

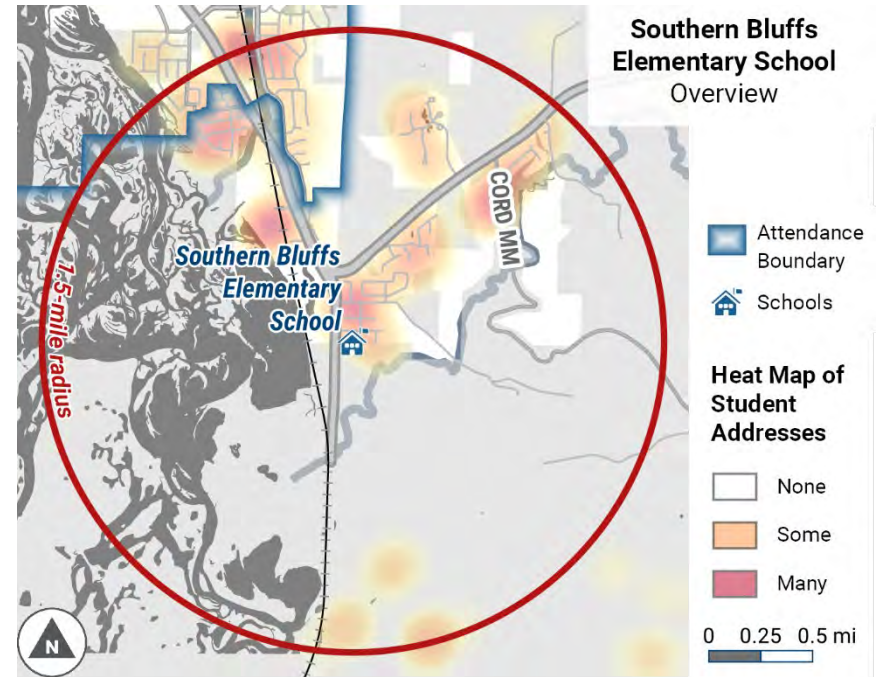
## Southern Bluffs Elementary Neighborhood Infrastructure Plan

Southern Bluffs Elementary School	
Address	4010 Sunnyside Drive
Grade Levels	4K – 5
Number of Students	Approximately 330
Number of Students Approved for Free and Reduced Lunch	121 (37%) <sup>a</sup>
Arrival/Dismissal Times	8:00 AM/3:00 PM

<sup>a</sup>Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, 2018-19

School Travel Modes	% of Students Using Mode <sup>b</sup>
Walk and Bike	7% AM, 7% PM
School Bus	54% AM, 56% PM
Family Vehicle	37% AM, 35% PM

<sup>b</sup>Source: La Crosse County Health Department, Fall 2018



Major Streets and Highways	Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) <sup>c</sup>	Number of Through Lanes	Speed Limit
State Hwy 35	10,400	2-3 lanes	40 (25 mph in school zone)
US Hwy 14/61	8,000	4	55

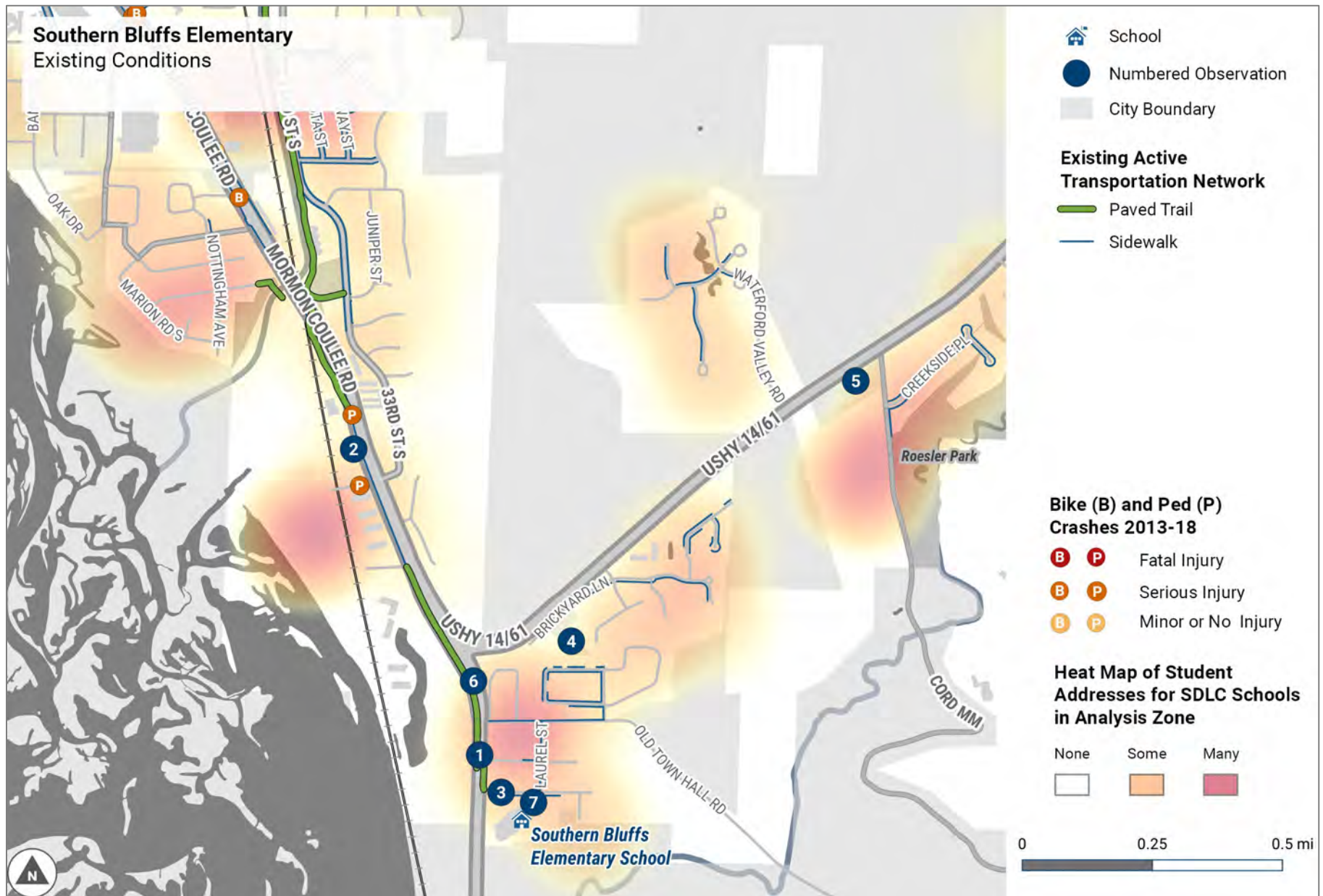
<sup>c</sup>Source: Wisconsin DOT Traffic Count Map

## Known Safety Concerns at Southern Bluffs Elementary School

Source of Concern	Safety Concern or Comment
Principal Lisa Schreiner and SRTS Liaison	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students walk through parking lot with adults.</li> <li>Students need to stay on the sidewalk and should not cross the bus lane.</li> <li>State Hwy 35 has high speeds, and increased traffic as a result of the recently-built apartments across the street.</li> </ul>
Parent Surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Many parents expressed a desire for paths along highways and between disconnected neighborhoods, such as between the Southern Bluffs neighborhood and the Brickworks, and along Hwy 14/61 to connect to Waterford Valley Road, the manufactured homes neighborhood, and Justin Road.</li> <li>There are few sidewalks on Hwy 14/61 and on other streets in the area.</li> <li>Fast traffic on Hwy 14/61.</li> </ul>
School District Transportation Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Many neighborhoods near this school will likely be included in future Unusual Hazardous Transportation areas planned by the School District of La Crosse.</li> <li>The school district already buses many students within the 2-mile radius, but parents pay for the busing.</li> </ul>

## Arrival Observations

Observation Details	
Observation Date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The consultant team observed arrival on Thursday, December 5.</li> </ul>
Entrances/Exits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At arrival students entered the school through a single entrance at the front of the school.</li> </ul>
School Bus Loading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School buses lined up on the north side of the building, in the one-way driveway off of Sunnyside Drive.</li> </ul>
Family Drop-off/Pick-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parents in vehicles dropped off students in the driveway in the front of the school.</li> </ul>
School Staff Roles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School staff were present supervising students outside the school door.</li> </ul>
Adult Crossing Guards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No adult crossing guards are posted near the school.</li> </ul>
Student Safety Patrols	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No student safety patrols were observed.</li> </ul>



## Recommendations in the Southern Bluffs Elementary Neighborhood

The numbered observations and recommendations in the table below correspond to the points in the Existing Conditions Map (shown on previous page) and the Recommended Infrastructure Map (at the end of this document). Recommendations are flagged as Short Term (1-3 years), Medium Term (2-5 years) and Long Term (5-20 years) projects. Some recommendations are shown **in dark blue bold font**, indicating that in an April/May 2020 online survey, more than three respondents listed it as an important recommendation in the Plan.

#	Location	Observations	Recommendations
1	Great River Road (State Hwy 35) and Riverview Drive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Driver speed feedback signs face traffic on Great River Road (State Hwy 35) on both approaches to the intersection at Sunnyside Drive.</li> <li>• Great River Road (State Hwy 35) is a high speed and high volume street. Vehicles appear to exceed the posted speed limit (25 mph) during school arrival and dismissal times.</li> <li>• Continental crosswalk markings are faded.</li> <li>• An existing RRFB at the intersection provides increased pedestrian visibility across Great River Road. However, families report that drivers often do not yield to pedestrians in the crosswalk.</li> <li>• Parents and staff report that this crossing is dangerous and discourages students from walking and biking.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add high-visibility crosswalk across Great River Road and Riverview Drive, and ensure adequate nighttime lighting. (Short Term)</li> <li>• Partner with Police Department to conduct enforcement and education activities at this location. (Short Term)</li> <li>• Consider assigning a crossing guard at this location <i>or</i> designating the area west of Great River Road as an “Unusually Hazardous Transportation Area” that qualifies for free yellow school busing. (Short Term)</li> </ul>
2	Mormon Coulee Road north of Calvert Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connections between the Pammel Creek Trail and the Southern Bluff Trail along Mormon Coulee Road are missing. Staff mentioned that Walk to School Day events start near Fiesta Mexicana.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Designate all the area east of Mormon Coulee Road, and possibly all the area to the west of Mormon Coulee Road, as an “Unusually Hazardous Transportation Area” that qualifies for free yellow school busing. (Short Term)</li> <li>• Construct multi-use path connecting Pammel Creek Trail and Southern Bluff Trail along Mormon Coulee Road. (Long Term)</li> </ul>
3	Sunnyside Drive east of the vehicular driveway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Curb extensions across Sunnyside Drive shorten crossing distances.</li> <li>• The existing crossing has school crossing signs and curb ramps but is not highly visible to drivers (no crosswalks markings are present).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add high-visibility crosswalks on all legs of the intersection. (Short Term)</li> <li>• Consider using in-street yield to pedestrian signs. (Short Term)</li> </ul>

La Crosse Safe Routes to School Plan

#	Location	Observations	Recommendations
4	Brickyard Neighborhood (northeast of the school and south of US Hwy 14/61)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Missing or discontinuous sidewalks present a barrier to walking and bicycling to school.</li> <li>A curving and discontinuous street network between Old Town Hall Road and US Hwy 14/61 discourages walking and biking. For example, there are no connections between Fireclay Court and Mariah Drive North.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider designating the Brickyard Neighborhood an “Unusually Hazardous Transportation Area” that qualifies for free yellow school busing. (Short Term)</li> <li><b>Construct pathways that connect dead-end streets and increase neighborhood connectivity. Remove Unusually Hazardous Transportation designation when there are no longer gaps. (Medium Term)</b></li> </ul>
5	US Hwy 14/61 west of Roesler Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No walking or bicycle facilities are present on or along US Hwy 14/61 to connect a large manufactured home community with Southern Bluffs Elementary School.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Designate the area along US Hwy 14/61 west of the Brickyard neighborhood as “Unusually Hazardous Transportation Area” to qualify for free yellow school busing. (Short Term)</b></li> <li><b>Construct multi-use path connection along US Hwy 14/61 to connect to existing trail along Great River Road. (Long Term)</b></li> </ul>
6	Great River Road (State Hwy 35) US Hwy 14/61 interchange	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The high-speed interchange presents a barrier to walking or biking between the proposed sidepath on US Hwy 14/61 and the current Southern Bluff Trail.</li> <li>The City anticipates significant growth in this area of La Crosse, as open space is converted into residential and commercial developments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When State Hwy 35 and US Hwy 14/61 interchange is reconstructed, build underpass connecting the Southern Bluff Trail and the planned US Hwy 14/61 sidepath. (Long Term)</li> </ul>
7	Bicycle Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing “wave” bicycle racks can result in damaged bikes and can make it difficult to securely lock a variety of different types of bicycles.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Replace the existing bike racks with new racks that support the bike frame in at least two places and that enable secure locking. (Short Term)</li> </ul>



