

**Gault Elementary School - 1320 Seabright Ave.**

Grades:	K-5th
Number of Students:	424
Free/Reduced Meal %:	70.5% (District is 42.4%)
Students residing within a mile of school:	89%
Students using active transportation:	35.5%
Bike/Pedestrian injury or fatal crashes within half mile of school 2007-2012:	64 15 Pedestrian and 49 Bicycle (2 severe injuries)

**Bike/Walk Audit - Oct. 29th, 2013**

Participants: Principal Molly Parks, Parents Will Bachar, Jesse Cowan, Catilin, Alta Planning + Design Consultant Brett Hondorp, Neighbor Rob Straka, SC City Public Works Cheryl Schmitt, EA Staff Piet Canin and Jeanne LePage

**Overview**

- Gault school has a large percentage of low income students walking from the Beach Flats neighborhood (see residence map on page 34).
- There currently is 1 crossing guard at the Seabright/Broadway intersection.
- Parent survey results indicate the biggest barrier to students walking/biking to school is concerns regarding crime/violence.
- In 2011/2012 Ecology Action led a Walking School Bus (WSB) to help alleviate safety concerns by providing adult supervision. Student participation was vigorous but finding adult volunteer leaders was challenging. The WSB was discontinued after one year due to low volunteer retention.
- A group of Gault parents expressed extreme concern for safety at the Effey/Seabright intersection. An online petition was created and sent to City Public Works staff after the audit to garner support for an infrastructure intervention at this location.
- The closest municipal bus stop is directly in front of school at Seabright/Broadway intersection.

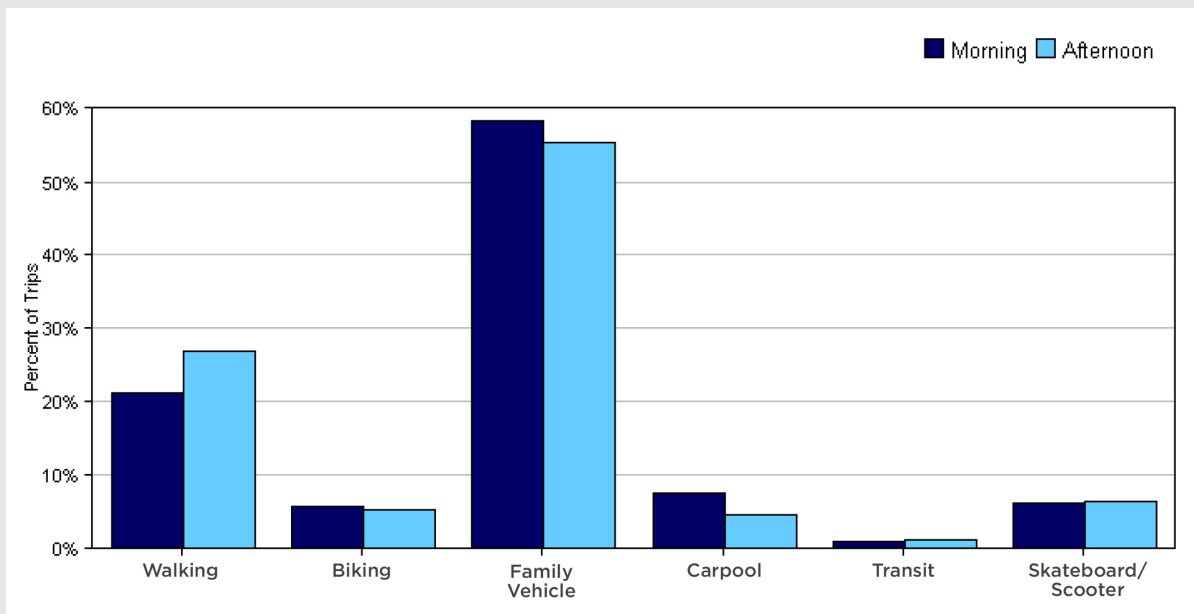


## Analysis

- From 2007-2012 - 5 reported injury crashes occurred along Seabright (the school frontage street) and 6 occurred along Broadway - the main pedestrian corridor used by Beach Flats students.
- In 2013 an injury bicycle crash occurred at the Broadway/Cayuga intersection. This intersection was highlighted by parent comments and suggested as a site for a crosswalk addition - Recommendation 4A in Infrastructure Recommendations p. 35.
- The majority of Alta Planning + Design bike and pedestrian safety improvements focused on the Seabright/Effey intersection, the Broadway/Sumner intersection and the general Broadway Street corridor.
- Gault has the greatest percentage of students that live within a mile and do not use active transportation. 89% live within a mile but only 36% use active transportation.
- 7 total locations were recommended for improvements with a total of 16 recommendations.

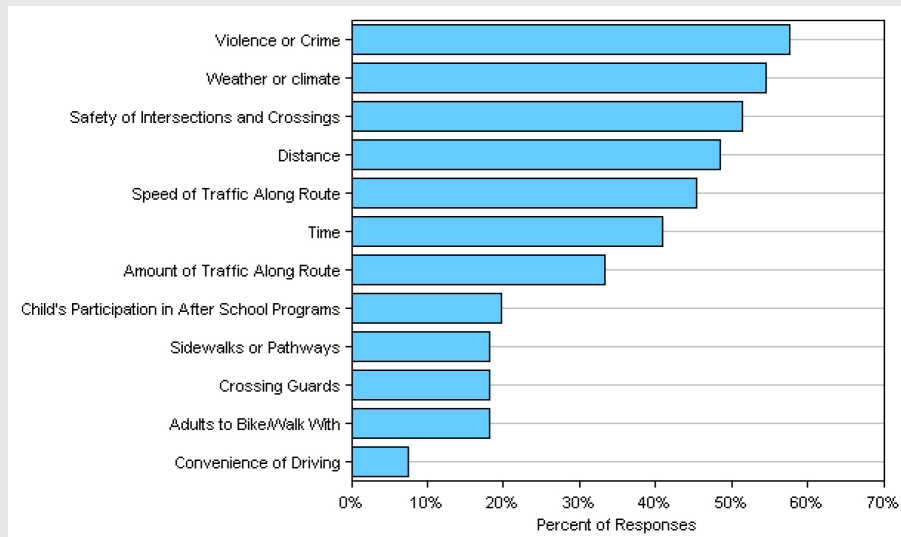
## Student Mode Survey Results

In April of 2013, 16 of the 1st-5th grade classrooms were surveyed by EA staff.



## Parent Survey Results

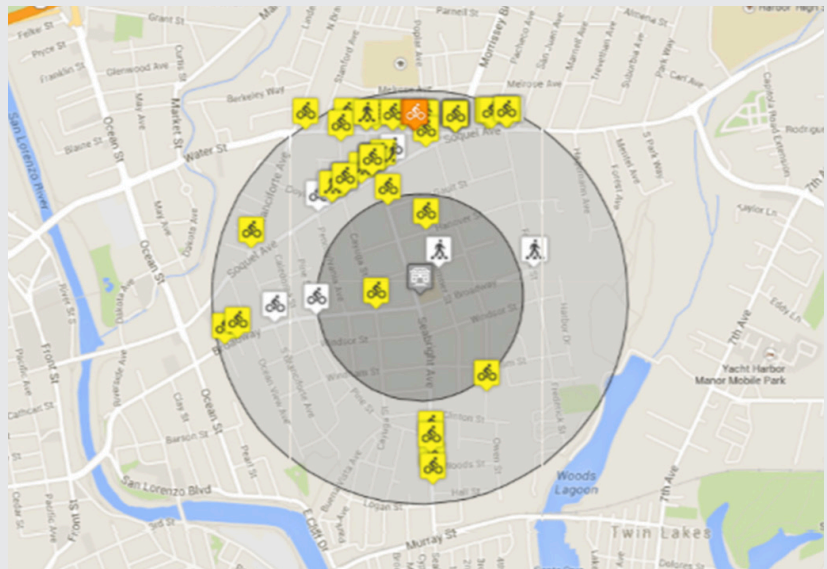
Survey administered in May of 2012. 144 surveys were returned. Below are results from question 8 of the survey. Respondents were asked to rank the issues affecting their decision to not allow a child to walk or bike to/from school. 82 parents answered this question.



## Pedestrian and Bicycle Collisions Within a Half-Mile of Gault Elementary 2007-2012:

64 (15 Pedestrian and 49 Bicycle – 2 were severe)

Collision Severity	Involvement		
	Bike	Ped	Both
Fatal			
Injury (Severe)			
Injury (Other Visible)			
Injury (Complaint of Pain)			










### Gault Elementary School Infrastructure Recommendations

	Location	Recommendation
1	Darwin Street and Hanover Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Add crosswalk and curb ramp at Darwin Street pedestrian path across Hanover Street</li> <li>B. Add wayfinding signage to direct users to pedestrian path</li> </ul>
2	Sumner Street and Broadway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Add high visibility yellow crosswalk to the west leg across Broadway; install Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacon (RRFB); Consider adding curb extension to the northwest corner</li> <li>B. Trim landscaping on the northeast corner to improve visibility</li> <li>C. Stripe a red curb for one car length on the northeast corner of Broadway</li> </ul> 
3	Seabright Avenue and Broadway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Add high visibility yellow crosswalk on the south leg; coordinate with Crossing Guard operations at this location</li> </ul>
4	Broadway and Cayuga Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Add yellow crosswalks on the north and south legs of Cayuga Street; move advance stop bar back from intersection</li> </ul>
5	Seabright Avenue and Effey Street	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Add advance yield markings (“sharks teeth”) on Seabright Avenue in advance of the pedestrian crosswalks in both directions</li> <li>B. Rebuild corners with bulbouts and install directional curb ramps to improve ADA access and improve drainage</li> <li>C. Upgrade pedestrian crosswalks across Seabright to high-visibility pattern</li> <li>D. Install Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacons (RRFBs) serving both Seabright Avenue crosswalks at Effey</li> <li>E. Install “Yield to Pedestrians” paddle sign in centerline of uncontrolled Seabright Avenue crosswalks in interim before RRFB is installed</li> <li>F. Add Shared Lane Bicycle markings (“sharrows”) in both directions along Seabright Avenue</li> </ul>

6

Soquel Avenue and  
Cayuga Street

- A. Add RRFB at existing marked crosswalk on Soquel Avenue at Cayuga; consider curb extensions to shorten crossing distance

7

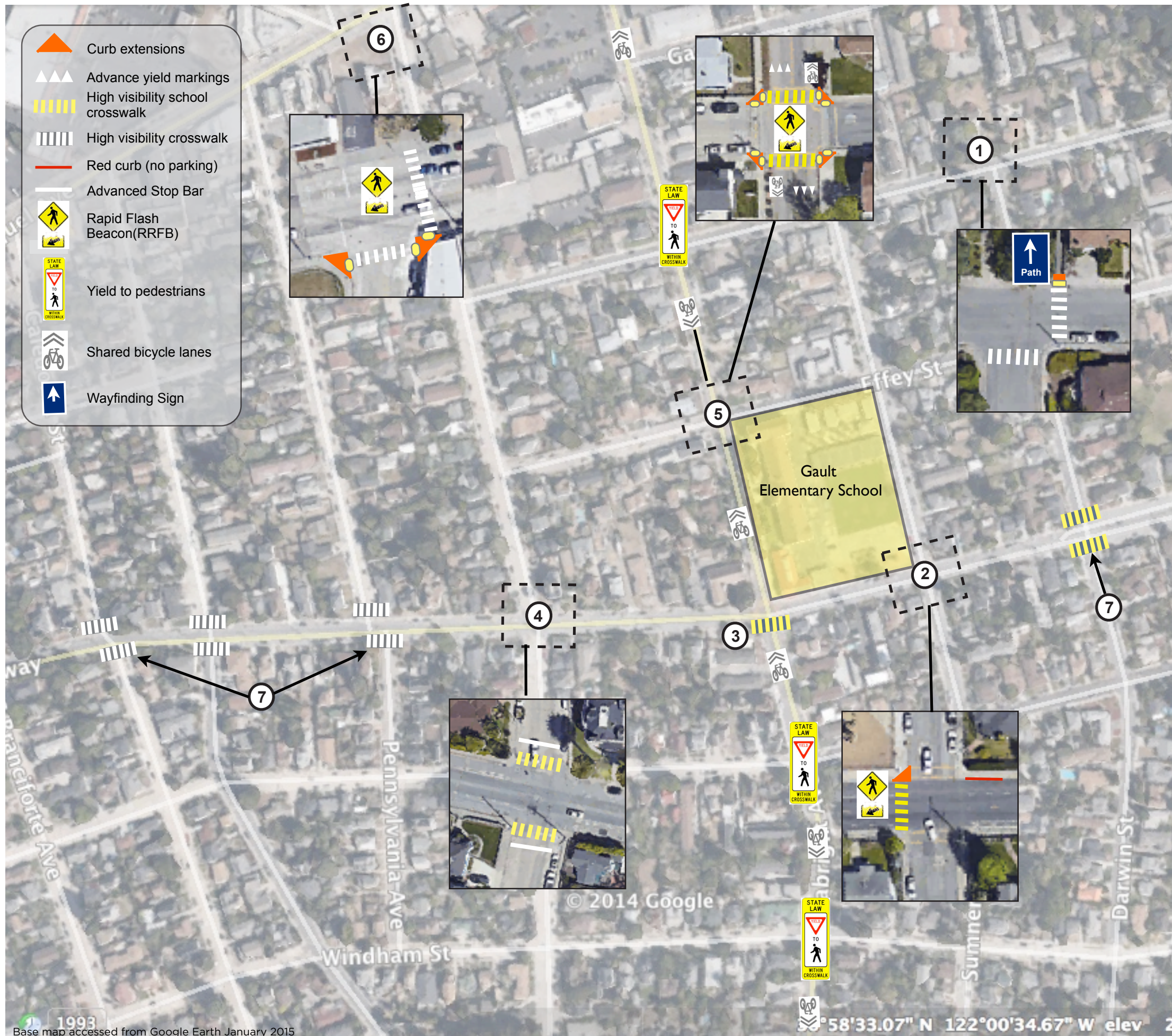
Broadway corridor  
from Riverside Ave  
to Frederick St

- A. Given use of Broadway as a Walking School Bus corridor to Gault, ensure that all minor street crossings (E-W) have marked crosswalks
- B. Ensure that routine sidewalk and landscape maintenance is undertaken by homeowners along the corridor



# Gault Elementary School Recommendations

Santa Cruz City Schools Complete Streets Master Plan  
February 2015



- ① **Darwin Street and Hanover Street**
  - Add crosswalk and curb ramp at Darwin Street pedestrian path across Hanover Street
  - Add wayfinding signage to direct users to pedestrian path
- ② **Sumner Street and Broadway**
  - Add high visibility crosswalk to the west leg across Broadway, install Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacon (RRFB) and consider adding curb extension to the northwest corner
  - Trim landscaping on the northeast corner to improve visibility
  - Stripe a red curb for one car length on the northeast corner of Broadway
- ③ **Seabright Avenue and Broadway**
  - Add high visibility crosswalk on the south leg; coordinate with Crossing Guard operations at this location
- ④ **Broadway and Cayuga Street**
  - Add yellow crosswalks on the east-west legs of Cayuga Street and move advance stop bar back from intersection
- ⑤ **Seabright Avenue and Effey Street**
  - Add advance yield markings (“sharks teeth”) on Seabright Avenue in advance of the pedestrian crosswalks in both directions
  - Rebuild corners with bulbouts and install directional curb ramps to improve ADA access and improve drainage
  - Upgrade pedestrian crosswalks across Seabright to high-visibility pattern
  - Install Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacons (RRFBs) serving both Seabright Avenue crosswalks at Effey
  - Install “Yield to Pedestrians” paddle sign in centerline of uncontrolled Seabright Avenue crosswalks in interim before the RRFB is installed
  - Add Shared Lane Bicycle markings (“sharrows”) in both directions along Seabright Avenue
- ⑥ **Soquel Avenue and Cayuga Street**
  - Add Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacons at existing marked crosswalk on Soquel Avenue at Cayuga; consider curb extensions to shorten crossing distance
- ⑦ **Broadway Corridor from Riverside Ave to Frederick St.**
  - Given use of Broadway as a Walking School Bus corridor to Gault, ensure that all minor street crossings (E-W) have marked crosswalks
  - Ensure that routine sidewalk and landscape maintenance is undertaken by homeowners along the corridor





### Gault Elementary School Non-Infrastructure Recommendations

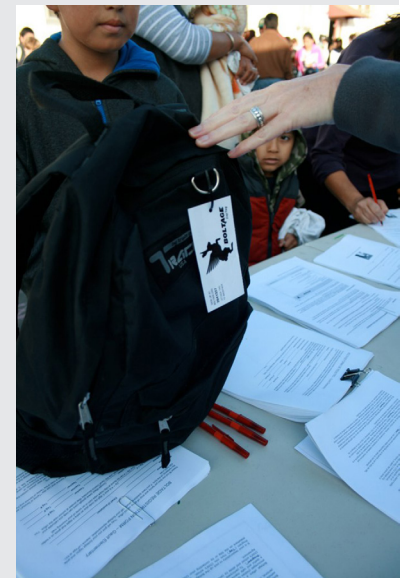
#### 1. Conduct annual student bike and pedestrian safety education.

The Santa Cruz County Health Service Agency offers pedestrian and bike safety education for younger students and Ecology Action offers presentations and on-the-bike safety training for older students. Safety education is fundamental to improving bike and pedestrian safety. These safety education programs are only provided when short term funding is available. Designated PTA funds, district supported funds and outside public traffic safety grants could cover these important programs.



#### 2. Increase participation in Boltage program to encourage more biking/walking at school site.

This ongoing active transportation incentive program is mostly volunteer led. Gault could embrace program to be included in other rewards programs to gain higher participation rates. Compared to other City Boltage sites Gault has lower numbers that could be improved with revitalized reward program.



#### 3. Consider Kinder Carpool Program to increase carpooling from early grades.

Program does not currently exist. School could pair incoming kinders that live near one another to encourage carpooling. Raises potential for long term carpooling relationships.

#### 4. Consider increasing biannual Bike/Walk to School event to monthly or even weekly event, eg. Walk and Roll Wednesdays.

Ecology Action has offered a monthly (rather than biannual) event to several local schools to more consistently re-enforce and encourage biking and walking to school. Numbers indicate this approach may increase daily active commuting totals. This program requires ongoing financial support.



#### 5. Consider re-starting Walking School Bus (WSB) program

A successful WSB program requires a group of dedicated volunteers and/or an agency to administer and monitor program success. When the Gault WSB program ran in 2011/2012 it was difficult to retain volunteers although it was a popular program with students. There is a natural route from the Beach Flats area that many children would walk if they had adult supervision. To re-launch a viable program we would recommend agency and ongoing financial support.