

Pinewood School: K-4 with 415 Students

6181 Pine Street, Pollock Pines

Audit Conducted: 2/15/2008

School Location

Pinewood School is situated in a neighborhood in the Pollock Pines community. It is positioned near the local activity center including a grocery store, drug store, and places to eat. With the grade level of this school being K-4, it is unlikely children will walk to the activity center without a parent.

Existing Conditions: Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities

- ✓ Good location within a neighborhood.
- ✗ School does not have a bike rack.
- ✗ No shoulders or sidewalks at entrance or on nearby roads.

Audit Summary

The school was audited during the morning drop-off period in February of 2008. One parent was observed walking a child to school. This parent indicated that she usually walks on a dirt path adjacent to the tennis courts to stay away from the cars lined up at the entrance of the school. However, this day that area was covered in snow. This type of informal route makes for an excellent passage for pedestrians. Many children are bused to school and several are driven to school by parents. Approximately four to five cars were lined up at the parking lot entrance during this peak time. The roads adjacent to the school are narrow and have no sidewalks or shoulders. Typically, narrow roads such as these help keep car speeds low, but it does not leave room for pedestrians to feel comfortable. Additionally, Laurel Street is located on a hill, which tends to encourage higher car speeds.



Path between the rocks adjacent to the tennis courts provides a good alternative to walking on the roadway.



Pine Street is narrow and lacks sidewalks.

Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities Overall Ranking

Facilities/Conditions: 4 of 25 Possible Points

Walkability: 4 of 10 Possible Points

Potential Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities Projects

1. Restripe the crosswalk at Laurel and Pine Streets.
2. Add sidewalks on Pine Street.
3. Stripe crosswalks on all four legs of the intersection of Laurel and Pine Streets.
4. School zone signage.

Potential Programs

1. Implement a school rideshare program through "Smart Routes to School."

Sierra Ridge Middle School: 5-8 with 364 Students

2700 Amber Trail, Pollock Pines

Audit Conducted: 2/15/2008

School Location

Sierra Ridge Middle School is located at the top of a hill on Amber Trail in a relatively remote location of Pollock Pines. Housing adjacent to the school is widespread and rural with limited activity center or commercial destinations nearby.

Existing Conditions: Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities

- ✓ There are sidewalks on the school campus.
- ✓ The school has a bike rack.
- ✓ Road leading to school has wide dirt shoulders.
- ✗ Remote hilltop location makes walking less inviting.
- ✗ Winter snow makes walking a challenge.

Audit Summary

Schools were visited during the winter month of February while there was still snow on the ground. The traffic during the morning drop off period was relatively light, and did not appear to include children walking to school. The school has a bike rack positioned out front. According to one source approximately ten kids bike to school on good weather days. The sidewalk system on the campus is good, but there are no sidewalks exiting or entering the campus on Amber Trail. Amber Trail does have wide dirt shoulders which were covered in snow on the day of the audit.

Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities Overall Ranking

Facilities/Conditions: 2 of 25 Possible Points

Walkability: 1 of 10 Possible Points

Potential Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities Projects

1. Restripe the parking lot crosswalks.
2. Create a natural path behind the school to allow a short cut for those kids who bicycle to school.

Potential Programs

1. There is potential for a Walking School Bus from the bottom of Amber Trail, but with the light traffic problem and hilly terrain it is less likely there will be the motivation in the school community to start such a program.
2. Implement a school rideshare program through "Smart Routes to School."