

Lincoln Elementary Safe Routes to School Plan (March 2026)

About the School	
Number of Students ^a	385
% Economically Disadvantaged	47%
% Non-white	59%
Arrival / Dismissal Times	7:35 AM / 1:10 PM (Mon) 7:35 AM / 2:30 PM (Tue-Fri)

^aStudent data source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

Major Streets and Highways	Annual Weekday Traffic (AWT) ^a
W Badger Road	9,000
S Park Street	24,050
Fish Hatchery Road	28,000

^aSource: City of Madison Street Centerlines

Safety Concerns at Lincoln

What we heard from the Principal (or Designee)

- Drop-off and pick-up mostly work well.
- However, some caregivers make U-turns on Sequoia Trail and Hackberry Lane. Some caregivers wait for their students on the far side of Hackberry Lane, and students cross the street between stopped vehicles.
- Many years ago, a student died as a result of running across Cypress Way during pick-up or drop-off. Since then, the school discourages caregivers from stopping at this entrance.
- Attendance rates for students living east of Park Street are significantly lower than the rest of the school.

What we learned from the crossing guard

- Drivers routinely speed on W Badger Road. Existing curb extensions help the crossing guard do their job, but she observes buses struggling to turn.

Hazardous Transportation Busing

According to the UHT plan, all students west of Fish Hatchery Road or east of Park Street are bussed due to hazardous crossings.

What we learned from surveys and other caregiver feedback

- Survey respondents for Lincoln thought that the most common way students got to school was by bus.
- Survey respondents for Lincoln thought that students were mostly driven due to concerns about bullying, violence, crime, concern of traffic safety, and lack of safe crossings.
- Some survey respondents mentioned that active transportation allows for growth in independence and overall development.
- The intersection of Fish Hatchery Road and Carver Street is busy, and drivers often speed through the crosswalk and disregard the flashing school zone beacon.
- At the crosswalk on Fish Hatchery Road near the Cannonball Path north of Catalpa Road, drivers often disregard the Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) and speed through the shared use path crosswalk.

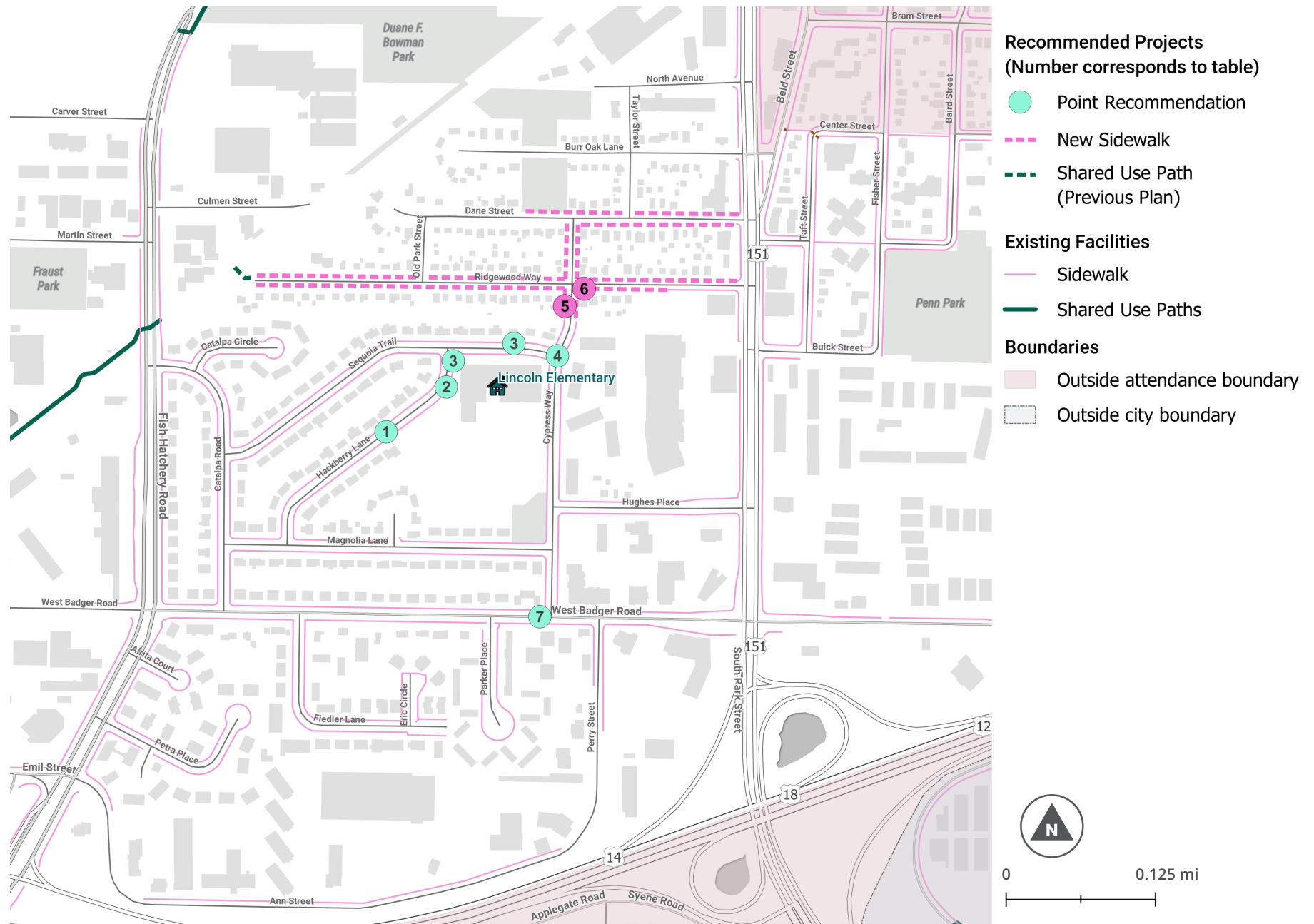
Existing Conditions (and Previously-Planned Bikeways and Paths)



Arrival and Dismissal Observations

Observation Details	
Observation Date	The consultant team observed dismissal on Thursday, May 8.
School Buses	School buses enter the staff parking lot and bus loop off Hackberry Lane.
Specialized Transportation	Aftercare and specialized transportation vehicles pick up students in the staff parking lot and bus loop off Hackberry Lane.
Caregiver Vehicles	- At dismissal, some caregivers of K-5 students waited in vehicles in the drop off/pick up area on the school side of Hackberry Lane. Once that space was full, other caregivers waited in vehicles on the far side of the street. - Very few of the caregivers on the far side of Hackberry Lane left their vehicles to meet their students on school property, resulting in several students crossing with no crosswalk and moving in between stopped caregiver vehicles. Several caregivers were observed making U-turns at the intersection of Sequoia Trail and Hackberry Lane, and a few were observed stopping in the designated “no stopping or standing” zone marked with signs and cones. - Caregivers of 4K students wait in vehicles on Sequoia Trail adjacent to Door 1.
School Staff Roles	- School staff loaded students onto the correct buses at dismissal. - Staff members monitor the crosswalks at Sequoia Trail and Hackberry Lane, and at Sequoia Trail and Cypress Way, and escort students across. - Another staff member monitored the driveway exit from the staff parking lot and bus loop. 4K staff helped their students into caregiver vehicles on Sequoia Trail. Other staff members were stationed throughout school grounds.
Adult Crossing Guards	A crossing guard is posted at Cypress Way and W Badger Road.
Bike Rack Locations and Use	- There are two areas with bike racks around the school – one on the north side by Door 1 and another on the south side in the lower playground. - There were only a few bicycles parked on the bike racks on the day of observation.
Students Walking and Biking	- Many students were observed walking and biking home to school. - Some students were observed walking along Cypress Way, predominantly south towards the crossing guard. - Some students either stayed at the playground or left and returned to the playground.

Priority Recommendations at Lincoln Elementary



The numbered issues and recommendations in the table correspond to the points in the Recommendations Map (shown on previous page).

Recommendations for School Leadership or MMSD Building Services

#	Location	Issues or Observations	Recommendations
1	Hackberry Lane at the entrance to the staff lot/bus loop	- Many caregivers wait on the far side of Hackberry Lane and their students cross midblock between caregiver-occupied vehicles. - Some caregivers make U-turns midblock on Hackberry Lane south of the entrance to the staff parking lot/bus loop. - The existing school reduced speed zone ends immediately southwest of the entrance to the staff parking lot/bus loop.	<i>Immediate Priority:</i> Communicate expectations by sharing the school's Traffic Safety Plan, which should discourage caregivers from stopping/standing on the far side of Hackberry Lane unless they cross the street to drop off/pick up their students.
2	Hackberry Lane just south of Sequoia Trail	Caregivers sometimes wait or stop in a "no stopping, standing, or parking" zone between the staff parking lot/bus loop exit and the intersection with Sequoia Trail.	<i>Immediate Priority:</i> Place "no pick-up/drop-off" sandwich boards during arrival and dismissal hours.

Recommendations for City of Madison

#	Location	Issues or Observations	Recommendations
1	Hackberry Lane at the entrance to the staff lot/bus loop	- Many caregivers wait on the far side of Hackberry Lane and their students cross midblock between caregiver-occupied vehicles. - Some caregivers make U-turns midblock on Hackberry Lane south of the entrance to the staff parking lot/bus loop. - The existing school reduced speed zone ends immediately southwest of the entrance to the staff parking lot/bus loop.	<i>Immediate Priority:</i> - Install No U-turn (R3-2) sign opposite the entrance to the staff parking lot/bus loop. - Extend the reduced speed school zone so that it includes more of the street southwest of the entrance to the staff parking lot/bus loop.
3	Sequoia Trail and Hackberry Lane	Caregivers sometimes make U-turns on Sequoia Trail and Hackberry Lane.	<i>Immediate Priority:</i> Install No U-turn (R3-2) signs northbound on Hackberry Lane and eastbound on Sequoia Trail.
4	Cypress Way adjacent to the school	- Many years ago, a student died as a result of running across Cypress Way during pick-up or drop-off. Since then, the school discourages caregivers from stopping at this entrance. - The existing school reduced speed zone ends immediately north of the intersection with Sequoia Trail. - Curb ramps at Cypress Way and Sequoia Trail are not aligned with crosswalks, and do not have detectable warning surface of contrasting color.	<i>Immediate Priority:</i> - Add No Stopping, Standing or Parking signs adjacent to median traffic calming. - Extend the reduced school speed zone so that it includes more of the street north of Sequoia Lane. <i>Medium Term:</i> - Reconstruct curb ramps to align with crossing.
5	Cypress Way north of Sequoia Lane	Cypress Lane lacks sidewalks north of Sequoia Lane. Missing sidewalks present a barrier to walking and bicycling to school.	<i>Medium Term:</i> Construct sidewalks where there are gaps on Cypress Way.
6	Ridgewood Way	Ridgewood Way lacks sidewalks for most of its length, including at its proposed connection to a future extension of the Cannonball Path. Missing sidewalks present a barrier to walking and bicycling to school.	<i>Medium Term:</i> Construct sidewalks where there are gaps on Ridgewood Way.

#	Location	Issues or Observations	Recommendations
7	W Badger Road at Cypress Way	• This street carries a relatively large amount of traffic and connects the two most-used streets in the attendance area, Fish Hatchery Road and S Park Street. • Badger Road is on the City's High Injury Network. • Many students cross the street at this intersection. • The crossing guard expressed concern about drivers appearing to exceed the posted speed limit during school arrival and dismissal times.	<i>Immediate Priority:</i> • Install driver speed feedback signs facing both approaches to the intersection on W Badger Road. • Use FINES HIGHER (R2-6P) plaques on school speed limit assemblies. <i>Medium Term:</i> • Add flashing beacons programmed for school arrival/dismissal times and use SCHOOL SPEED LIMIT WHEN FLASHING (S5-1) assembly. • Consider other traffic calming measures such as a raised pedestrian crossing or intersection at this location.

Information contained in this document is for planning purposes and should not be used for final design of any project. All results, recommendations, concept drawings, and commentary contained herein are based on limited data and information and on existing conditions that are subject to change. Further analysis and engineering design are necessary prior to implementing any of the recommendations contained herein.