and car swerving to miss hitting us. Cars regularly speed by while we're IN the crosswalk, sometimes with their drivers noticing us and giving us a sheepish smile and sometimes*

with the driver looking straight forward not seeming to see us at all. I REALLY REALLY want a crossing light put in at that intersection, like the one we have at the traffic circle on Greensboro near Estes. I've rarely had issues at that crossing, and never as near a miss as we've had at Shelton. The main reason I haven't allowed [my child] to walk herself home is because I'm so fearful of that crossing."

- *"The roads here are not safe and there is zero shoulder to bike. I have stopped bike commuting to my job because of almost being killed by angry drivers who refuse to share the road in front of Magnolia View Farm. We need a bike lane, and we need to hold rage drivers accountable. We need help. We love biking and we cannot."*
 - *"[My child] mostly walks by herself, but I make sure to be there for when she has to cross Hillsborough Rd by our neighborhood. More crosswalks along that road and the side roads that intersect it would help."*
-

What We Heard: Morris Grove Elementary

Morris Grove Elementary School (MGES) is in a more suburban area north of downtown Carrboro and is the newest school in the Chapel Hill–Carrboro City Schools district. The campus is surrounded by a mix of neighborhoods and larger roadways, including Old NC 86 and Eubanks Rd, which shape how students travel to school. The Jones Creek Greenway is a key connection, providing a safer walking and biking route for students traveling between the school and nearby communities such as Lake Hogan Farms.



Safety swag, such as high-visibility vests, bike lights, and reflectors, was available to families who provided feedback.

By the Numbers

Engagement Results

- **124** students, parents, and school staff engaged
- **51** survey responses received
- **3** school-based events and pop-up activities
- **400** flyers distributed through classrooms

Existing Travel Behavior

- **82%** of survey respondents drive their children to school; **33%** ride the school bus; and **20%** bike or roll to school
- Top three reasons they do not walk, bike, or roll: **Unsafe conditions (43%), Time constraints (41%), and Distance to school (31%)**

How We Engaged

Input from the Morris Grove Elementary community was gathered using multiple methods to ensure broad and inclusive participation, and through partnership with Principal Amy Rickard and the MGE PTA:

2025 Events

- Elementary Curriculum Night on September 25, 6:00-7:30 pm
- Walk to School Day on October 8, 7:00-8:55 am & 2:30-4:30 pm
- Geckopalooza on October 23, 6:00-7:30 pm
- Morris Grove Elementary Walk Audit on November 19, 11:00 am-12:30 pm

Key Safety Concerns

- The unpaved, rocky section of the Jones Creek Greenway
- Traffic along Eubanks Rd and Old NC 86 and carpool congestion on campus
- Lack of bike lanes or a multi-use path on Eubanks to connect Carrboro and Chapel Hill

Improvements People Want to See

- **Jones Creek Greenway:** Complete the missing segment of paved trail so that strollers, bike trailers, and smaller cyclists can use it to get to school
- **Increased police presence** during peak school traffic hours to improve driver behavior
- **Eubanks Rd corridor:** A multi-use path to connect families that live in Chapel Hill

Ideas for Education, Encouragement & Programs

- Implement a communication system for school staff to inform parents that their children made it to school safely via the greenway
- Establish a bike bus through the greenway
- Improve traffic management during arrival and dismissal periods

Pull Quotes

- *“I would love to see the paved greenway between lake hogan farms and MGE extended all the way into the neighborhood trails so that kids can safely ride. As of now, there are uneven paths and small bridges that my daughter can’t traverse on her own and that make it difficult to get through even as an adult.”*
 - *“There is a beautiful, paved path that does not connect all the way through so there is a mountain biking segment. We think more people would bike if this was paved all the way through. The mountain biking can be intimidating to new riders, and it is a challenge to bring a stroller through (e.g., for a younger sibling) or to put a younger sibling in a seat or trailer.”*
 - *“Why aren’t there more sidewalks connecting different developments within the community and why is Morris Grove so inaccessible to the neighborhood it backs up to?”*
 - *“Even driving to school feels iffy due to speeders and impatient drivers passing unsafely! Morris Grove could really use a police presence due peak traffic hours.”*
 - *“Lake Hogan Farms is not accessible to any of the schools that it is zoned for: Morris Grove, McDougle or Chapel Hill HS. There are no sidewalks.”*
-

What We Heard: McDougle Elementary

McDougle Elementary School (MES) is located near several residential neighborhoods but is separated from many homes by major roads such as Hillsborough Rd and Old Fayetteville Rd. Students can access the campus through neighborhood streets and trail connections near Lisa Dr and Quail Roost Dr. Sidewalks, crossings, and bike facilities support walking and biking for families living east of Hillsborough Rd. Because the school serves younger students, families emphasized the need for routes that feel safe, comfortable, and easy to navigate with adult supervision.

By the Numbers

Engagement Results

- **180** students, parents, and school staff engaged
- **112** survey responses received
- **3** school-based events and pop-up activities
- **500** flyers distributed through classrooms

Existing Travel Behavior

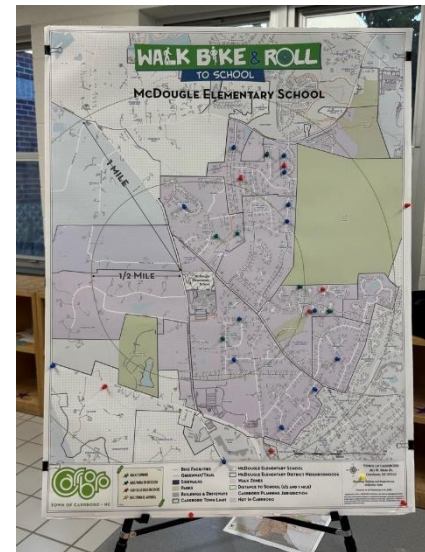
- **52%** of survey respondents drive their children to school; **49%** bike or roll; and **46%** walk to school
- Top three reasons they do not walk, bike, or roll: **Distance to school (26%)**, **Time constraints (23%)**, and **Unsafe conditions (17%)**

How We Engaged

Input from the McDougle Elementary community was gathered using multiple methods to ensure broad and inclusive participation, and through partnership with Principal Kirtisha Jones, the MES PTA, and the School Improvement Team (SIT):

2025 Events

- Elementary Curriculum Night on September 25, 5:30-7:00 pm
- Walk to School Day on October 8, 7:00-8:55 am & 2:30-4:30 pm
- School Improvement Team Meeting on October 13, 5:00-6:00 pm
- McDougle Elementary Walk Audit on November 17, 3:00-4:30 pm



During events, parents and students marked their neighborhood on a map and discussed their typical or desired routes with the project team.

Key Safety Concerns

- People driving too fast or using unsafe behavior along Hillsborough Rd and Old Fayetteville Rd
- Low visibility caused by overgrown shrubbery, missing signage, and inadequate lighting
- Dangerous, unsignalized crossings at the Hillsborough Rd and W Main St intersections

Improvements People Want to See

- **Pathway Dr:** Speeding is a significant issue that needs to be addressed
- **James St/Hillsborough Rd:** This intersection is key for general neighborhood connectivity, as many students go to MLK Jr Park outside of school hours
- **Quail Roost Dr/Lisa Dr:** Vehicle drop-offs and pick-ups create multimodal conflicts between vehicles, pedestrians, cyclists, and rollers
- **Quail Roost Dr/Hillsborough Rd:** Add a crossing guard and pedestrian signal
- **James St/W Main St:** Add a crossing guard and pedestrian signal
- **Hillsborough Rd corridor:** Add sidewalk on the west side of the road

Ideas for Education, Encouragement & Programs

- Town-sponsored bike helmet and road safety education
- A formal recommendation from the district about the appropriate age to let a child take active transportation to school alone
- Shaded and protected bike parking
- Speeding enforcement along Hillsborough Rd

Pull Quotes

- *“My biggest concern is the safety of my kids crossing Hillsborough Road at the marked crosswalk to get to McDougale Elementary in the afternoons when a crossing guard is not present. Many cars do stop and allow kids to cross when kids are waiting on the sidewalk at the crosswalk, but many other cars do not stop or even slow down when a kid is present. Maybe additional signage on Hillsborough Road north and south of the crosswalk to alert motorists that there's a crosswalk ahead and actively used by kids would be helpful.”*
- *“We live off 54 - it is very unsafe to walk/bike along that highway. Otherwise, we would strongly consider walking/biking.”*
- *“My biggest fear is speeding cars. I regularly see people speed through school zones and whizz past cyclists many of whom are young children in the morning and afternoon. I would really like to see our laws enforced. Why have them if we won't enforce them?”*

- *“The area behind McDougale Middle School track, Lisa Dr and Qual Roost has increased significantly in school drop off and pick-ups. There are loads of pedestrians and cyclists commuting at this time and the added school pick up traffic in the neighborhood makes it unsafe at that intersection. There was once signage for it being a No School Drop Zone. But there is not a sign there now.”*
 - *“There needs to be a sidewalk along Homestead Rd. and lighted crosswalks. This is especially true to connect Lake Hogan Farms to Wexford. If this was safe (sidewalks and a crosswalk) so many more kids could safely bike or walk to school.”*
-

What We Heard: McDougle Middle

McDougle Middle School (MMS) shares a campus and surrounding street network with McDougle Elementary and is also located near several residential neighborhoods. Students access the school through neighborhood streets and trail connections near Lisa Dr and Quail Roost Dr, with sidewalks and crossings supporting travel from areas east of Hillsborough Rd. Middle school students are more independent and often travel on their own, which means they use a wider variety of routes and streets beyond the immediate school zone when walking, biking, or rolling to school.



The project team walked along key routes after getting focused feedback from students.

By the Numbers

Engagement Results

- **126** students, parents, and school staff engaged
- **38** survey responses received
- **3** school-based events and pop-up activities
- **725** flyers distributed through classrooms

Existing Travel Behavior

- **50%** of survey respondents drive their children to school; **34%** bike or roll; and **29%** walk to school
- Top three reasons they do not walk, bike, or roll: **Unsafe conditions (21%), Time constraints (13%), and Distance to school (13%)**

How We Engaged

Input from McDougle Middle Mustangs was gathered using multiple methods to ensure broad and inclusive participation, and through partnership with Principal Christopher Horne, the MMS PTA, and the SIT:

2025 Events

- School Improvement Team Meeting on September 25, 4:00-5:00 pm
- Walk to School Day on October 8, 7:00-8:55 am & 2:30-4:30 pm
- McDougle Middle Fall Concert on October 28, 7:30-9:30 pm

- McDougale Middle Walk Audit on December 10, 2:00-3:30 pm

Key Safety Concerns

- People driving too fast or using unsafe behavior along Hillsborough Rd and Old Fayetteville Rd
- Low visibility caused by overgrown shrubbery, missing signage, and inadequate lighting
- Dangerous, unsignalized crossings at the Hillsborough Rd and W Main St intersections
- There is no safe route to school for students living south of NC 54

Improvements People Want to See

- **Homestead Rd:** Install a pedestrian signal and crosswalk; crossings feel unsafe today and acts as a major barrier for families living to the north
- **James St intersections (Hillsborough Rd and W Main St):** Add pedestrian signals and sidewalks; crossing is dangerous because people drive too fast, and there is no sidewalk
- **Old Fayetteville Rd (front entrance):** Install school zone signage with flashing lights

Ideas for Education, Encouragement & Programs

- Establish a bike bus program
- Implement school-supported bike education
- Strengthen crossing guard presence and ensure training is consistent
- Leverage Anderson Park as a satellite carpool location to ease carpool congestion

Pull Quotes

- *“There is not a safe way for an adult - let alone a child - to bike from Lake Hogan Farms to McDougale Middle in a reasonable amount of time. Old 86 is extremely unsafe for walkers and bikers, full stop...”*
- *“The main issue we’ve had at McDougale is the crossing guard in the back not showing up randomly. That poses safety risks, especially for the students that are walking or biking alone. We now have a new crossing guard so hopefully it won’t happen in the future.”*
- *“Fayetteville Rd. in front of McDougale needs much better signage and speeding enforcement to make it safe. It is very unsafe for the crossing guard who has been almost hit several times by passing speeding vehicles. There are families that walk/bike and have to cross there. There should be a pedestrian walk with flashing lights, and more signs to slow down and heed crossing guard.”*
- *“We are in the walk Zone but it's too far to expect children to walk. Or parents to walk to and from twice a day with the children. We are about 1.3 miles away from our school and it takes about 30 minutes for an adult to walk, longer for a child. We also have quite*

a steep hill to climb to get out of our neighborhood. It's an unreasonable distance to expect someone to walk. So, we are forced to drive our kids to and from school because we don't have a bus."

What We Heard: Carrboro High

Carrboro High School (CHS) is located off Smith Level Rd, just south of NC 54, and serves students from Carrboro and nearby areas. As the Town's only public high school, its walk zone extends across the Carrboro–Chapel Hill boundary, with about half of it in Chapel Hill. Many families live within walking distance of campus, and students also rely on Chapel Hill Transit routes as well as sidewalks and bike routes along BPW Club Rd, Tar Heel Dr, and Rock Haven Rd to get to school.



Having a table during lunch was a great way to engage with students at Carrboro High.

By the Numbers

Engagement Results

- **307** students, parents, and school staff engaged
- **14** parent survey responses received
- **45** student survey responses received
- **7** school-based events and pop-up activities

Existing Travel Behavior

- **43%** of parents who took the survey reported their kids take the bus to school; **29%** walk; and **29%** are dropped off by car
- **42%** of surveyed students drive to school themselves; **31%** walk; and **20%** take the school bus
- Top three reasons they do not walk, bike or roll: **Distance to school (39%), Prefer to drive or get dropped off (24%), and Time constraints (22%)**

How We Engaged

This Action Plan Update is the first time that Carrboro High and its families have been included in Safe Routes to School planning. Engagement efforts reflect a newer relationship between the Town and the school, unlike the one between the Town and the schools included in the 2012

plan. Input from the Carrboro High community was gathered using multiple methods to ensure broad and inclusive participation, and through partnership with Interim Principal Diego Mureño and the Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA):

2025 Events

- Carrboro High Open House on September 10, 6:00-7:30 pm
- Walk to School Day on October 8, 7:00-8:55 am
- Carrboro High Lunchtime Activity Booth on October 10, 11:40 am-12:25 pm
- Carrboro High Lunchtime Activity Booth on October 24, 11:40 am-12:25 pm
- Carrboro High Lunchtime Activity Booth on November 3, 11:40 am-12:25 pm
- Carrboro High PTSA Meeting on November 18, 5:30-6:30 pm
- Carrboro High Walk Audit on November 20, 4:00-5:00 pm

Key Safety Concerns

- People drive too fast and do not obey traffic laws along Smith Level Rd and at the Smith Level Rd/Rock Haven Rd roundabout
- Low connectivity and rugged terrain between the Weatherhill/Tennis Club Estates neighborhoods
- It is difficult for people living close to the school to walk, bike, or roll because the land around it is hilly

Improvements People Want to See

- **NC 54:** Install a multi-use path for safer crossings
- **Morgan Creek:** Install a bridge over the creek and pave the existing informal path to increase connectivity between Weatherhill/Tennis Club Estates neighborhoods
- **Implement high-visibility crosswalks** within the school's walk zone
- **Woodcrest Dr:** Complete sidewalk gaps to enhance the existing informal path to Rossburn Way

Pull Quotes

- *"At the two roundabouts leading up to school cars rarely yield to pedestrians! My sister and I have to wait for at least 5 cars for someone to yield to us so we can cross."* – Carrboro High student
- *"My biggest area of difficulty is the crossing of Morgan Creek behind the Chapel Hill Tennis Club and path up from the creek."* – Carrboro High student

- *“There should be a safe walking path across Highway 54. There are plenty of children and youth who live in Royal Park and Carolina Apartments who dangerously cross the highway. They should make a footbridge.” – Carrboro High parent*
- *“Advertisement to drivers. Many drivers go over the speed limit when driving in school areas and only slow down if they see a student. The drivers should be going slower regardless and accidents can happen because they can’t see the student. I also think that student should be taught to be more aware of their surroundings. Not just them not being on their phone but to actively look around and know where cars are.” – Carrboro High student*
- *“We just need a foot bridge over Morgan Creek and brush cleared to create a walking path connecting three neighborhoods to Carrboro High School.” – Carrboro High parent*