Safe Routes to School 2017
Documentation of Operations & Maintenance Issues

Prepared for:

Miami-Dade County Transportation Planning Organization

Work Order # GPC VI-18-08

Prepared by:

Marlin Engineering Inc.
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CONTENTS

OVERVIEW 4

O&M OBSERVATIONS

North County K-8 Center 7
Golden Glades Elementary 10
Benjamin Franklin K-8 Center 13
Mae M. Walters Elementary 16
Dante Fascell Elementary 19
Henry Reeves Elementary 22
Charles Hadley Elementary 24
Rainbow Park Elementary 26
Lake Stevens Elementary 28
Norwood Elementary 28

SPEEDING IN SCHOOL ZONES 28

O&M OBSERVATIONS SUMMARY TABLE 29
Overview

This document serves to supplement the information provided in the 2017 Miami-Dade County Safe Routes to School Infrastructure Plans. It has been developed to provide supplemental information to stakeholders such as the Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), Miami-Dade Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW), Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDCPS), and school administrators.

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) is a Federal program funded by the Federal Highway Administration. The Goal of the SRTS program is to provide students and parents with educational programming and upgraded infrastructure that improves safety and convenience for those traveling to and from school by foot, bike, and/or transit. There are many categories of improvements that are covered by SRTS funding, and through the development of the Infrastructure Applications, those needs will be addressed to the fullest extent possible.

However, during site visits, conditions and behaviors are frequently observed that are not eligible to be addressed under the scope of an SRTS project because they do not meet the criteria to receive funding.

Such conditions and behaviors include:

- Illegal parking
- Conditions observed on school grounds that impact students’ arrival and departure.
- Maintenance issues with safety impacts
- General maintenance issues
- Faded signs and pavement markings
- Student pickup/drop-off practices that create hazards
- Signal timing issues

In particular, poor maintenance practices were the most frequently observed conditions that led to unsafe walking conditions for students, as shown in the figure below.

Parent and student walking in the street due to grass encroaching on sidewalk
HOW TO USE THIS INFORMATION

Review the Safe Route: A Safe Route was identified for every school, with a majority of the recommended infrastructure improvements occurring along those streets. As part of the efforts of identifying the Safe Route, the entire school attendance boundary was surveyed for student walking patterns, traffic patterns, and any observed safety issues. These streets should be the first point of review for stakeholders including DTPW, MDCPS, school administrators, and parent/teacher associations to evaluate walking and biking conditions for students.

Review Maintenance Practices: The Safe Route can be a baseline for checking the maintenance status of pavement markings, mowing, tree trimming, and sign condition. After review of the Safe Route, all streets within a mile of the school, inside the attendance boundary should be reviewed.

Identify stakeholders involved in unsafe behaviors: Different behaviors will warrant different responses in order to be addressed. Reaching out to parent groups, neighborhood associations, businesses and other community groups can be a good way to find the right audience for addressing issues related to speeding, illegal parking, and student pickup and drop-off behaviors.

Look Back and Plan Ahead: Evaluation is one of the “5 Es” associated with successful implementation of good bicycle and pedestrian practices. Taking a snapshot of current conditions and planning to review locations or issues in the future is a good practice to stay on top of behavioral and maintenance issues that impact students.

Ten Schools were reviewed for the SRTS Infrastructure Plans and the infrastructure applications were submitted to FDOT in December 2016. All recommendations were approved and improvement projects should be forthcoming in the next few years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOOL</th>
<th>ADDRESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rainbow Park Elementary</td>
<td>15355 NW 19th Ave, Miami Gardens, FL 33054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norwood Elementary</td>
<td>19810 NW 14th Court, Miami Gardens, FL 33169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North County K-8 Center</td>
<td>3250 NW 20th St, Miami Gardens, FL 33056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden Glades Elementary</td>
<td>16520 NW 28th Ave, Opa Locka, FL 33054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin Franklin K-8 Center</td>
<td>13100 NW 12th Ave, North Miami, FL 33168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles R. Hadley Elementary</td>
<td>8400 NW 7th St, Miami, FL 33126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mae M. Walters Elementary</td>
<td>650 W. 33rd St, Hialeah, FL 33021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Stevens Elementary</td>
<td>5101 NW 183rd St, Miami, FL 33055</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry E.S. Reeves Elementary</td>
<td>2005 NW 111th St, Miami, FL 33101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dante Fascell Elementary</td>
<td>15625 SW 80th St, Miami, FL 33193</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2017 SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL LOCATIONS

[Map showing various locations marked with icons and names such as North County K-8 Center, Miramar Elementary, Lake Stevens Elementary, Golden Gables Elementary, Rainbow Park Elementary, Benjamin Franklin A & E Center, Henry E. S. Reaves Elementary, Mee M. Walters Elementary, Charles R. Hadley Elementary, Dante B. Fascelli Elementary, and others.]
NORTH COUNTY K-8 CENTER
SCHOOL LOCATION AND ATTENDANCE BOUNDARY

Legend
- School Site
- Proposed Safe Route
- School Attendance Boundary
- Half Mile Buffer
- Parks

Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, Navigation数据公司, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, NOAA, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), Esri (Brazil), OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community.
NORTH COUNTY K-8 CENTER

OBSERVATIONS

Students were observed walking in the roundabout in front of the school at the roundabout at NW 32nd Ave

LEGEND

Maintenance Issues

Behavior Issues
NORTH COUNTY K-8 CENTER

OBSERVATIONS

Vehicles dropping students in front of school engage in unpredictable behaviors such as stopping in the street, letting children out of the car on the north side of SW 207th St to cross midblock, and turnarounds in the midst of traffic flow.
GOLDEN GLADES ELEMENTARY

OBSERVATIONS

Semi-trucks were parked near entrance gate on NW 29th Ave just south of NW 167th Street. This can be a hazard to students due to visibility and safety, as well as unimpeded access to the sidewalk.

The enclosed area which accesses the pedestrian bridge as well as the school grounds is not mowed, nor does it provide a sidewalk. Sidewalks were recommended inside the enclosed area to connect to the sidewalk along NW 167th St.

LEGEND

![Maintenance Issues](image1)

![Behavior Issues](image2)
GOLDEN GLADES ELEMENTARY

OBSERVATIONS

Trash accumulation was noticed along the entire length of the pedestrian bridge.

The landing area on the north side of the pedestrian bridge was not mowed and tall grass and debris surrounded the landing area.

LEGEND

- Maintenance Issues
- Behavior Issues
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN K-8 CENTER

OBSERVATIONS

Cars were observed to be parked on NW 11 Ave just north of NW 135th Street. Sidewalk installation was recommended at this location, however, parking encroachment on the sidewalk may still be an issue in the future.
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN K-8 CENTER

OBSERVATIONS

More strict parking restrictions or better delineation of restricted parking areas could be used on NW 12th Ave along the school property. Vehicles were observed to park on grass areas immediately adjacent to the sidewalk.

Cars were observed to be parked encroaching the sidewalk on the east side of NW 12th Ave during the field visit and in a subsequent review in Google.

LEGEND

Maintenance Issues

Behavior Issues
MAE M. WALTERS ELEMENTARY

SCHOOL LOCATION AND ATTENDANCE BOUNDARY
MAE M. WALTERS ELEMENTARY

OBSERVATIONS

2 crossing guards were observed on W 33rd St @ W 6th Ave and no crossing guard was observed on W 33rd St @ W 7th Ave. It is likely that one of these crossing guards belonged at the W 7th Ave intersection.

The grass on the corner of W 6th Ave and W 32nd St was not mowed.

The school zone sign on W 32nd St west of W 6th Ave is completely covered by a tree.

LEGEND

Maintenance Issues

Behavior Issues
MAE M. WALTERS ELEMENTARY

OBSERVATIONS

Pedestrian signs need to be replaced at W 8th Ave @ W 33rd St.

Vehicles are parked encroaching the sidewalk in front of 601 and 602 W 30th Street.

Review of historical Google image shows the same issue in the past.

LEGEND

Maintenance Issues

Behavior Issues
DANTE FASCCELL ELEMENTARY

SCHOOL LOCATION AND ATTENDANCE BOUNDARY

Legend

- School Site
- Proposed Safe Route
- School Attendance Boundary
- Half Mile Buffer
- Parks

Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment R Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
DANTE FASCELL ELEMENTARY

OBSERVATIONS

High-Emphasis crosswalks in front of the school along SW 80th Street are very faded.
DANTE FASCELL ELEMENTARY

OBSERVATIONS

SW 80th St @ SW 152 Ave - Crosswalks are faded. These were recommended for upgrade to high-emphasis.

Midblock crossings on SW 154th St (providing access to Olympic Park) are faded.

LEGEND

Maintenance Issues  |  Behavior Issues
HENRY E.S. REEVES ELEMENTARY

SCHOOL LOCATION AND ATTENDANCE BOUNDARY

Legend

- **School Site**
- **Proposed Safe Route**
- **School Attendance Boundary**
- **Half Mile Buffer**
- **Parks**

Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, iDempiere & Corp. NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Japan, Mappanizer, MapmyIndia, OpenStreetMap contributors, and the OpenStreetMap community.
HENRY E.S. REEVES ELEMENTARY

OBSERVATIONS

Stop bars are faded on driveways at William Turner Technical Arts High School.
CHARLES R. HADLEY ELEMENTARY

OBSERVATIONS

Signal Timing: the intersection of NW 87th Ave @ NW 7th Street has signal timing that makes it difficult for pedestrians to cross. A leading pedestrian phase would allow time for pedestrians traveling north/south along NW 87th Avenue to cross before eastbound vehicles can turn left or right onto 7th Street. Crossing to the south side of NW 7th Ave may be desirable at this location because the school is located on the south side, and while there is a midblock crossing in front of the school, walking along the south side of NW 7th Ave requires crossing fewer driveways.

At the time of the field visit, the pedestrian sign was knocked over on the SE corner of NW 8th St @ NW 82nd Ave.

Signs were completely worn away and pushbuttons need to be upgraded at NW 82nd Ave @ NW 7th St.
RAINBOW PARK ELEMENTARY

OBSERVATIONS

Damaged pedestrian sign in front of 1721 NW 154th Street. Review of Google imagery at the same location reveals that the sign has been in this condition since at least 2013.
LAKE STEVENS ELEMENTARY

NO OBSERVATIONS

NORWOOD ELEMENTARY

NO OBSERVATIONS

SPEEDING IN SCHOOL ZONES

Interviews with crossing guards and parents revealed that the most common complaint is about cars speeding through the school zones during arrival and dismissal time. Speeding was a complaint at the following locations for each school:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Locations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rainbow Park Elementary</td>
<td>NW 153 St and NW 19th Ave in front of school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norwood Elementary</td>
<td>NW 199 St, NW 14th Ct, NW 196 Terr, NW Sunshine State Pkwy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North County K-8 Center</td>
<td>NW 207 St in front of school, NW 32 Ave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden Glades Elementary</td>
<td>NW 29th Ave, NW 28th Ave, NW 164 Terr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin Franklin K-8 Center</td>
<td>NW 13th Ave, NW 12th Ave, NW 135th St/Opa-Locka Blvd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles R. Hadley Elementary</td>
<td>NW 7th St, NW 8th St, NW 82nd Ave, NW 87th Ave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mae M. Walters Elementary</td>
<td>W 33rd St, W 32nd St, W 7th Ave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Stevens Elementary</td>
<td>Miami Gardens Dr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry E.S. Reeves Elementary</td>
<td>NW 111th St, NW 22nd Ave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dante Fascell Elementary</td>
<td>SW 157 Ave, SW 80th St</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GENERAL OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE ISSUES SUMMARY

The following table is a summary of all issues identified above with a responsible stakeholder identified. Discussion with staff from Miami-Dade County indicate that in general, DTPW and the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces work together on many general maintenance issues. Signs and Pavement Markings are maintained by DTPW, while issues such as mowing and trash may be resolved by DTPW or Code Compliance enforcement.
## O&M Observations Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>School Location</th>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Stakeholder</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>North County K-8 Center NW 32 Ave @ NW 207 St</td>
<td>Students were observed walking in the roundabout in front of the school at the roundabout at NW 32nd Ave.</td>
<td>School Admin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>North County K-8 Center NW 207 St in front of school</td>
<td>Vehicles dropping students in front of school engage in unpredictable behaviors such as stopping in the street, letting children out of the car on the north side of SW 207th St to cross midblock, and turnarounds in the midst of traffic flow.</td>
<td>School Admin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Golden Glades Elementary NW 29th Ave just south of NW 167th Street</td>
<td>Semi-trucks were parked near entrance gate on NW 29th Ave.</td>
<td>City/Code Compliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Golden Glades Elementary NW 29th Ave just south of NW 167th Street</td>
<td>The enclosed area which accesses the pedestrian bridge as well as the school grounds is not mowed, nor does it provide a sidewalk. Sidewalks were recommended inside the enclosed area to connect to the sidewalk along NW 167th St.</td>
<td>DTPW/MDPR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Golden Glades Elementary Pedestrian Bridge over Palmetto Expressway</td>
<td>Trash accumulation was noticed along the entire length of the pedestrian bridge.</td>
<td>DTPW/MDPR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Golden Glades Elementary Pedestrian Bridge @ NW 167 Ave (north side of Palmetto)</td>
<td>The landing area on the north side of the pedestrian bridge was not mowed and tall grass and debris surrounded the landing area.</td>
<td>DTPW/MDPR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Benjamin Franklin K-8 Center NW 11th Ave just north of NW 135th Street</td>
<td>Cars were observed to be parked on NW 11 Ave just north of NW 135th Street. Sidewalk installation was recommended at this location, however, parking encroachment on the sidewalk may still be an issue in the future.</td>
<td>City/Code Compliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Benjamin Franklin K-8 Center West side of NW 12th Ave near NW 133rd St</td>
<td>More strict parking restrictions or better delineation of restricted parking areas could be used on NW 12th Ave along the school property. Vehicles were observed to park on grass areas immediately adjacent to the sidewalk.</td>
<td>City/Code Compliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Benjamin Franklin K-8 Center East side of NW 12th Ave near NW 133rd St</td>
<td>Cars were observed to be parked encroaching the sidewalk on the east side of NW 12th Ave during the field visit and in a subsequent review in Google.</td>
<td>City/Code Compliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Mae M. Walters Elementary W 33rd St @ W 6th Ave</td>
<td>Two crossing guards were observed on W 33rd St @ W 6th Ave and no crossing guard was observed on W 33rd St @ W 7th Ave. It is likely that one of these crossing guards belonged at the W 7th Ave intersection.</td>
<td>Police Dept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Mae M. Walters Elementary W 6th Ave and W 32nd St</td>
<td>The grass on the corner of W 6th Ave and W 32nd St was not mowed.</td>
<td>DTPW/MDPR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Mae M. Walters Elementary W 32nd St west of W 6th Av</td>
<td>The school zone sign on W 32nd St west of W 6th Ave is completely covered by a tree.</td>
<td>DTPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Mae M. Walters Elementary W 8th Ave @ W 33rd St</td>
<td>Pedestrian signs need to be replaced at W 8th Ave @ W 33rd St.</td>
<td>DTPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Mae M. Walters Elementary 601 and 602 W 30th Street</td>
<td>Vehicles are parked encroaching the sidewalk in front of 601 and 602 W 30th Street.</td>
<td>City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Dante Fascell Elementary SW 80th St in front of Dante Fascell</td>
<td>High-Emphasis crosswalks in front of the school along SW 80th Street are very faded.</td>
<td>DTPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Dante Fascell Elementary SW 80th St @ SW 152 Ave</td>
<td>SW 80th St @ SW 152 Ave- Crosswalks are faded. These were recommended for upgrade to high-emphasis.</td>
<td>DTPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Dante Fascell Elementary SW 154th St north of SW 88th St (in front of Olympic Park)</td>
<td>Midblock crossings on SW 154th St (providing access to Olympic Park) are faded.</td>
<td>DTPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Henry E.S. Reeves Elementary NW 19th Ave south of NW 103rd St</td>
<td>Stop bars are faded on driveways at William Turner Technical Arts High School.</td>
<td>School Facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Charles R. Hadley Elementary NW 87th Ave @ NW 7th St</td>
<td>Signal Timing: the intersection Of NW 87th Ave @ NW 7th Street has signal timing that makes it difficult for pedestrians to cross.</td>
<td>DTPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Charles R. Hadley Elementary SE corner of NW 8th St @ NW 82nd Ave</td>
<td>Pedestrian sign was knocked over on the SE corner of NW 8th St @ NW 82nd Ave</td>
<td>DTPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Charles R. Hadley Elementary NW 82nd Ave @ NW 7th St</td>
<td>Signs were completely worn away and pushbuttons need to be upgraded at NW 82nd Ave @ NW 7th St.</td>
<td>DTPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Rainbow Park Elementary 1721 NW 154th Street.</td>
<td>Damaged pedestrian sign in front of 1721 NW 154th Street.</td>
<td>DTPW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>