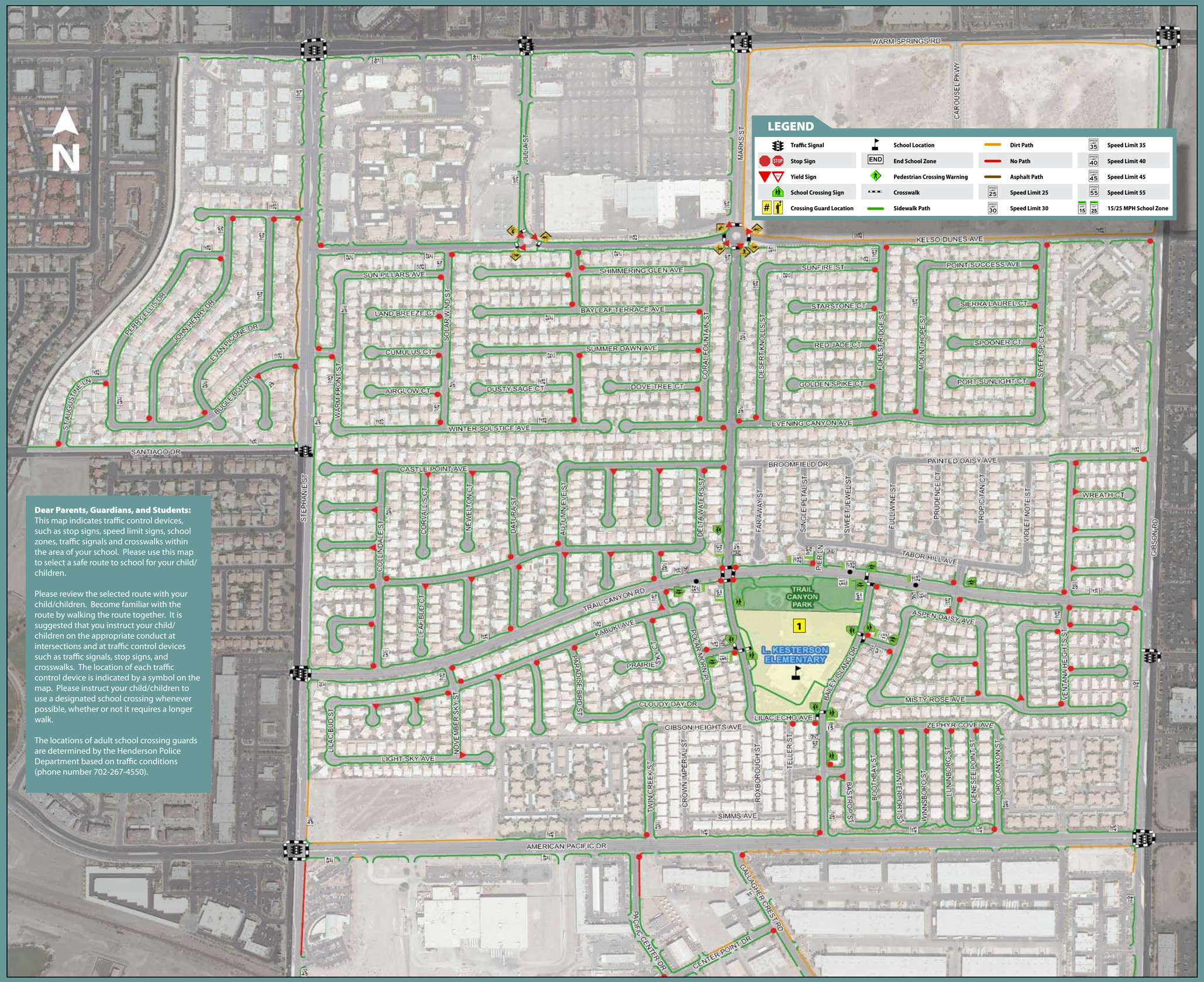
BIKE AND WALK TO LORNA J. KESTERSON ELEMENTARY

SafeRoutes
National Center for Safe Routes to School

J. KESTERSON ELEMENTARY



Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students:
This map indicates traffic control devices, such as stop signs, speed limit signs, school zones, traffic signals and crosswalks within the area of your school. Please use this map to select a safe route to school for your child/children.

Please review the selected route with your child/children. Become familiar with the route by walking the route together. It is suggested that you instruct your child/children on the appropriate conduct at intersections and at traffic control devices such as traffic signals, stop signs, and crosswalks. The location of each traffic control device is indicated by a symbol on the map. Please instruct your child/children to use a designated school crossing whenever possible, whether or not it requires a longer walk.

The locations of adult school crossing guards are determined by the Henderson Police Department based on traffic conditions (phone number 702-267-4550).

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This map is provided to assist parents/guardians in the selection of a walking/bicycling route to and from school. The location of traffic control devices and roadway conditions will change, so parents/guardians must continually review the route with their child/children. This information is provided for information purposes only. Nothing herein is warrantied by the City of Henderson, and no liability is assumed by the City of Henderson or the Clark County School District for the information provided, including but not limited to the accuracy of the data shown herein. For the latest school zoning and transportation information, please visit http://www.ccsd.net/.

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Why Walk or Bike to School?

- Increased physical activity can combat a host of health problems facing kids today.
- Replacing car trips to school with walking or bicycling can help reduce traffic congestion around a school
- Fewer vehicle trips means reduced air pollution.
- Coordination among government officials, school administration, law enforcement and parents to create a safe walking and biking environment can enhance safety for all citizens.

Source: International Walk to School Day
http://www.walktoschool-usa.org/why/index.cfm

Walking/Biking Strategies

Walking School Bus (works for bikes too!): A walking school bus is a group of children walking to school with one or more adults. That may sound simple, and that is part of the appeal. It can be as informal as two families taking turns walking their children to school or as structured as a planned route with meeting points, a timetable and a schedule of trained volunteers.

A variation on the walking school bus is a bicycle train where a group of children and adult leaders ride together to school.

Source:
http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/guide/walking_school_bus/index.cfm

Park and Stride/Park and Ride: Parents can identify a parking area close to the school that shortens the walking or biking distance, but is away from the congestion in front of the school. Parking areas may be found at public parks and buildings. Additionally, some churches and large shopping centers may also allow parking for short periods of time.

Walking and Biking Safely

Safety is a shared responsibility for all road users, including drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists. The following are some tips to improve road safety for everyone.

Safety tips for pedestrians

Be safe and be seen: make yourself visible to drivers

- Wear bright/light colored clothing and reflective materials.
- Carry a flashlight when walking at night.
- Cross in a well-lit area at night.
- Stand clear of buses, hedges, parked cars or other obstacles before crossing so drivers can see you.

Be smart and alert: avoid dangerous behaviors

- Always walk on the sidewalk; if there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic.
- Don't assume vehicles will stop; make eye contact with drivers, don't just look at the vehicle. If a driver is on a cell phone, they may not be paying enough attention to drive safely.
- Don't rely solely on pedestrian signals; look before you cross the road.
- Be alert to engine noise or backup lights on cars when in parking lots and near on-street parking spaces.

Be careful at crossings: look before you step

- Cross streets at marked crosswalks or intersections, if possible.
- Obey traffic signals such as WALK/DON'T WALK signs.
- Look left, right, and left again before crossing a street.
- Watch for turning vehicles; make sure the driver sees you and will stop for you.
- Look across ALL lanes you must cross and visually clear each lane before proceeding. Just because one motorist stops, do not presume drivers in other lanes can see you and will stop for you.
- Don't wear headphones or talk on a cell phone while crossing.

When Children are Present

The following are common questions and answers related to the use of When Children Are Present Signs:

If I see children on the playground should I slow down? The "when children are present" signs apply to school zones and school crossing zones, which are defined as "sections of streets" in the state law. Since the street sections are composed of the sidewalks, travel lanes, and crosswalks the children shall be present within those areas of the zone for the signs to apply.

Who does this law apply to and how do I identify them? Since the "when children are present" signs are installed in school zones and school crossing zones, they apply to school-age children. Usually, students are carrying books, backpacks and/or lunch bags. They tend to travel between the hours of 6:00-9:00 am and 1:00-4:00pm on weekdays.

Drivers, however, should exercise caution around all pedestrians.

What about weekends and holidays? The signs do not apply when school is not in session.

What do the flashing beacons mean? The beacons are warning devices. They are programmed to flash when children are likely to be walking to school. However, they may be off when children are arriving early or leaving late. Therefore, if you see school-age children walking/biking to or from the school, you are required to slow down in the zone.

OTHER RESOURCES:

www.pedbikeinfo.org
www.pedbikeimages.org
www.saferoutesinfo.org
www.lookoutkidsabout.org
ccsd.net/partnership/saferoutes/

Safety Tips for Bicyclists

Always wear a helmet.

Always ride with traffic and follow the rules of the road.

- Forget what you might have heard in the past, you are better off riding with the flow of traffic, not against it. You are much more predictable and visible to motorists, especially at intersections and driveways.
- Ride in a straight line, not in and out of cars, and use hand signals when turning and stopping.
- Obey traffic signs, signals, and lane markings and yield to traffic when appropriate, including pedestrians.

Don't ride on the sidewalk.

- Although you might think it's a safer option, motorists are simply not looking for bicyclists on the sidewalk, especially those riding against traffic. So at every driveway and intersection, you are at much greater risk of being hit by a motorist than if you were riding on the road with traffic.
- Pedestrians will thank you for riding on the road as well.

Ride on the trail, paved shoulder, bike lane, or bike route.

- You still need to follow the rules of the road and watch out for your fellow travelers.
- Ride to the right, signal your turns, obey traffic signs and signals.

Be predictable and visible.

- Try not to be hesitant or do things that motorists and other travelers may not be expecting.
- Make sure everyone can see you and knows where you are and where you are going.
- If riding in the dark, use headlights, taillights and reflectors, and wear reflective materials and brightly colored clothing.
- Do not wear headphones or talk on a cell phone while bicycling.

Watch for stuff on the road or trail that might make you fall or swerve.

- Rocks, trash, storm grates, wet leaves, potholes, gravel, railroad tracks, and even wet pavement markings can all send you flying.
- Also watch for parked cars, doors opening, and cars pulling in and out of driveways.

Watch for turning traffic. Perhaps rather surprisingly, the crash data tells us that getting hit from behind is extremely unlikely. Most car/bike collisions happen at intersections and driveways when motorists or bicyclists are turning. So, at every intersection and driveway, keep a careful eye out for:

- Motorists turning right in front of you-you may be going faster than they think.
- Motorists turning left across your path-drivers are looking for gaps in traffic and may not be paying attention to anything other than other motor vehicles.

Safety Tips for Drivers

Be alert: watch for pedestrians and bicycles at all times

- Scan the road and the sides of the road ahead for potential pedestrians. Scan for bicyclists in traffic and give them the appropriate right-of-way.
- Before making a turn, look in all directions for pedestrians crossing.
- Look carefully behind your vehicle for approaching pedestrians before backing-up, especially small children.
- For maximum visibility, keep your windshield clean and headlights on.
- Bicycles are vehicles and bicyclists may take the entire lane.
- Children and novice riders can be unpredictable; expect the unexpected. Watch for bicyclists before opening car doors.
- Don't drive distracted or after consuming alcohol or other drugs.
- Do not use your cell phone while driving.

Be responsible: yield to pedestrians at crossings

- Yield to pedestrians in crosswalks, whether marked or unmarked.
- Yield to pedestrians when making right or left turns at intersections.
- Do not block or park in crosswalks.

Be patient: drive the speed limit and avoid aggressive maneuvers

- Never pass/overtake a vehicle that is stopped for pedestrians.
- Obey speed limits and come to a complete stop at STOP signs.
- Use extra caution when driving near children playing along the street or older pedestrians who may not see or hear you.
- Always be prepared to stop for pedestrians.
- Allow extra time for bicyclists to traverse intersections.
- Recognize hazards that bicyclists may face and give them space to maneuver.

Pass Bicyclists with Care. Treat bicyclists as you would a slow-moving car-don't tailgate

- Do wait until traffic conditions allow you to safely pass the bicyclist.
- Reduce speed when passing bicyclists and allow at least 3 ft of passing space.
- Check over your shoulder after passing a bicyclist before moving back.
- Don't blast your horn in close proximity to bicyclists.

Source: bicyclinginfo.org http://www.bicyclinginfo.org/bikemore/safely.cfm, walkinginfo.org http://www.walkinginfo.org/why/tips_walking-safely.cfm

1 L. Kesterson Elementary and Surrounding Streets

State Laws

Source: Nevada Revised Statutes http://leg.state.nv.us/NRS/
Chapter 484 Traffic Laws

Definitions

"School zone" means those sections of streets which are adjacent to school property. School zones are posted with a speed limit of 15 mph when children are present.

"School crossing zone" means street sections not adjacent to school property that pupils cross while following a designated walking route to school. School crossing zones are posted with a speed limit of 25 mph when children are present.

"Sidewalk" means the space between the curb or pavement edge and the adjacent property lines intended for the use of pedestrians.

"Crosswalk" means: 1. The area at every intersection from corner to corner, as if lines were drawn to connect the pedestrian paths; or 2. Any portion of a roadway indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other markings.

"Passenger curb loading zone" means an area next to a curb or roadway edge reserved for the exclusive use of vehicles actively engaged in the loading or unloading of passengers.

Cell Phone Use & Texting

The use of a cellular phone or other handheld wireless communications device to engage voice communications is prohibited unless the device is used with a hands-free accessory. The use of a cellular phone or other handheld wireless communications device to manually send, read, search the Internet, or to engage in non-voice communications with another person, including texting, electronic messaging and instant messaging is prohibited.

Right-of-way

A driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian crossing the highway within a crosswalk when the pedestrian is upon the vehicle's half of the highway, or when the pedestrian is approaching so closely from the opposite half of the highway as to be in danger.

The driver of a vehicle: (a) Shall stop in obedience to the direction or traffic-control signal of a school crossing guard; and (b) Shall not proceed until the highway is clear of all persons, including, without limitation, the school crossing guard.

A pedestrian shall not suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a vehicle which is so close that it is impossible for the driver to yield.

When official traffic-control devices are in operation at adjacent intersections, pedestrians shall not cross at any place except in a marked crosswalk.

A pedestrian shall not cross an intersection diagonally.
When crossing outside of a crosswalk, a pedestrian shall yield right of way to all vehicles on the roadway.

Parking

A person shall not stop, stand or park a vehicle, in any of the following places (NRS 484.399):

- On a sidewalk.
- In front of a public or private driveway.
- Within an intersection.
- Within 15 feet of a fire hydrant in a place where parallel parking is permitted, or 20 feet of a fire hydrant if angle parking is permitted.
- On a crosswalk or within 20 feet of a crosswalk.
- Within 30 feet of a traffic control signal at the side of a highway.
- Next to or opposite any highway construction zone.
- Next to any vehicle already parked on the side of the highway (double parking).
- In a space reserved for the handicapped unless you have the special license plate or window placard.
- Wherever parking is prohibited by signs or curb markings.
- Within a bicycle lane.
- In a passenger curb loading zone unless actually loading or unloading passengers.