



## Request for City Council Committee Action From the Department of Public Works

**Date:** June 7, 2005  
**To:** Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee

**Subject:** Citywide and School Pedestrian Safety Programs

**Recommendation:** Receive and file

**Previous Directives:** None

**Prepared by:** Jim Steffel, Traffic and Parking Services

**Approved by:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Klara A. Fabry, P.E., City Engineer, Director of Public Works

**Presenters:** Steve Mosing and Jon Wertjes, Traffic and Parking Services

**Financial Impact** (Check those that apply)

No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget.  
(If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)

Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget

Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget

Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase

Action requires use of contingency or reserves

Other financial impact (Explain):

Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

### Background/Supporting Information

Public Works has received numerous comments and feedback to address pedestrian safety throughout the City. There was special interest in pedestrian safety around schools. Public Works understands that school safety could not be addressed without looking at the bigger picture and context of citywide pedestrian safety.

Therefore, Public Works has developed a Citywide Pedestrian Safety Framework and within this citywide framework a School Pedestrian Safety Program. These proposed programs recognize the importance of safety for all pedestrians while recognizing that additional safety measures are needed to address the needs of school children.

Traffic and pedestrian safety are shared responsibilities among engineers, law enforcement officials, and transportation system users. The pedestrian program focuses and organizes Public Works efforts to improve coordination among the partners, thus resulting in a safer pedestrian environment.

### **Citywide Pedestrian Safety Framework**

Programs being developed to improve citywide pedestrian safety include:

- Capital funding for pedestrian safety projects
- Crash priority analysis
- Sidewalk standards
- Enhanced multi-modal connections
- Pedestrian Master Plan/Pedestrian coordinator
- Pedestrian safety awareness campaign
- Improved citizen input
- School Pedestrian Safety Program

These programs are being developed as part of a five-year effort to identify and address general pedestrian safety needs as outlined in the Attachment A.

### **School Pedestrian Safety Program**

The key activities focused to improve school pedestrian safety include:

- Systematic review of all the primary and secondary schools in Minneapolis
- Effective collaboration with schools, neighborhood groups, and law enforcement
- Focused response to community school safety concerns
- Crash priority analysis for all crashes around schools
- Improved “safety tool box” – signs and crosswalks
- Establish a crosswalk painting schedule and durable marking needs
- Foundation for Safe Routes to School
- Improved public education

Attachment B provides detailed information on these program activities. Public Works is presenting this proposed program for comment by City Council and others. Public Works has been meeting with Minneapolis Public Schools and their safety officer and will continue these relationships. Public Works is prepared to begin the systematic review of the schools, beginning with elementary schools.

The next steps to be taken by Public Works are:

- Continue to strengthen our partnership with the schools, neighborhood groups, and law enforcement
- Schedule implementation of the school review to begin in Fall 2005
- Develop appropriate criteria for testing new signing and markings
- Implement a crosswalk painting schedule

The review would be conducted in such a way as to maximize the effectiveness of city resources. Public Works will strive to balance the effort geographically.

Public Works will return in mid-August to the T&PW Committee and update the City Council on these implementation matters.

Cc: School officials

Attachments:

Attachment A -- Citywide Pedestrian Safety Framework/School Pedestrian Safety Program

Attachment B -- School Pedestrian Safety Review