

# Department of Transportation Division Traffic Engineering and Operations Montgomery County, Maryland

## SCHOOL WALKING AREA ANALYSIS

### I. <u>IDENTIFICATION</u>:

Location: New Hampshire Estates	Study By: Boris Calderon	
Elementary School Walking Area	Recommended Approval	
Study Date: <u>03/30/2019</u>	Approved	
Police District: Silver Spring	T.O. # W.O. #	
Logger #:		

# New Hampshire Estates Elementary School

#### II. ANALYSIS:

### Overview:

New Hampshire Estates Elementary School is located in the eastern part of Silver Spring, Maryland. The school administers a Pre-K to second grade program with 465 students for the 2018-2019 school year. The bus ridership is 156 students or 33.5% of the student body. The school's enrollment area is the same as its walking area and is bounded in the north by Piney Branch Road (MD-320), University Boulevard East (MD-193) and the Prince Georges County border to the east.

The school is only accessible from Carroll Avenue and has separated parent and bus loops. MCPS has designated six buses with two of those exclusive to the Pre-K program.

Pedestrian counts for arrival and dismissal times showed that most pedestrians are originating from north (58.7%) of the walking area where there are denser housing areas. Most pedestrians walking south on Carroll Avenue arrive along the east side of the road and use the school crosswalk that has a designated crossing guard. A crossing guard is assigned for both arrival and dismissal times.

New Hampshire Estates Elementary School had a comprehensive school study conducted in 2002 by this division. The study's recommendations established the "School Zone", installed school flashers, established a 25 MPH speed limit and established parking restrictions. A second comprehensive study was conducted in 2009 that recommended traffic calming devises along 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Chickasaw Drive and Quebec Street as well as new crosswalks at intersections throughout the walking area. There has also been traffic calming devices and crosswalks installed along Carroll Avenue at 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Osage Street.



### Walking Route Analysis:

There is a vast sidewalk network throughout the entire school's walking area with only three sections of roads without at least one side having sidewalk. These are Tahona Drive from the county border at Navahoe Drive to the County border at the south end, Quebec Street from south of 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue the county border and one block of Osage Street from Chickasaw Drive to Tahona Drive.

The extensive sidewalk connections, along with the five crosswalks over Carroll Avenue allow pedestrians from the school walking area to reach the New Hampshire Estates ES without having to travel along the roadway. Additionally, there are also sidewalks and walkways within various apartment complexes that tie onto the public sidewalk network. In order to cover all pedestrians within the walking area, it is recommended that new sidewalk be installed by way of the county's new sidewalk program.

#### Safety & Operational Issues:

Observations during morning drop-off times noted no major issues on property or in the vicinity of the school. Even with a short parent loop, the staggered arrival times of vehicles did not create queueing issues. Afternoon dismissal times did show queuing issues from parents arriving early and lining up until the queue backed into Carroll Avenue. This queueing clears with in a five-minute time range and doesn't hamper flow on Carroll Avenue. It was also witnessed that some parents did stop along restricted stopping zones to pick up some students. A coordination of the school administration and MCPD is recommended to have enforcement campaign created.

Crash data from all roadways within the school's walking area revealed one vehicle-pedestrian crash. The crash was at the intersection of 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Quebec Street on February 9, 2018. The report indicates that the drive was at fault.

III. ATTACHMENTS	: Walking Area Map	_X_	Sidewalk Map	_X_
	Recommendation Map	_X_	Accident Study	_X_
	Photos		Concept Plans	
	Count Data			



## IV. RECOMMENDED IMPROVEMENTS:

Map ID	Location	Issue	Recommendation	Timeframe*
1	Quebec Terrace at Ruatan Street	ADA Ramps Not Up To Standard	Bring ADA ramps up to standard (4).	Intermediate
2	Chickasaw Drive between 11 <sup>th</sup> Avenue and Osage Street	Faded Marking	Repaint DYCL	Short
3	11th Avenue at Osage Street	ADA Ramps Not Up To Standard	Bring ADA ramps up to standard.	Intermediate
4	10 <sup>th</sup> Avenue at Osage Street	ADA Ramps Not Up To Standard	Bring ADA ramps up to standard (2).	Intermediate
5	10 <sup>th</sup> Avenue at Navahoe Drive	ADA Ramps Not Up To Standard	Bring ADA ramps up to standard (2).	Intermediate
6	11 <sup>th</sup> Avenue at Navahoe Drive	ADA Ramps Not Up To Standard	Bring ADA ramps up to standard (2).	Intermediate

#### Timeframe:

Short - MCDOT DTEO has direct control over contractor or work can be done in house. Minimal or no community involvement necessary.

Intermediate - MCDOT DTEO to work through other agency, such as MCDOT DTE, and their contractors. Timeframe dependent on other agencies schedule. May require community input.

Long - Will require community involvement, such as a public hearing, and/or designated CIP funding.







