

Seattle School Traffic Safety Committee

September 18, 2026

Members (X = present)

X	Beth Day	Volunteer
X	Brooke Nelson	SPS, Safe Routes to School Coordinator
X	Diane Walsh	SDOT liaison
X	Bruce Case	SPD liaison
X	Kelsey Rote	Secretary, Volunteer
X	Margaret McCauley	Volunteer
X	Maris Zivarts	Chair, Volunteer
X	Rebecca Brinbury	Volunteer (incoming member)
X	Robbie Frankel	King County Metro
	Stacy Denele Roberts	SPS, Field Staff and Crossing Guard Supervisor

Other attendees:

Tonya Ricks Sterr – parent at Aki concerned about buses
Bishal Dhakal

Agenda:

1. Public comment
 - a. Tonya: here to talk about school buses that have been consistently late to pick her kid up from school, submitted form on the website and haven't heard back, school bus is 30-45 minutes late, school (Aki Kurose) is at interim location (Old Van Asselt?) and thus basically all kids are being bussed.
 - i. Brooke filling in for Steve today, changed the balance of carriers so there's been some troubleshooting. Steve is working on rerouting some of the buses, there's been ongoing meetings, they're hearing from a lot of folks.
Brooke will follow up with Tonya.
2. Approval of minutes and review of prior meeting action items
 - a. Didn't have time to talk about annual calendar at retreat, and didn't do updated map at retreat either, **will add review of annual calendar to future meeting agenda**
 - b. **Kelsey/Rebecca/Beth reviewing Aurora Reimagined/Reconnect Fremont letters**
 - c. Minutes approved
3. SPS update – [slides](#)
 - a. Active transport
 - i. Aiden from Franklin High finished his August internship, good little pilot internship focused on Rainier and MLK, talked with him about Lime e-scooter/e-bike use (**Maris will see if he can share heat map of Lime use in South Seattle**)
 - ii. Lots of back to school events
 - iii. Walk groups developing at West Seattle Elementary, Beacon Hill, Alki

- b. Leadership and guidance
 - i. Incorporated into the School Leader Institute
 - ii. Training on project based learning at Boren STEM
 - c. Initiatives
 - i. School Pool launch at Alki, Thurgood, and more
 - ii. Broadview Thomson route 77 promotion and group development
- 4. SDOT – [slides](#)
 - a. Grad student from public health coming on board, working on a permanent school street
 - b. Mayor’s Vision Zero Executive Order
 - i. “...expand participation in Seattle’s School Streets Program, with a goal of reaching 40 percent of eligible schools”
 - ii. 23 existing School Streets (17 SPS)
 - iii. 40% eligible schools would be about 17 additional schools
 - c. 24/7 speed safety cameras in effect, and new “Slow Down, We Play Here” yard signs available
 - d. School updates
 - i. Washington Middle School Street – wider sidewalk, more comfortable school bus loading, narrower street, better bike connection
 - ii. Denny Middle School – student painted bulbs
 - iii. Salmon Bay – additional improvements
 - iv. Queen Anne – all way stops
 - v. Fairmount Park – new paint and post
 - vi. Highland Park – all way stops and daylighting
 - vii. Concord Elementary – Bike to Books – student artwork to go from South Park Library to Concord Int’l School
 - viii. Ingraham High – new School Street, will be adding some all way stops due to another project, art along 130th also may be incoming
 - e. STSC
 - i. Recruitment for open seat ongoing
 - ii. Council confirmation for Rebecca’s seat may not happen til November
 - iii. Site visits? Bike rides? Some ideas:
 - 1. See an existing school street that’s working well, or see Sara’s proposed 12th street route
 - 2. Diane will come up with two suggested School Street visits, Rebecca will talk to Dearborn Park about a potential visit
- 5. King County Metro updates
 - a. QA: Comment from a student at Lincoln High School, getting there via transit is challenging, difficult transfers, not easy to change given the trolley bus infrastructure needs, working with capital improvements group so soon there will be another bus stop on W Nickerson St so with one route you won’t have to walk up the hill for the transfer (2027 project)
 - b. Metro will be starting engagement soon for their next bus rework, for the buses that weren’t impacted by light rail stations opening, restructuring will allow for tweaks and allow for firm decisions on suspended routes, first round of engagement will launch in January or February of 2027. Metro outreach people would like to come to STSC meeting, in January or February, and then we can talk details once route changes are proposed. Changes would occur in 2028. Brooke and Robbie will

work together on how to increase and get student engagement on these route decisions and maps

- c. Question regarding how youth will be able to use the stations piloting fare gates. Youth are encouraged to use an ORCA card even though they ride for free, for data and for fare gates. They have some data that shows that only about 10% of youth tap a card. Those gates may force more card usage. Piloted fare gates won't happen for a few years, so there's time to plan for this.
- 6. Aurora Ave
 - a. Heard feedback from Cascadia parents re: opening up walk zone and counting 95th as "meeting standards." There's been a lot of concern especially re: Cascadia since they're elementary age and crossing Aurora can be very challenging. How can we slow down speeds around these intersections? Beth wants to better understand so she can explain to parents. There's also concerns about non-traffic safety. Rebecca was talking with a parent at Ingraham and she pointed out that ICE and other enforcement activity can also be very unsafe (speeding, etc.).
 - b. SDOT:
 - i. School zones have been created over decades, we don't have all background and context.
 - ii. Diane has been trying to track crosswalks that are outside of school zones, a lot of inconsistency.
 - iii. This is a very small piece of the larger corridor project with WSDOT.
 - iv. Going to work on updating some policies regarding school zones and crosswalks.
 - v. Crossing guard walk zone rubric, comes from the state WAC or revised code, STSC updated it to reflect our understandings or the rules and also our specific topography.
 - vi. Crossing guard rubric doesn't have weight given to proximity to school.
 - c. For 92nd, can we figure out how many students and/or staff utilize this crosswalk? Could help make the argument. Compare to 80th and Aurora? 80th is closer to Bagley than 92nd is to Cascadia, but could still be helpful. How many kids live on the other side of Aurora from their school? **Rebecca and Beth may look into this.**
 - d. Speed limits vs actual speeds: SDOT collects 80th percentile actual speeds, captures what most people think they should drive and removes major outliers.
 - i. In 2025 SDOT collected speed data by Daniel Bagley on Aurora. 85th percentile speeds were 33 MPH.
 - 1. Presumably a big difference in speed between when crossing guard is there and when they aren't, and between 80th vs 92nd.
 - e. **Bruce said he can bring something that will allow him to look up specific areas next time.** They have been hitting school zones that don't have cameras more heavily since Mayor's EO. Could probably try to change some behavior with more enforcement presence near 92nd and Aurora and 130th and Aurora (and maybe 80th and Aurora too). **Bruce will look into focusing on 92nd and Aurora and maybe the others.**
 - f. Promoting walk groups helps. Changing school zones probably isn't reasonable.
 - g. **There's a walk for Aurora Reimagined on the 26th from 10am-12pm – FYI for anyone nearby or interested**
- 7. SPD enforcement and cameras:
 - a. School zone cameras and School Streets seem to be working really well

- b. Bike patrols getting more active
 - c. Stop paddle cameras – that'll be King County, we have no updated data on that.
- 8. Annual report and annual calendar
 - a. Reviewed next few months on annual calendar
 - b. Rebecca will take stab at initial draft, Kelsey will send her all minutes from last year, and Kelsey also offered to be on subcommittee, everyone else please send in pictures