

Grant Committee
Vision Zero BC Grant Committee
c/o BC IR&PU
F508 – 4480 Oak St.,
Vancouver, BC V6H 3V4
29 January 2023

To the Vision Zero BC Grant Committee,

Re: Pedestrian Safety Pilot Project for Grade 2 & 3 New Westminster Students

New Westminster District Parent Advisory Committee supports any project which focuses on reducing injuries from road crash incidents. The proposed Pedestrian Safety Pilot Project in New Westminster by Walkers' Caucus addresses criteria in several areas that could benefit students as well as parents and guardians of our students. As the focus is on Grades 2 and 3, and if the eight elementary schools in our school district all participated, we think that this may offer another level of safety for many families.

We understand that with this proposed Pedestrian Safety Pilot Project, students would become aware of how to anticipate potential urban pedestrian dangers through a physical layout of various situations that they would encounter in our city. With community outreach first responder's assistance, students will "walk" through and learn how to take corrective actions to prevent injuries. The students would also have a take-home graphic safety colouring sheet every month to discuss with their families in a language or dialect spoken in the student's home. This program empowers grade 2 and 3 students to become Student Stewards of Safety and also informs their families about pedestrian safety in the language spoken within their home.

In 2016, the Province of BC endorsed Vision Zero Project that focuses on safety of all persons, including vulnerable road users, to reduce road injuries and death. The SD40 DPAC supports the efforts of Walkers' Caucus in their request for funding for the proposed Pedestrian Safety Pilot Project from VisionZero BC.

With kind regards,

Laura Kwong
SD40 DPAC Chair

cc SD40 Board of Education
SD40 Superintendent Hachlaf, CEO
Burnaby-New West Walkers' Caucus c/o Vic Leach