

# New Traditions School

# Walk Audit Report

Walk Audit held March 20, 2023

## Acknowledgements:

Thanks to New Traditions Principal Myra Quadros who coordinated this walk.

Jeffrey Banks - Transportation Planner  
jeffrey.banks@sfmta.com  
415-646-2707

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## Introduction

Walking Audits of San Francisco elementary, middle and high schools are a part of the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency's School Area Safety Program, which also includes School Area Engineering and Safe Routes to School Projects.

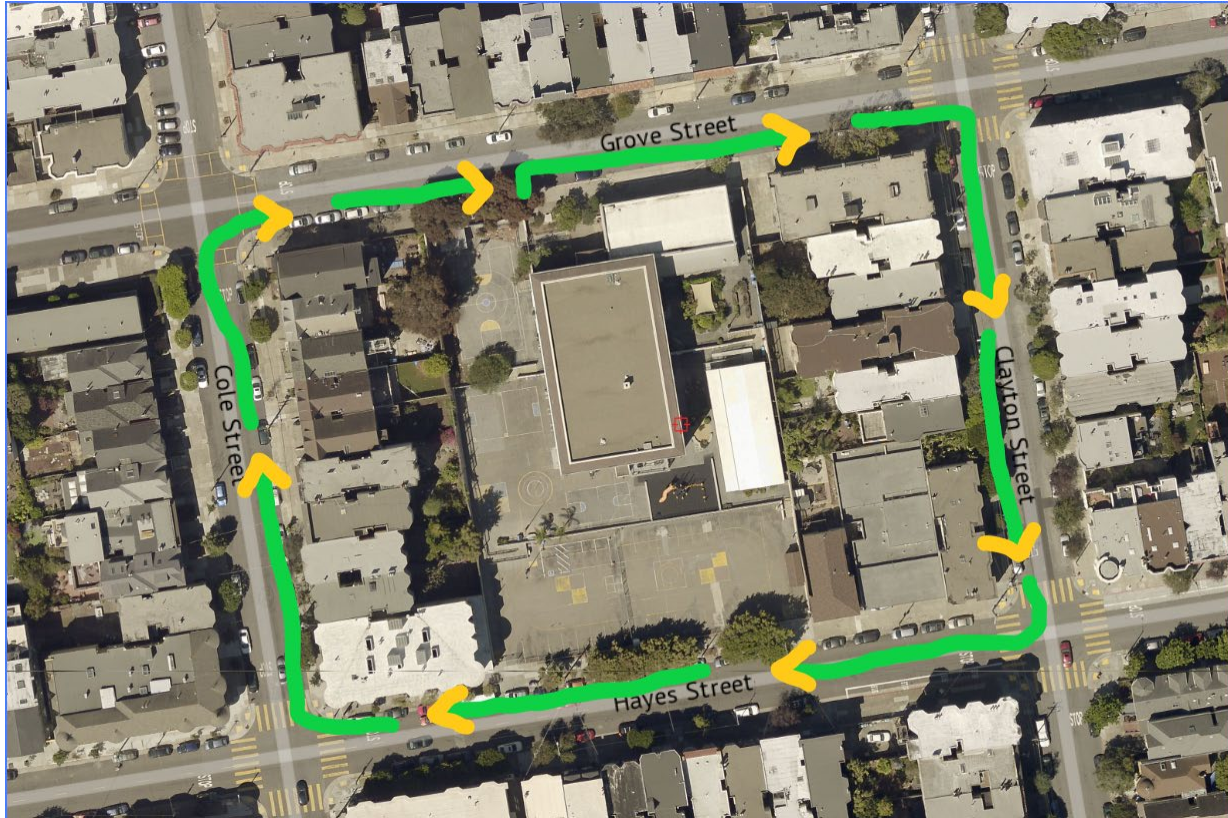
A "Walking Audit" is an organized group walking tour (45 minutes to an hour) of each school area in order to identify and address obstacles to safe and comfortable walking in the area around the school. Participants are typically a group of 6-12 people, including school staff, parents, advocates, and students. Each Audit identifies both Near- and long-term improvements.

Schools are chosen for Walk Audits based on recent injury collisions in the school area, the potential to increase walking among the student population, and whether or not recent safety work has been done in the school area. In 2023 each Walking Audit school has been allocated \$50,000 for Near-term improvements. Longer term and more costly improvements will be recorded and recommended for inclusion in larger projects on that street.

The New Traditions Elementary School Walking Audit was held on Monday, March 20, 2023, from 4:00-6:00 pm, under clear blue skies with moderate temperatures. Principal Myra Quadros recruited Teacher Gary to walk. Three people in total participated in the Audit.

## The Walking Route

Beginning at the front door of the school, the walk route included streets directly adjacent to the school, beginning on Grove Street and walking east to Clayton Street, South to Hayes Street and west to Cole Street. See the aerial photograph of the walking route below:

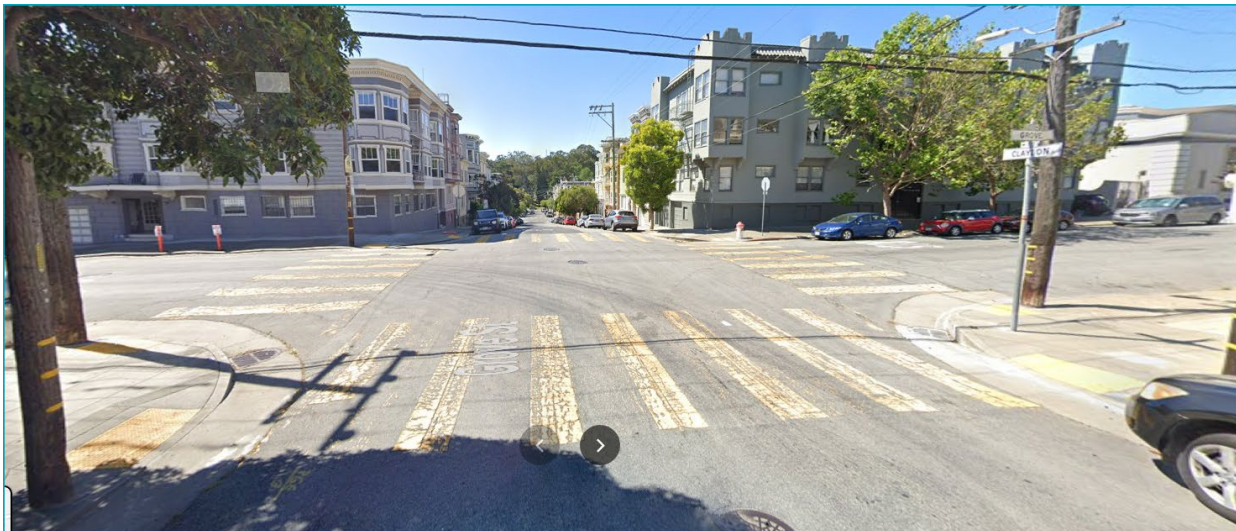


## School Area Pedestrian Issues Identified

Participants were given note sheets with an introduction and an explanation of the “Tool Kit” of measures (including photos) that are available to address both near- and long-term issues and concerns. These sheets were used by each participant to take notes and record issues. SFMTA staff then compiled participant comments in this report. Participants were asked to be inclusive in their comments, recording all issues that impact them on their walk, NOT just those issues that can be addressed by the SFMTA.

### General School Area Issues/Concerns:

- Need better visibility at crosswalks
- Street lighting around school entrance is not adequate in Winter
- Roadway paint is faded
- Drop off zone on Grove Street is congested leading contributes to bad driving practices and double parking in front of the school’s main gates
- Upgrade pedestrian safety features at Stanyan/Hayes where families walk everyday



### Grove Street at Clayton Street

#### Near-Term Issues/Concerns:

- Visibility of crosswalks obscured by parked vehicles
- Cars often don’t stop behind the crosswalks
- Review passenger loading and bus zones in front of school for consistency with school schedules

#### Long-Term Issues/Concerns:

- School participants felt there wasn’t enough lighting on Grove Street
- Storm gutter is backing up



**Hayes Street at Clayton Street**

**Near-Term Issues/Concerns:**

- Need better visibility at crosswalks
- Driveway exiting school yard, which is used for parking, has poor visibility of pedestrians

**Long-Term Issues/Concerns:**

- Improve range of visibility for pedestrians crossing street

**Cole Street at Hayes Street**

**Near-Term Issues/Concerns:**

- Vehicles don't stop behind the crosswalks
- Visibility of crosswalks obscured by parked vehicles
- Roadway paint is faded

**Long-Term Issues/Concerns:**

- Shorten pedestrian crossing distances

**Cole Street at Grove Street**

**Near-Term Issues/Concerns:**

- Visibility of crosswalks obscured by parked vehicles
- Vehicles don't stop behind the crosswalks
- Passenger Loading and School Bus times should be consistent

**Long-Term Issues/Concerns:**

- None

## New Traditions Walk Audit Recommendations

### General School Area Recommendations:

- Review drop-off zone on Grove Street for improvements to traffic operation and safety
- Improve visibility at crosswalks by adding Daylighting
- Modify signal timing where needed
- Review signal timing at Stanyan/Hayes for current standards (LPI and 3.0 walk speed)
- Upgrade Stanyan/Hayes with continental crosswalk

### Clayton Street at Grove Street

#### Near-Term Recommendations:

- Daylight approaches to crosswalks where possible
- Add one speed table on Grove Street, between Clayton Street and Cole Street
- Request SF Dept of Public Works clear drainage at storm gutter

#### Long-Term Recommendations:

- Request more streetlighting mid-block on Grove Street fronting school entrance

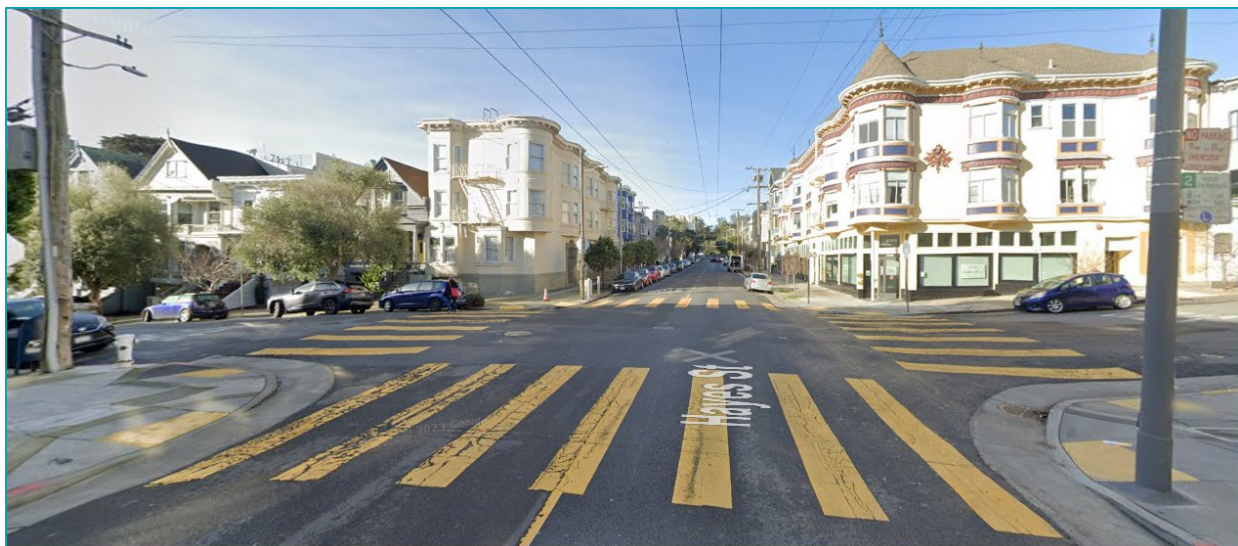
### Clayton Street at Hayes Street

#### Near-Term Recommendations:

- Daylighting approaches to crosswalks where needed (SB Clayton at Hayes)
- Add painted safety zones (PSZs) to this intersection
- Extend red tips on Hayes Street at school driveways to improve visibility

#### Long-Term Recommendations:

- Install concrete curb extensions



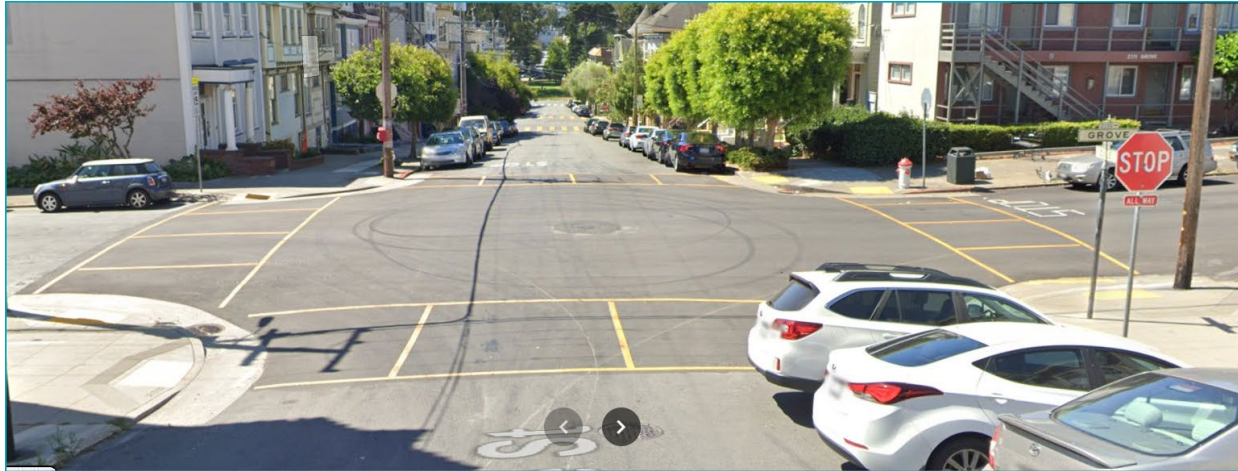
### Hayes Street at Cole Street

#### Near-Term Recommendations:

- Daylighting approaches to crosswalks where needed
- Refresh all roadway paint

#### Long-Term Recommendations:

- Add curb extensions to improve range of visibility



### Cole Street at Grove Street

#### Near-Term Recommendations:

- Daylighting approaches to crosswalks where needed
- As noted above: Review Passenger Loading and School Bus time for consistency with school schedule
- As noted above: Install one speed table on Grove Street between Cole Street and Clayton Street

#### Long-Term Recommendations:

- None

## Next Steps and Projected Near-Term Timeline:

### Prioritizing Recommendations

Upon completion of this report, SFMTA School Engineering Program manager and staff will evaluate the recommendations and recommend and prioritize near- and long-term improvements for implementation. Each of the five 2023 Walk Audit schools has a budget of \$50,000 for near-term improvements, and staff will prioritize improvements at each school to maximize the safety benefit for the student population.

### Legislation of Prioritized Recommendations

SFMTA Schools Engineering staff will then legislate prioritized items that require interdepartmental or SFMTA Board approval. Some items, such as “Daylighting” or additional



advisory signage, do not require legislation. Others, like speed humps, certain parking restrictions, and traffic signal timing modification, require legislation or review by committee that typically takes 2-3 months.

**Construction/Implementation of Near-Term Measures**

Implementation or construction of the approved measures will vary depending on the complexity of installation. Simpler measures, such as daylighting, roadway striping, and signs can be installed more quickly than speed humps, raised crosswalks, signal timing modifications and more complex measures. So

Phase 1 will include the simpler measures: signs, curb paint, and roadway paint.

Phase 2 will include speed humps, raised crosswalks, and signal timing modifications

**Near-Term Project Timeline**

<i>Projected Timeline</i>	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Prioritize Recommendations	P1, P2	P1, P2							
Approval of Simple Measures		P1							
Legislation of Other Measures			P2	P2					
Submit Work Orders			P1	P1	P2	P2			
Installation of Measures				P1	P1	P1	P2	P2	P2

P1 = Phase 1

P2 = Phase 2

**Long-Term Recommendations**

Measures recommended for long-term implementation will be incorporated into larger construction efforts as feasible, and will not have a projected timeline at this point. These recommended measures will be re-evaluated for their efficacy at such a time as they may be included in the scopes of larger construction projects in the immediate area. These types of projects often include Sewer and Water main replacement, re-paving, sidewalk reconstruction, or possibly undergrounding of utilities.