



# Safety Audit Walk – Background Checklist



Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Completed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact info: \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle or fill in your answers.

A. How many children attend the school? \_\_\_\_\_

B. What are the grade levels at this school? (circle all) K 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

C. Does the school also include a Head Start or Preschool? YES / NO

D. What number of the students live... \_\_\_\_\_ Within the walk boundary?  
\_\_\_\_\_ Within 1 mile of the school?  
\_\_\_\_\_ Within 1.5 miles of the school?

E. Does the school have a map that designates walking routes to the school from the surrounding area?  YES  NO

F. Is there a school safety patrol program?  YES  NO

G. Are paid school crossing guards assigned to any crossings?  YES  NO

H. Are unpaid/volunteer school crossing guards organized for any crossings?  
 YES  NO

I. Is there a plan for drop off and pick up that separates cars and buses from arriving foot traffic?  YES  NO

J. Does the school discourage parents from driving their children to school?  YES  NO

K. Does the school have any policies to minimize driving to school among parents and/or staff? (check all that apply)

\_\_\_\_\_ No idling” campaign

\_\_\_\_\_ Limits parking

\_\_\_\_\_ Air quality promotion

\_\_\_\_\_ Assists with arranging carpools

\_\_\_\_\_ Does not provide free parking

\_\_\_\_\_ Requires parents to park a block from school

L. Does the police department conduct a program of targeted traffic enforcement around the school? (related to speeding, motorists violating the crosswalk law, etc.)  YES  NO



# Safety Audit Walk – Observation Checklist



## Signs and Speed Limits

1. Within three blocks of the school, are there any of the following? (check all that apply)

\_\_\_\_\_ 2-lane or wider streets (Including left turn lane)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Speed limits of 30 miles per hour (mph) or higher  
\_\_\_\_\_ Speed limits of 40 mph or higher

2. What is the highest speed limit on a street next to the school? \_\_\_\_\_ mph  
\_\_\_\_\_ Check here if there is a speed limit sign

3. Is there a sign about the school zone speed limit near the school?  YES  NO  
IF YES: What is the speed limit? \_\_\_\_\_ mph

Where is the school zone sign? (check all that apply)

\_\_\_\_\_ at marked school crosswalk(s) \_\_\_\_\_ on block(s) adjacent to  
\_\_\_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_

Does the sign say what time you should follow the speed limit?

\_\_\_\_\_ when children present \_\_\_\_\_ when lights are flashing  
\_\_\_\_\_ when school in session \_\_\_\_\_ specific hours  
\_\_\_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_

4. Are there words or warning signs painted on the road to warn drivers?  
 YES  NO

## Street Crossings

1. Are there marked crosswalks at every crossing that children walk?  
 YES  NO  N/A
2. Are there stop lights at the crosswalks? (flashing yellow lights do not apply)  
 YES  NO  N/A
3. Do the light signals have a pedestrian walk/do not walk sign?  
 YES  NO  SOME NEEDED
4. Do you have to push a button to get the “WALK” sign to turn on?  
 YES  NO  N/A
5. Does the button work?  
 YES  NO  N/A

6. Does the walk signal give you enough time to cross the street?  
 YES    NO    SOME LOCATIONS
7. Would you have time to cross the street if you were on crutches or a wheelchair?  
 YES    NO    N/A

**Sidewalks**

1. Are there sidewalks for routes children walk?  
 NONE (SKIP QUESTIONS 2 AND 3)    SOME    MOST    ALL    N/A
2. How wide are the sidewalks? \_\_\_\_\_ Feet \_\_\_\_\_ Inches (record the minimum width)
3. Are there trees, grass, or other buffers between the sidewalk and the street?  
 NONE    SOME    MOST    ALL    N/A
4. Is there on-street parking along the sidewalk?  
 NONE    SOME    MOST    ALL    N/A
5. Is there lighting on the routes to the school?  
 NONE    SOME    MOST    ALL    N/A
6. Which of the following can you find near the school?
- |  |   |
|--|---|
| _____ . steep hills or stairways           | _____ . wide intersections                    |
| _____ . blind curves on streets            | _____ . truck traffic                         |
| _____ . wooded areas or unkept open spaces | _____ . train tracks                          |
| _____ . lack of sidewalks                  | _____ . crime & loitering in the neighborhood |
| _____ . poorly maintained walkways         | _____ . vacant or undeveloped lots            |
| _____ . vegetation overgrowth              | _____ . construction zones                    |
| _____ . speeding vehicles                  | _____ . vehicles parked blocking walkways     |
| _____ . unsignalized street crossings      | _____ . lack of other children walking        |
| _____ . Other _____                        |   |

7. Are there places for a wheelchair to go on and off sidewalks easily?  
 NONE    SOME    MOST    ALL    N/A
8. Do students walk to any of the following before/during/after school?
- |  |  |
|--|--|
| _____ . Playground                         | _____ . Library                                  |
| _____ . Community Center                   | _____ . Convenience store/bakery/café/restaurant |
| _____ . Youth center/after school programs |  |
| _____ . Other _____                        |  |
9. Do you see other students acting unsafely?  
 NONE    SOME    MOST    ALL    N/A
10. What do you see most often? \_\_\_\_\_

## Drop-off & Pick-up

1. Can walkers get to the school from the street WITHOUT having to walk through driveways or parking lots?  YES  NO
2. Are parked or waiting cars blocking the vision of other motorists, bicyclists or pedestrians?  YES  NO
3. Is there a specific drop-off or pick-up area where cars should wait?  YES  NO
4. Is there a specific drop-off or pick-up area for buses?  YES  NO
5. Are these marked in any way? (paint, signs, etc.)?  YES  NO
6. How do you know about them? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. How do drivers know about them? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Do adults supervise the drop-off and pick-up?  YES  NO  
When?  BEFORE SCHOOL  AFTER SCHOOL
9. Are there youth school safety patrols?  YES  NO  
When?  BEFORE SCHOOL  AFTER SCHOOL
10. Are adult crossing guards at the crossings?  YES  NO  
When?  BEFORE SCHOOL  AFTER SCHOOL
11. Is there a lot of automobile traffic?  YES  NO
12. Are there a lot of walkers?  YES  NO
13. What walking hazards have you seen during the morning?  
please describe: \_\_\_\_\_
14. What hazards have you seen during the afternoon?  
please describe: \_\_\_\_\_
15. Would you want your child to walk to this school?  YES  NO  
Why? Please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

**Record any additional observations here:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_