

**SAFE  
ROUTES  
TO  
SCHOOL**

**HERMANTOWN SCHOOLS AND PROCTOR SCHOOLS –  
PLAN APPROVALS**

# WHAT IS SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL?

- In 1969, nearly 50% of children walked or rode their bikes to school. Today, that figure is closer to 10%.
- To enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school;
- To make bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, thereby encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age; and
- To facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity (approximately 2 miles) of select schools.
- Where it's safe, get children walking and biking
- Where it's not safe, make changes

# WHAT IS A SRTS PLAN?

- Addresses a number of issues at and around schools
- Can help a school district and community plan for and address issues that hinder walking and biking opportunities to school
- Better positions a school or city to pursue and be awarded related funding for project implementation

# THE 6 “E’S”

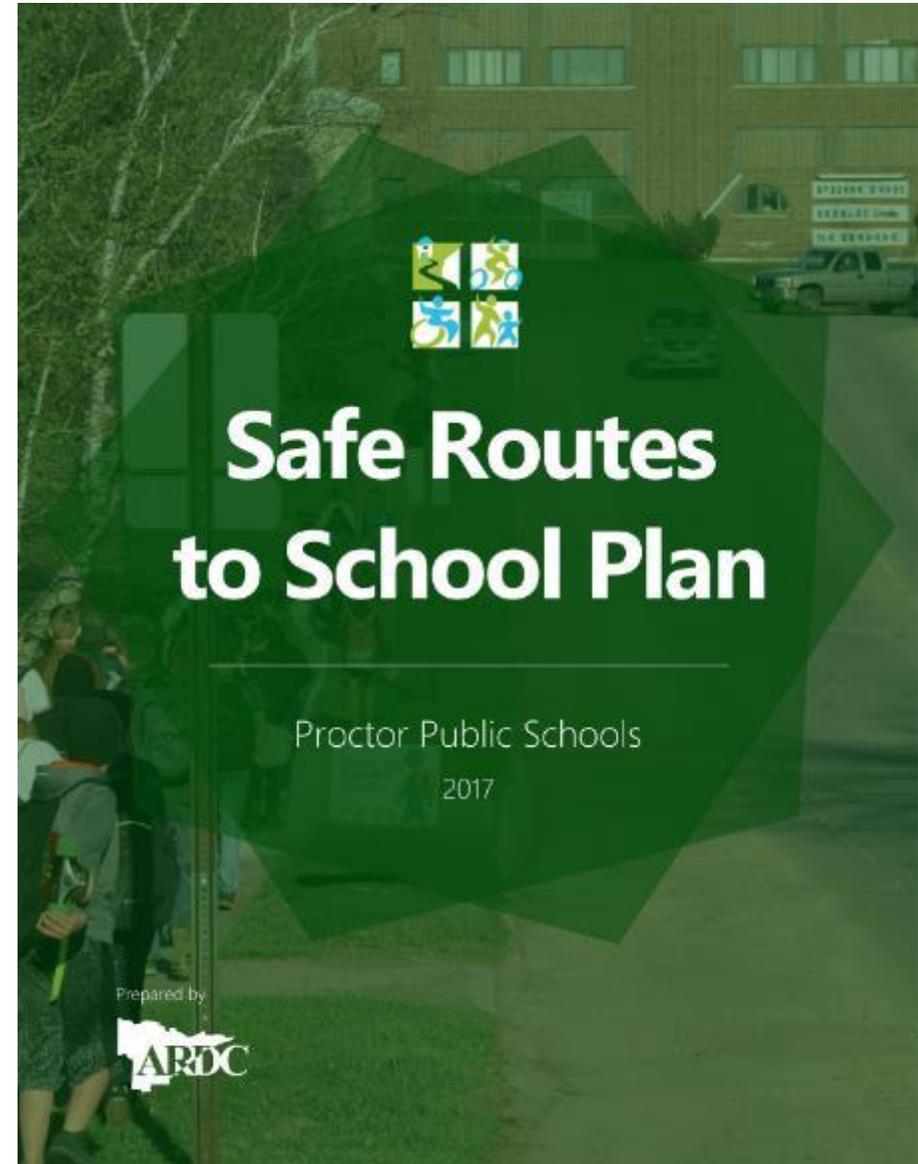
- Education
- Encouragement
- Enforcement
- Engineering
- Evaluation
- Equity



# THE PROCESS

- SRTS Team made up of school representatives, parents, ARDC – Regional Planning, MIC, St. Louis County Public Health, and other area jurisdictional representation
- 4+ meetings
- Observations
- Walking Audit
- Survey
- Data Collection and Mapping

# PROCTOR MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL AND BAYVIEW HEIGHTS



# VISION STATEMENT

By 2022, the Proctor Schools SRTS Team envisions an environment in Proctor Public Schools where walking and biking are embedded in curriculum, viewed as “cool” and enjoyable, and prioritized for the sake of student wellness and safety.

It envisions Proctor Schools communities to be models for other school communities by progressing toward a safe and comfortable transportation network, and by utilizing both grants and sustainable funding sources to promote total accessibility, transportation, and wellness for all members of Proctor Schools communities.

## WALKING FACILITIES

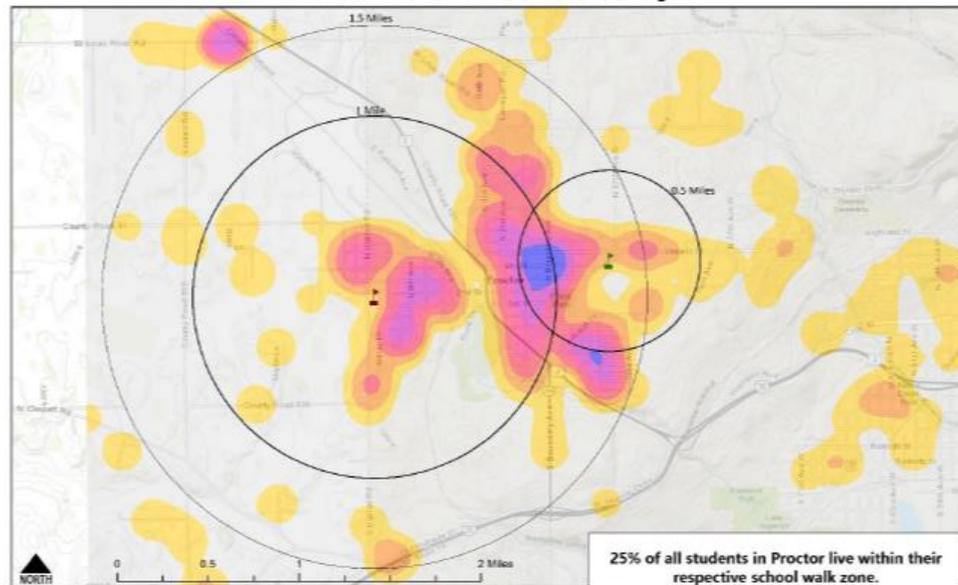


### Notes:

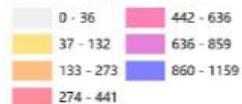
- Per Proctor City Code, paved sidewalks are required along all roads in new developments.
- Per Duluth Legislative Code, bikes cannot be parked on sidewalks.
- A property owner in Proctor must remove snow from abutting sidewalks within 12 hours after snowfall, and property occupants in Duluth within 24 hours.

Sidewalks

## Proctor Student Density



### Student Density (# of students)



- A.I. Jedlicka Middle/Proctor High
- Bayview Elementary
- School Walk Zones

**25% of all students in Proctor live within their respective school walk zone.**

- 13% of students in grades K-5 live in the half mile Elementary School walk zone. (77 of 598 students)
- 24% of students in grades 6-8 live in the one mile Middle School walk zone. (104 of 438 students)
- 38% of students in grades 9-12 live in the 1.5 mile High School walk zone. (205 of 542 students)

## BAY VIEW ELEMENTARY



## A.I. JEDLIKA MIDDLE / PROCTOR HIGH



# IDENTIFIED ISSUES

- Heavy traffic congestion at schools during drop-off/pick-up times
  - puts student pedestrians and bicyclists at risk of injury
- Sidewalk snow removal policies in the cities of Proctor and Duluth are not enforced, and truck-plowed sidewalks result in ice buildup that makes them unsafe and unusable
- Numerous portions of the walking network in the City of Proctor and the Bay View Heights neighborhood of Duluth are in poor condition and are not compliant with standards set forth by the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- Traffic speeds
- Unsafe crossings
- Vegetation overgrowth
- Lack of accommodations for Bicycles and Pedestrians



# RECOMMENDATIONS

1. District Bike Fleet
2. Bay View Drop-off/Pick-up Area
3. School Resource Officer
4. JMS/PHS Drop-off/Pick-up Area
5. Classroom Education
6. Drop-off/Pick-up Policies
7. Bay View School Forest Trails
8. 5th Street and Vinland Street
9. 9th Ave + 3rd St + Ugstad Rd
10. Active Living Committee
11. Community Education
12. Proctor City Code
13. Boundary Avenue
14. Culture of Walking/Biking
15. School Bike-Friendly Facilities
16. Designated Safe Routes
17. Highway 2 Corridor
18. P-H Munger Trail Spur
19. Residential Streets Design
20. Annual Student Surveys
21. Walk/Bike to School Events
22. Orchard Street
23. Second Street
24. School Zone Walk/Bike Counts

### BAY VIEW SCHOOL FOREST TRAILS

**Goal:** Build accessible trails for students to access Bay View Elementary School through Bay View School Forest.

Action Steps:

1. Plan ten-foot-wide, accessible trails to directly connect Orchard Street and the Zenith Terrace community to the south entrance of Bay View Elementary School.
2. Organize volunteers or hire an engineering consultant to clear and prepare trail corridors, including installation of crushed rock surface.
3. Install map kiosks at trailheads.
4. Pave trails, if desired.

#### DETAILS

Improvement Type: Infrastructure  
Cost Estimate: \$\$\$  
Target Completion: September 2020  
Lead Agency: Proctor Public Schools, City of Duluth



### ORCHARD STREET

**Goal:** Enhance walking facility connections along Orchard Street.

Action Steps:

1. Consider reconstruction of sidewalk along the north side of Orchard Street between Boundary Avenue and Midway Avenue and make sidewalk segment compliant with Americans with Disabilities Act standards.
2. Review installation of sidewalk along the north side of Orchard Street between Midway Avenue and Bay View School Forest.
3. Replant boulevard and enforce boulevard parking regulations.

#### DETAILS

Improvement Type: Infrastructure  
Cost Estimate: \$\$  
Target Completion: September 2022  
Lead Agency: City of Duluth



# HERMANTOWN SCHOOLS

## HERMANTOWN SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PLAN · 2016



Prepared by:  
Arrowhead Regional Development Commission  
Regional Planning Division



# VISION STATEMENT

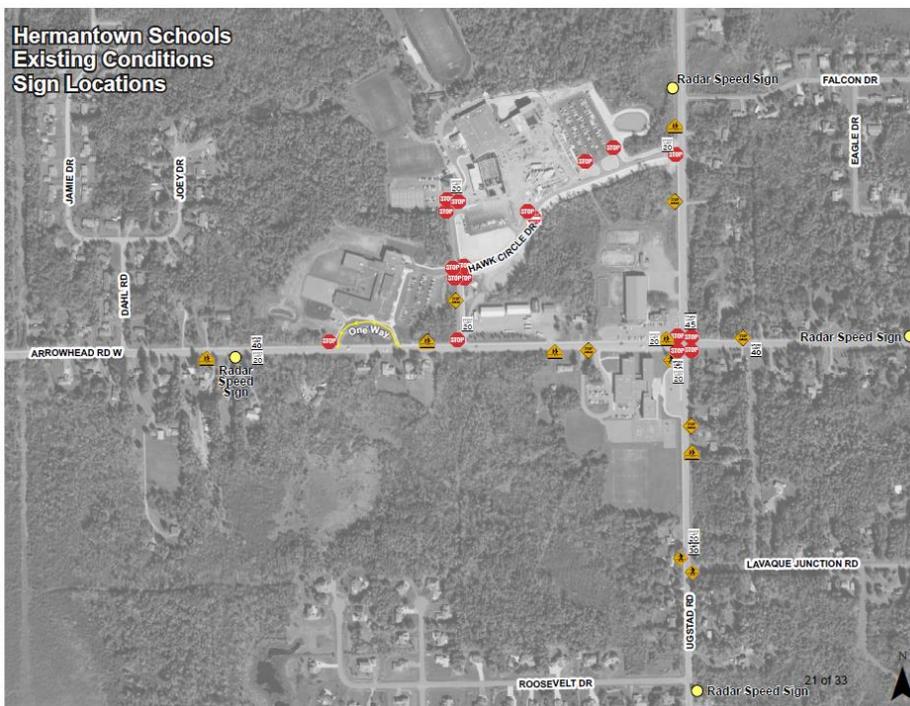
- To produce a safe and comfortable Hermantown School environment that is a focal point for active living. One that catalyzes and inspires physically active children and families by providing quality pathways that ensures usage for people of all ages and abilities.



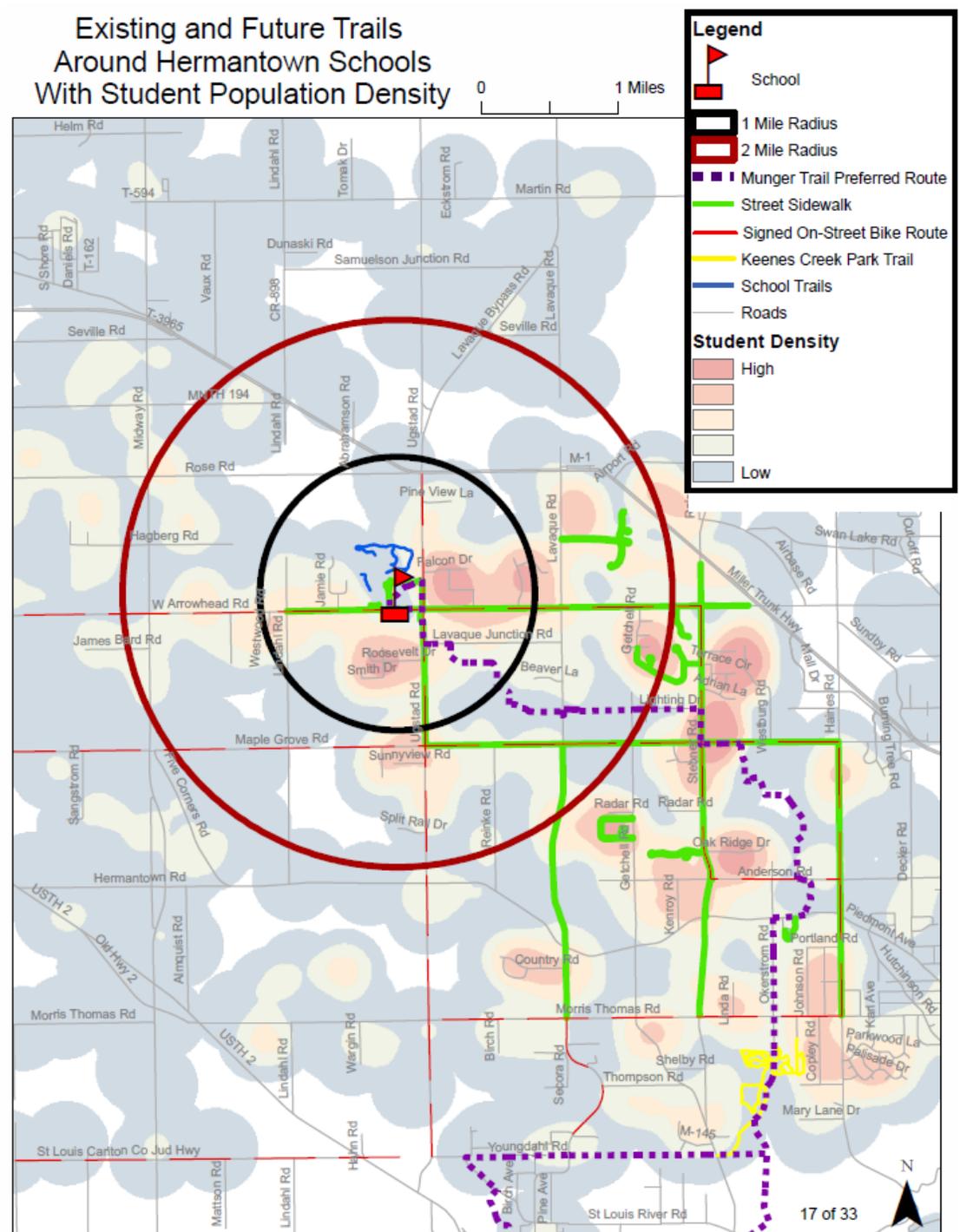
### Hermantown Schools Existing Conditions Sidewalks and Paths



### Hermantown Schools Existing Conditions Sign Locations



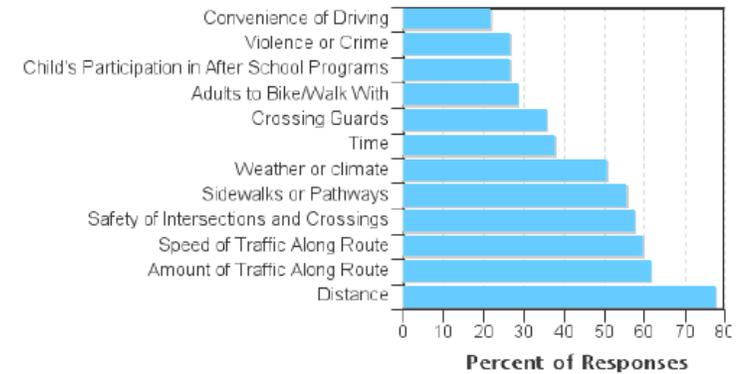
### Existing and Future Trails Around Hermantown Schools With Student Population Density



# IDENTIFIED ISSUES

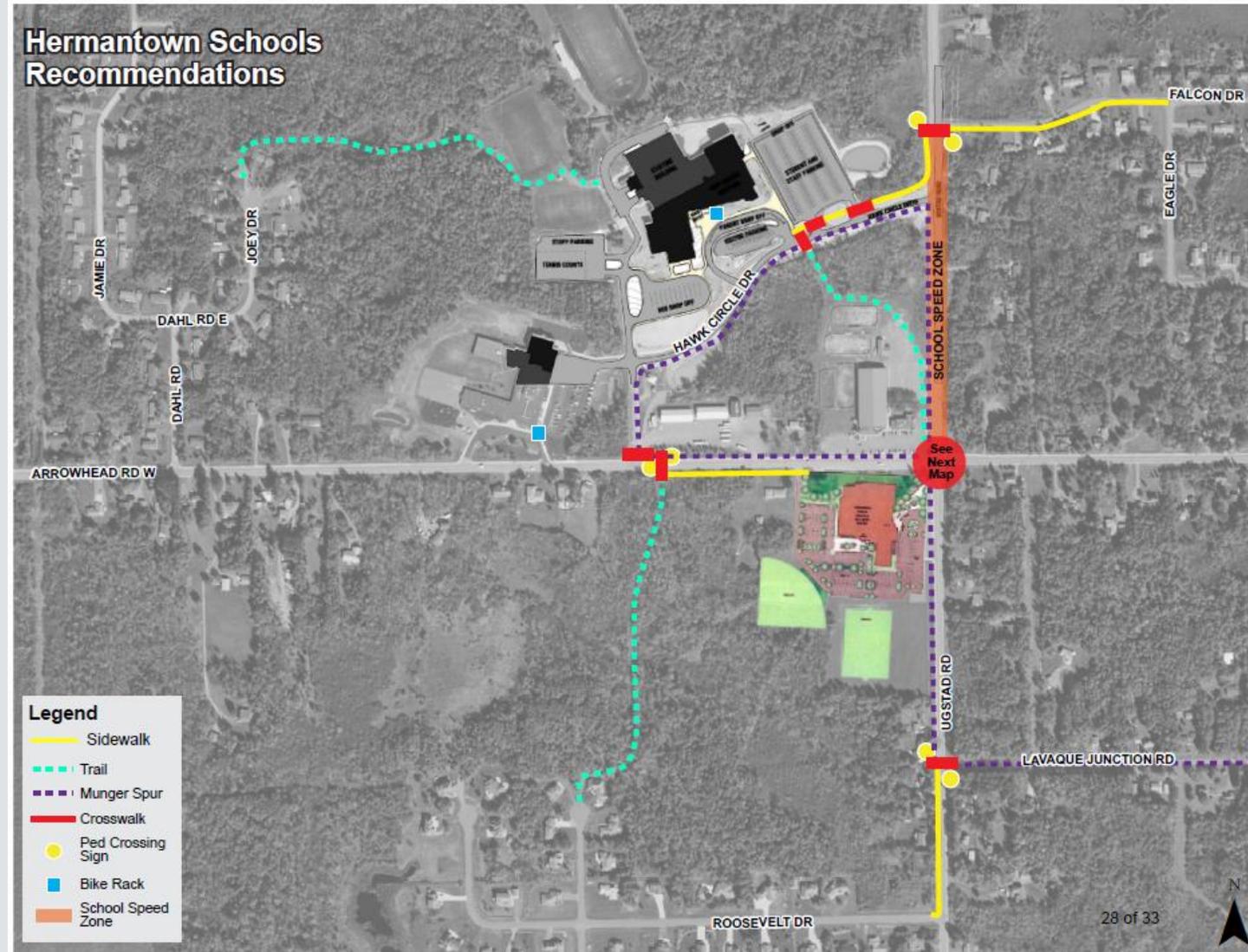
- High speeds posted and being driven around school zone.
- Missing sidewalk segments adjacent to school zone.
- During winter, snow and ice covered sidewalks.
- Major traffic congestion, specifically related to elementary pick up/drop-off.
- Poor lighting in areas on and around school campus.
- Limited ongoing bicycle/pedestrian educational programming.
- Crossing guards are not apparent

Issues reported to affect the decision to not allow a child to walk or bike to/from school by parents of children who do not walk or bike to/from school



# RECOMMENDATIONS

- Install curb extensions on the west and north legs of the Arrowhead Road and Ugstad Road intersection (in the short-term can demonstrate the curb extensions by utilizing temporary materials.) This is an interim solution until major intersection improvements are made.
- Install bicycle parking at each school building's main entrance.
- Improve and maintain pedestrian crosswalks by painting or re-painting crosswalk pavement markings.
- Collaborate with City, St. Louis County and MnDOT regarding establishing a school zone and target speed limit reduction with improved signage.
- Develop and implement plan for improved lighting both on school campus and in surrounding area where applicable.
- Seek sidewalk improvements connecting the local system to the school site.



**QUESTIONS?**

# 8-7-17 BPAC APPROVAL

- Unanimous vote to recommend approval of both plans

# **REQUEST FOR APPROVAL**

Approval of the Proctor Schools SRTS Plan

Approval of the Hermantown SRTS Plan

# QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

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