

Walkability and Bikeability Survey

Answer the following questions using this rating scale:

1 (many problems) **2** (some problems) **3** (good) **4** (very good) **5** (excellent)

1. Is there room to walk/bike? Consider the following:

- Are sidewalks or paths available the entire way?
- Is there enough room for two people to walk side by side?
- Are the sidewalks broken or cracked? Is the bike path free of potholes or dangerous drain gates, slippery surfaces when wet, or bumpy or angled railroad tracks?
- Are the sidewalks or bike paths blocked by poles, signs, shrubbery, dumpsters, cars, or other obstacles?
- How's the traffic? Was there too much traffic? Are the sidewalks too close to fast-moving traffic?
- Are there other problems?

Rating: (circle one) **1 2 3 4 5**

2. Is it easy to cross streets? Consider the following:

- Are the streets too wide?
- Do the traffic signals make your group wait too long or not give you enough time to cross?
- Do the streets need traffic signals? Are the crosswalks marked?
- Do parked cars block your view of traffic? Do trees or plants block your view of traffic?
- Are there curb ramps or do the curb ramps need repair?

Are there other problems?

Rating: (circle one) **1 2 3 4 5**

3. Do drivers behave well?

- Do drivers look before they back out of driveways?
- Do they yield to pedestrians crossing the street?
- Do they drive at safe speeds? Or do they drive too fast? Do they speed up to make it through traffic lights?
- Are there other problems?

Rating: (circle one) **1 2 3 4 5**

4. Is it easy to follow safety rules? Can your group . . .

- Cross at crosswalks, or where you can see and be seen by drivers?
- Stop and look left, right, and then left again before crossing streets?
- Walk on sidewalks or shoulders facing traffic where there are no sidewalks?
- Cross with the light?

Rating: (circle one) **1 2 3 4 5 6**

5. Is the walk pleasant?

- Is there a need for more grass, flowers, or trees?
- Are there scary dogs or scary people?
- Is the lighting good? Is there lots of litter or trash?
- Is there dirty air from automobile exhaust?
- Are there other problems?

Rating: (circle one) **1 2 3 4 5**

How walkable is your route? Add up your ratings and decide.

21–25 points: Fantastic! Your route is great for walking. Talk to your school to get permission to make it official. Start educating others about the benefits of a walking bus, and inspire them to join in!

16–20 points: Nice! Your route is pretty good. Who can you reach out to so that it can be even better before you try to go official with a walking bus?

10–15 points: OK, but your route could be a lot better. What local officials might you reach out to so that improvements can be made that will allow you to pursue this as a walking/biking bus route? Who can you inspire to join you in seeking official improvements?

Below 10 points: Time to brainstorm a new Innovate project!

** Adapted with permission from the National Center for Safe Routes to School (saferoutesinfo.org).*