

Novato High School Walk Audit
Wednesday, December 14, 2022

Attending: David Parisi, Parisi Associates, Wendi Kallins, Safe Routes to Schools, Mac Grosel, Parisi Associates, Sarah Donelson, PTA parent, Chris Blunk, Novato DPW, Cooper Miley, SR2S volunteer coordinator, Gwen Groh, SR2S, Jim Larson, Novato High School Vice Principal, Allie Green, Novato High School Vice Principal

General Information

- High school serves ~1400 students
- 8:30 AM start time. 8:40 AM start time for nearby Rancho Elementary School
- 2 students reported being hit by a car in the last year
- Many students walk some distance to school: some students take the bus and walk from S. Novato Blvd, some drive and park and then walk.

Arthur Street

- Bike lanes end about three blocks west of school, at Tyler St
- Narrow ~4' sidewalks on both sides of Arthur Street. Wide ~8' sidewalk adjacent to the campus and in some other areas.

School Parking Lot

- large number of vehicles making a left turn to enter the parking lot results in long queues for westbound Arthur St during the morning
- Students walk through parking lot with no defined route. Limited, disconnected pedestrian/accessible routes marked
- No defined drop off zone. Some students dropped off on Arthur Street cross street randomly outside of a crosswalk. Students being dropped off in the parking lot near entrance driveway can conflict with other entering vehicles
- Faded arrow pavement markings in parking lot providing conflicting information and can be confusing to drivers
- exiting vehicles on Arthur St conflicts with entering vehicles
- Separate, back parking lot for staff only, accessed by separate service driveway. Service driveway also used by some students walking and by bikes to access the bike storage areas





Hayes Street

- Poor visibility between drivers and people trying to cross the street
- Existing pedestrian crossing signs, and speed feedback sign for westbound approach
- Cars speed through intersection
- Frequent accident spot
- Closest Crosswalk to the school



Cambridge Street

- Large volume of vehicles results in long queues at this all-way stop controlled intersection, particularly for the westbound approach in the AM, backing up to the S Novato traffic signal and blocking traffic
- Long queue of cars on northbound Cambridge Street from vehicles trying to bypass queues on S Novato Blvd
- Lots of students walking, often don't efficiently cross intersection and can prevent some vehicles from entering the intersection
- This intersection also sees elementary school students heading to Rancho Elementary to the north. Traffic overlaps in the afternoon in particular
- Neighbors complain about students waiting to be picked up
- This intersection used to have a crossing guard for the Rancho students



S Novato Boulevard

- Queue of cars from Cambridge Street blocks vehicles on S Novato, resulting in long queues for both the northbound left turn and southbound right turn movements
- Southbound right turn vehicle queue blocks bike lane
- Intersection doesn't clear quickly and some turning vehicles can be stuck in intersection after the green light ends, blocking the crosswalk, bike lane, and other lanes of traffic



Washington Street

- Pedestrian route from Washington Street through the back of campus. stairs, non-ADA complaint. No defined pathway through field, can be muddy
- a heavily used pedestrian route

