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## MEMORANDUM

To: Chelsea Biklen and David Stillman, City of Cupertino

From: Lola Torney, Alta Planning + Design

Date: May 4, 2017

**Re: Faria Elementary School Walk Audit Recommendations**

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### Introduction

The City of Cupertino conducted a walk audit for Faria Elementary School with staff from Alta Planning + Design. The audit was held in the afternoon of March 7, 2017 to observe the afternoon dismissal time at the school.

A walk audit is an assessment of travel behaviors for drivers, bicyclists, pedestrians (both parents and students), developed by observing a school pick-up or drop-off period on and around school grounds. Walk audits provide insight into the specific barriers to walking and biking at each school. The assessment team included Alta Planning + Design staff; City of Cupertino staff, and concerned parents. The audit began with a discussion of current challenge areas and the types of issues to focus on for the walk audit. The team then observed student and parent travel activities during the drop-off period, and reviewed the immediate school zone area for quality of sidewalks, curb ramps, signage, and other engineering elements and patterns of activity. After the audit period was over, audit participants returned to discuss and document their findings on a large scale school area map. Based on observations and input provided by school staff, audit participants, and others, the project team developed recommendations which are presented for Faria Elementary School in a narrative and graphical format.

This memo provides programmatic and project recommendations for Faria Elementary School. It includes both on-campus recommendations that can be implemented by the school district and off-campus improvements that can be implemented by the City. The map of recommended projects is attached to this memo.

### Existing Conditions

Faria Elementary School is located on Barbara Lane. The main drop-off area is located in the parking lot off of Barbara Lane. Staff and visitors also park in this lot. Street parking is available for 30 minutes or for those with parking permits.

Most students live outside the neighborhood Faria is located in, so most families drive their children to and from school, or use carpools and vanpools.

## Project Recommendations

1. Scofield Drive/Barbara Drive
  - o Study feasibility of crossing guard.
2. School Drop-Off
  - o Widen sidewalk at southern end (from five feet to approximately 15 feet).
  - o Remove damaged and unused pole at exit driveway, south side.
  - o Remove red curb at southwestern corner to allow for carpool van parking.
  - o Install “Vanpool Parking Only” signs at southwestern corner.
3. Pepper Tree Lane/Stelling Road
  - o Install yellow high-visibility crosswalk across Pepper Tree Lane.
  - o Install Leading Pedestrian Interval with 5 second lead time for all legs of intersection.
4. Pepper Tree Lane/Barbara Drive
  - o Study feasibility of crossing guard.
  - o Install school Assembly B signage.
  - o Install red curb from light pole to driveway.
5. Shelly Drive/Bonny Drive
  - o Install white high-visibility crosswalk on Shelly Drive.
  - o Conduct yield sign warrant analysis.

## Program Recommendations

1. Implement a Walking School Bus program.
  - o Consider reaching out to Coldwell Banker, Union Church of Cupertino, and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for permission to use their parking lots.
2. Encourage crossing guards to hold groups of pedestrians prior to stopping traffic and allowing them to cross.
  - o This can increase traffic flow.
3. In the school welcome packets, remind parents to not drop students off at intersections.
4. Similar to Barbara Lane, encourage parents and homeowners not to park on the north side of Scofield Drive. This will allow for drivers to safely pass those waiting to enter the school.
  - o During pick-up and drop-off times, parents and homeowners do not park their vehicles on the eastern side of Bonny Drive. This allows drivers to use the parking lane as a travel lane, and use the travel lane to queue for left turns into the school drop-off area. On Scofield Drive, the parking lane on the north side would be used for drivers to queue and turn right into the school driveway while the westbound travel lane would be used as normal.
5. Install signs to make frontage a no-idling zone.
  - o Remind parents of this in school welcome packets.
6. Move vanpool parking from northwest corner of Scofield Drive/Barbara Lane to southwestern corner of school drop-off loop.
  - o Do not allow vehicles to park in northwest corner of Scofield Drive/Barbara Lane.
7. Place cones at staff parking lane entries to prohibit visitors from entering.