

2017

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

DOCUMENTATION OF OPERATIONS &
MAINTENANCE ISSUES



Prepared For:
Miami-Dade Transportation
Planning Organization



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Overview

This document serves to supplement the information provided in the 2017 Miami-Dade County Safe Routes to School Infrastructure Plans. It has been developed to provide supplemental information to stakeholders such as the Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), Miami-Dade Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW), Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDCPS), and school administrators.

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) is a Federal program funded by the Federal Highway Administration. The Goal of the SRTS program is to provide students and parents with educational programming and upgraded infrastructure that improves safety and convenience for those traveling to and from school by foot, bike, and/or transit. There are many categories of improvements that are covered by SRTS funding, and through the development of the Infrastructure Applications, those needs will be addressed to the fullest extent possible.

However, during site visits, conditions and behaviors are frequently observed that are not eligible to be addressed under the scope of an SRTS project because they do not meet the criteria to receive funding.

Such conditions and behaviors include:

- Illegal parking
- Conditions observed on school grounds that impact students' arrival and departure.
- Maintenance issues with safety impacts
- General maintenance issues
- Faded signs and pavement markings
- Student pickup/drop-off practices that create hazards
- Signal timing issues

In particular, poor maintenance practices were the most frequently observed conditions that led to unsafe walking conditions for students, as shown in the figure below.



Parent and student walking in the street due to grass encroaching on sidewalk

HOW TO USE THIS INFORMATION

Review the Safe Route: A Safe Route was identified for every school, with a majority of the recommended infrastructure improvements occurring along those streets. As part of the efforts of identifying the Safe Route, the entire school attendance boundary was surveyed for student walking patterns, traffic patterns, and any observed safety issues. These streets should be the first point of review for stakeholders including DTPW, MDCPS, school administrators, and parent/teacher associations to evaluate walking and biking conditions for students.

Review Maintenance Practices: The Safe Route can be a baseline for checking the maintenance status of pavement markings, mowing, tree trimming, and sign condition. After review of the Safe Route, all streets within a mile of the school, inside the attendance boundary should be reviewed.

Identify stakeholders involved in unsafe behaviors: Different behaviors will warrant different responses in order to be addressed. Reaching out to parent groups, neighborhood associations, businesses and other community groups can be a good way to find the right audience for addressing issues related to speeding, illegal parking, and student pickup and drop-off behaviors.

Look Back and Plan Ahead: Evaluation is one of the “5 Es” associated with successful implementation of good bicycle and pedestrian practices. Taking a snapshot of current conditions and planning to review locations or issues in the future is a good practice to stay on top of behavioral and maintenance issues that impact students.

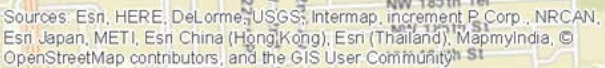
Ten Schools were reviewed for the SRTS Infrastructure Plans and the infrastructure applications were submitted to FDOT in December 2016. All recommendations were approved and improvement projects should be forthcoming in the next few years.

SCHOOL	ADDRESS
Rainbow Park Elementary	15355 NW 19 th Ave, Miami Gardens, FL 33054
Norwood Elementary	19810 NW 14 th Court, Miami Gardens, FL 33169
North County K-8 Center	3250 NW 20 th St, Miami Gardens, FL 33056
Golden Glades Elementary	16520 NW 28 th Ave, Opa Locka, FL 33054
Benjamin Franklin K-8 Center	13100 NW 12 th Ave, North Miami, FL 33168
Charles R. Hadley Elementary	8400 NW 7 th St, Miami, FL 33126
Mae M. Walters Elementary	650 W. 33 rd St, Hialeah, FL 33021
Lake Stevens Elementary	5101 NW 183 rd St, Miami, FL 33055
Henry E.S. Reeves Elementary	2005 NW 111 th St, Miami, FL 33101
Dante Fascell Elementary	15625 SW 80 th St, Miami, FL 33193

2017 SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL LOCATIONS



SCHOOL LOCATION AND ATTENDANCE BOUNDARY



NORTH COUNTY K-8 CENTER

OBSERVATIONS

Students were observed walking in the roundabout in front of the school at the roundabout at NW 32nd Ave



LEGEND



**Maintenance
Issues**



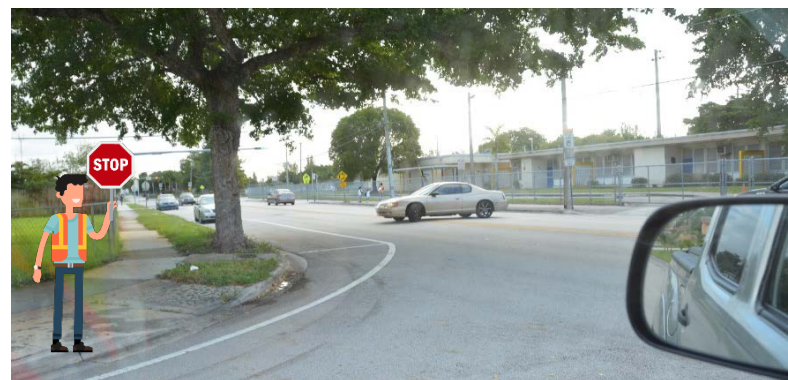
**Behavior
Issues**



NORTH COUNTY K-8 CENTER

OBSERVATIONS

Vehicles dropping students in front of school engage in unpredictable behaviors such as stopping in the street, letting children out of the car on the north side of SW 207th St to cross midblock, and turnarounds in the midst of traffic flow.



LEGEND



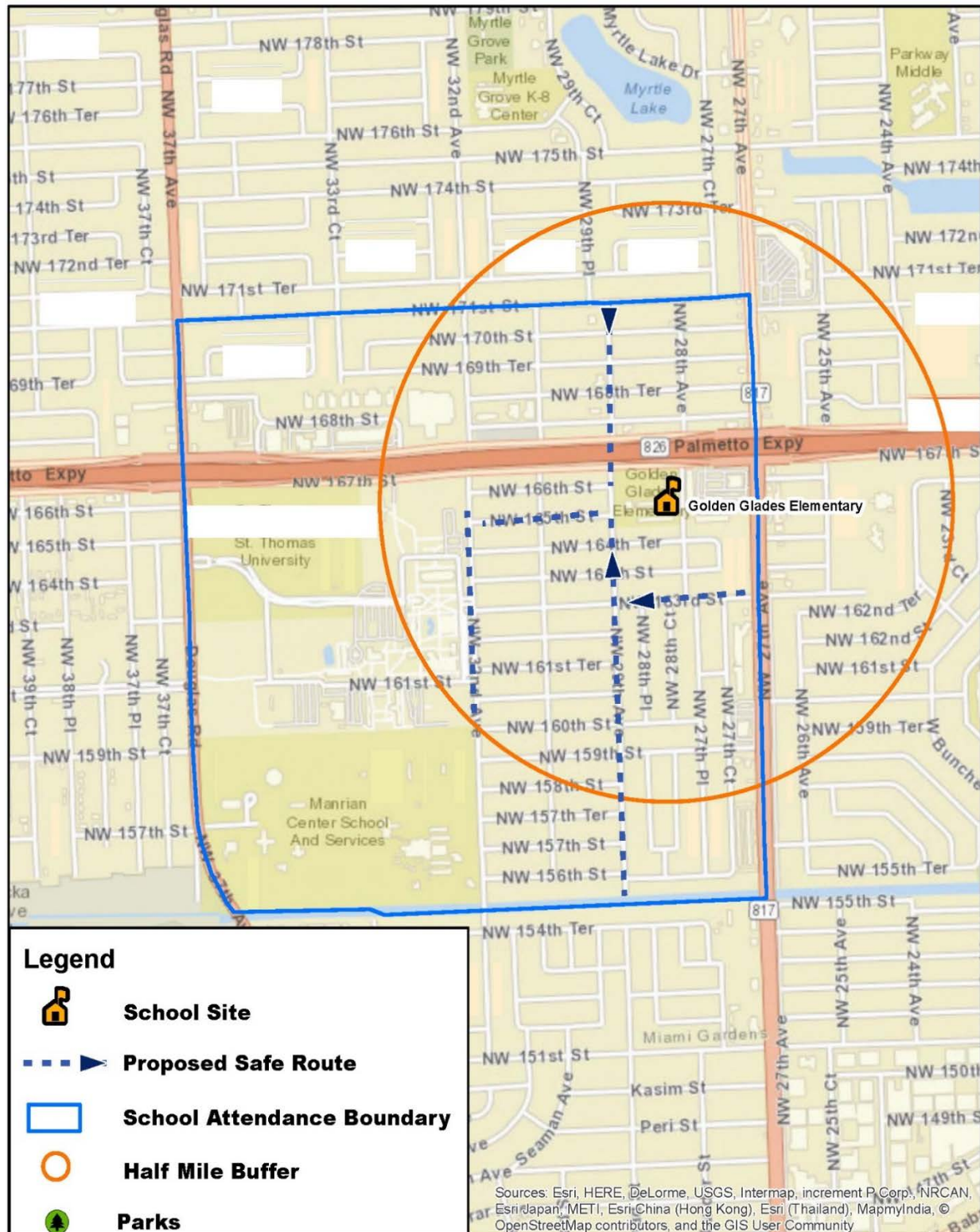
**Maintenance
Issues**



**Behavior
Issues**

GOLDEN GLADES ELEMENTARY

SCHOOL LOCATION AND ATTENDANCE BOUNDARY



GOLDEN GLADES ELEMENTARY

OBSERVATIONS

Semi-trucks were parked near entrance gate on NW 29th Ave just south of NW 167th Street. This can be a hazard to students due to visibility and safety, as well as unimpeded access to the sidewalk.



The enclosed area which accesses the pedestrian bridge as well as the school grounds is not mowed, nor does it provide a sidewalk. Sidewalks were recommended inside the enclosed area to connect to the sidewalk along NW 167th St.



LEGEND



**Maintenance
Issues**



**Behavior
Issues**



GOLDEN GLADES ELEMENTARY

OBSERVATIONS

Trash accumulation was noticed along the entire length of the pedestrian bridge.



The landing area on the north side of the pedestrian bridge was not mowed and tall grass and debris surrounded the landing area.



LEGEND



SCHOOL LOCATION AND ATTENDANCE BOUNDARY



BENJAMIN FRANKLIN K-8 CENTER

OBSERVATIONS

Cars were observed to be parked on NW 11 Ave just north of NW 135th Street. Sidewalk installation was recommended at this location, however, parking encroachment on the sidewalk may still be an issue in the future.



LEGEND



**Maintenance
Issues**



**Behavior
Issues**

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN K-8 CENTER

OBSERVATIONS

More strict parking restrictions or better delineation of restricted parking areas could be used on NW 12th Ave along the school property. Vehicles were observed to park on grass areas immediately adjacent to the sidewalk.



Cars were observed to be parked encroaching the sidewalk on the east side of NW 12th Ave during the field visit and in a subsequent review in Google.



LEGEND



**Maintenance
Issues**



**Behavior
Issues**



MAE M. WALTERS ELEMENTARY

SCHOOL LOCATION AND ATTENDANCE BOUNDARY



MAE M. WALTERS ELEMENTARY

OBSERVATIONS

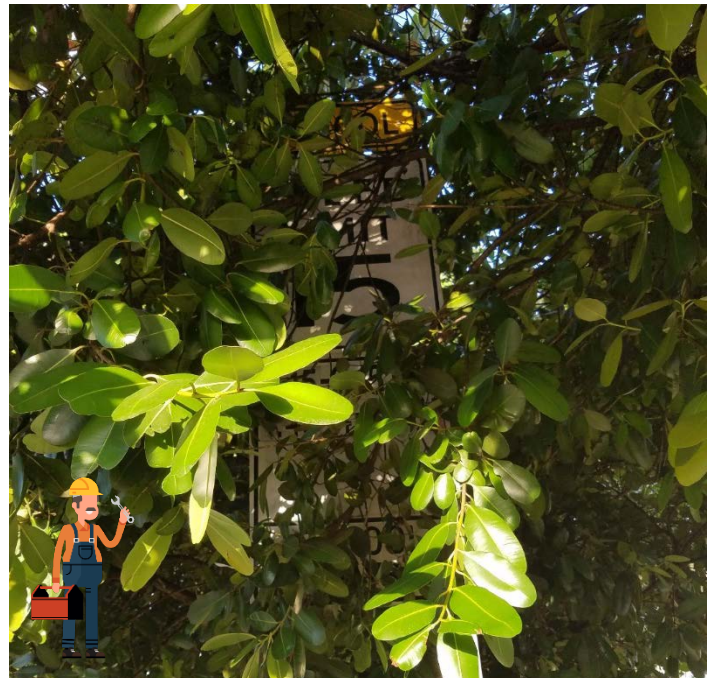
2 crossing guards were observed on W 33rd St @ W 6th Ave and no crossing guard was observed on W 33rd St @ W 7th Ave. It is likely that one of these crossing guards belonged at the W 7th Ave intersection.



The grass on the corner of W 6th Ave and W 32nd St was not mowed



The school zone sign on W 32nd St west of W 6th Ave is completely covered by a tree.



LEGEND



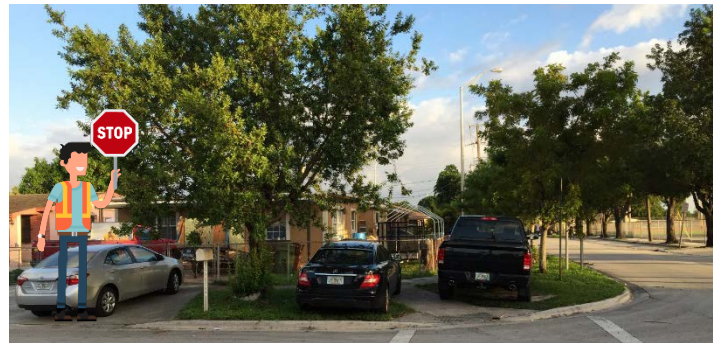
MAE M. WALTERS ELEMENTARY

OBSERVATIONS

Pedestrian signs need to be replaced at W 8th Ave @ W 33rd St.



Vehicles are parked encroaching the sidewalk in front of 601 and 602 W 30th Street.



Review of historical Google image shows the same issue in the past.



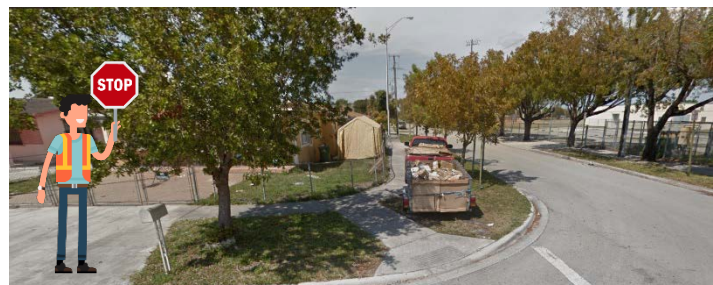
LEGEND



Maintenance
Issues

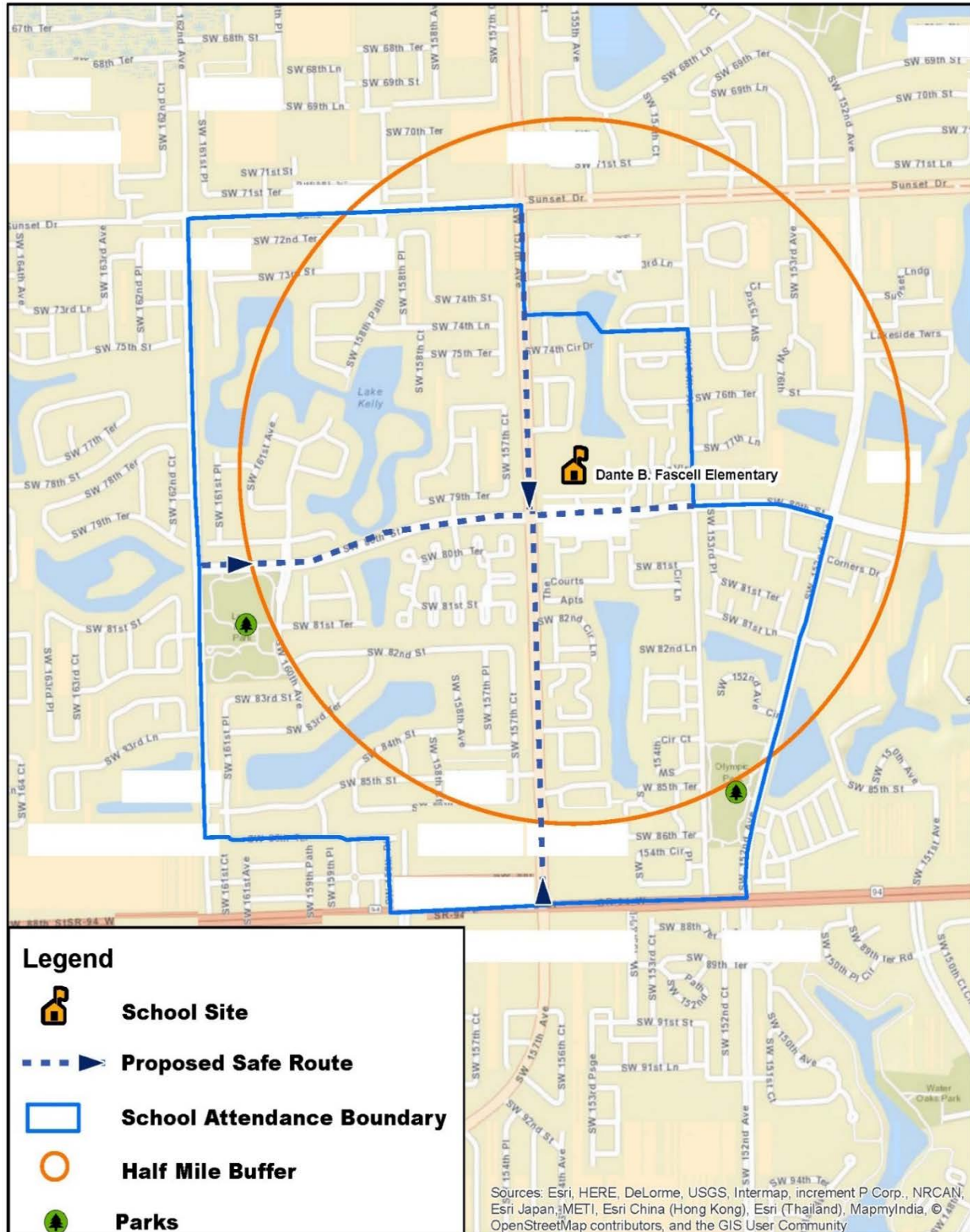


Behavior
Issues



DANTE FASCELL ELEMENTARY

SCHOOL LOCATION AND ATTENDANCE BOUNDARY



DANTE FASCELL ELEMENTARY

OBSERVATIONS

High-Emphasis crosswalks in front of the school along SW 80th Street are very faded.



LEGEND



**Maintenance
Issues**



**Behavior
Issues**



DANTE FASCELL ELEMENTARY

OBSERVATIONS

SW 80th St @ SW 152 Ave-
Crosswalks are faded. These
were recommended for upgrade to
high-emphasis



Midblock crossings on SW 154th St
(providing access to Olympic Park)
are faded.



LEGEND



**Maintenance
Issues**

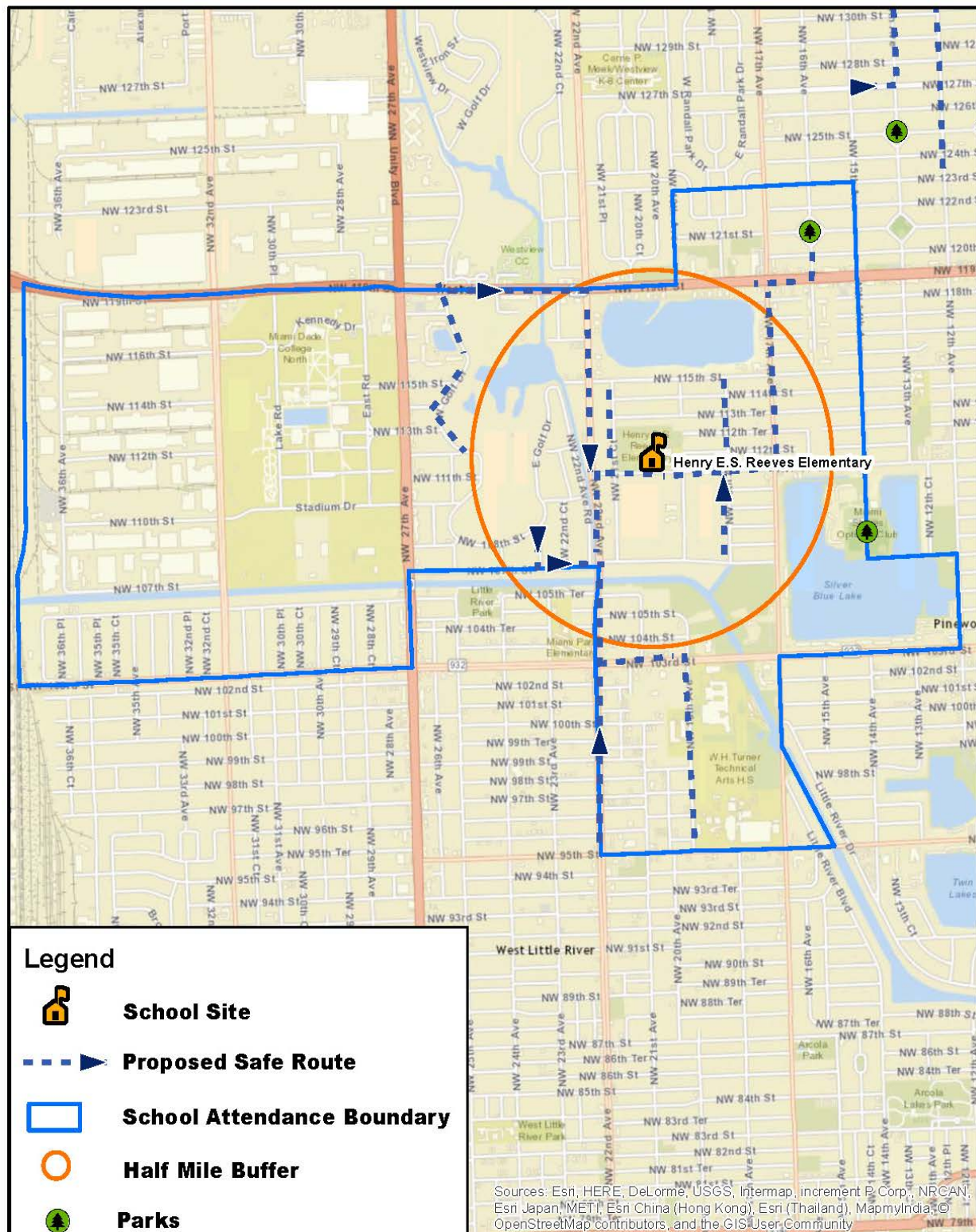


**Behavior
Issues**



HENRY E.S. REEVES ELEMENTARY

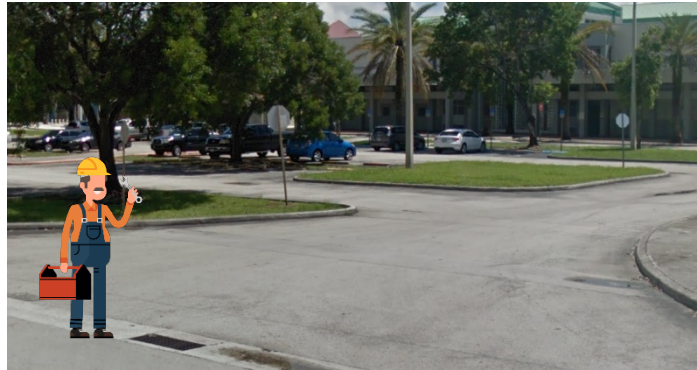
SCHOOL LOCATION AND ATTENDANCE BOUNDARY



HENRY E.S. REEVES ELEMENTARY

OBSERVATIONS

Stop bars are faded on driveways at William Turner Technical Arts High School.



LEGEND



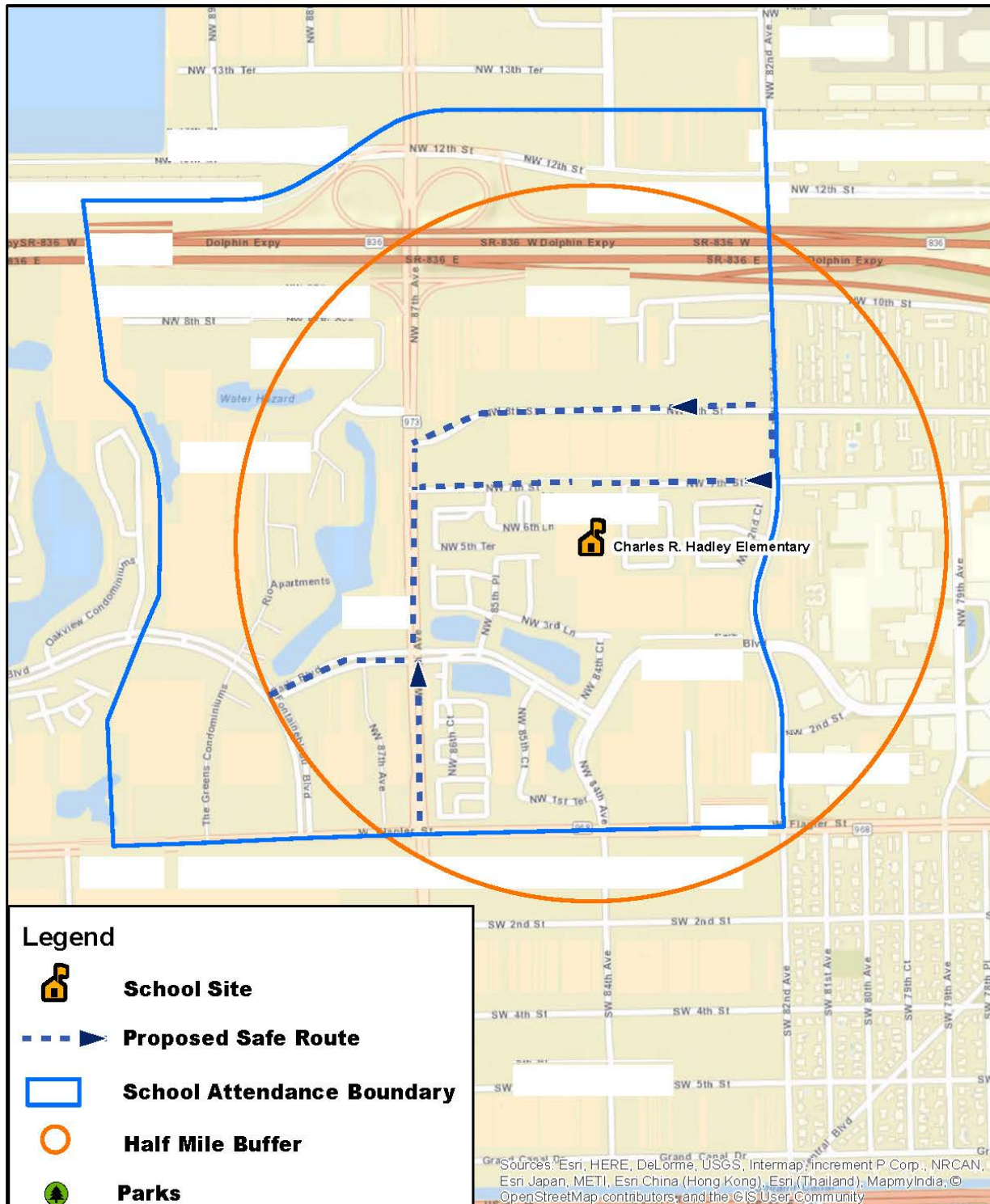
**Maintenance
Issues**



**Behavior
Issues**

CHARLES R. HADLEY ELEMENTARY

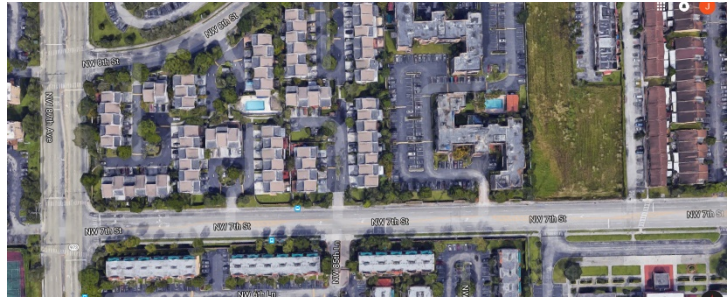
SCHOOL LOCATION AND ATTENDANCE BOUNDARY



CHARLES R. HADLEY ELEMENTARY

OBSERVATIONS

Signal Timing: the intersection Of NW 87th Ave @ NW 7th Street has signal timing that makes it difficult for pedestrians to cross. A leading pedestrian phase would allow time for pedestrians traveling north/south along NW 87th Avenue to cross before eastbound vehicles can turn left or right onto 7th Street. Crossing to the south side of NW 7th Ave may be desirable at this location because the school is located on the south side, and while there is a midblock crossing in front of the school, walking along the south side of NW7th Ave requires crossing fewer driveways.



At the time of the field visit, the pedestrian sign was knocked over on the SE corner of NW 8th St @ NW 82nd Ave.



Signs were completely worn away and pushbuttons need to be upgraded at NW 82nd Ave @ NW 7th St.

LEGEND



**Maintenance
Issues**

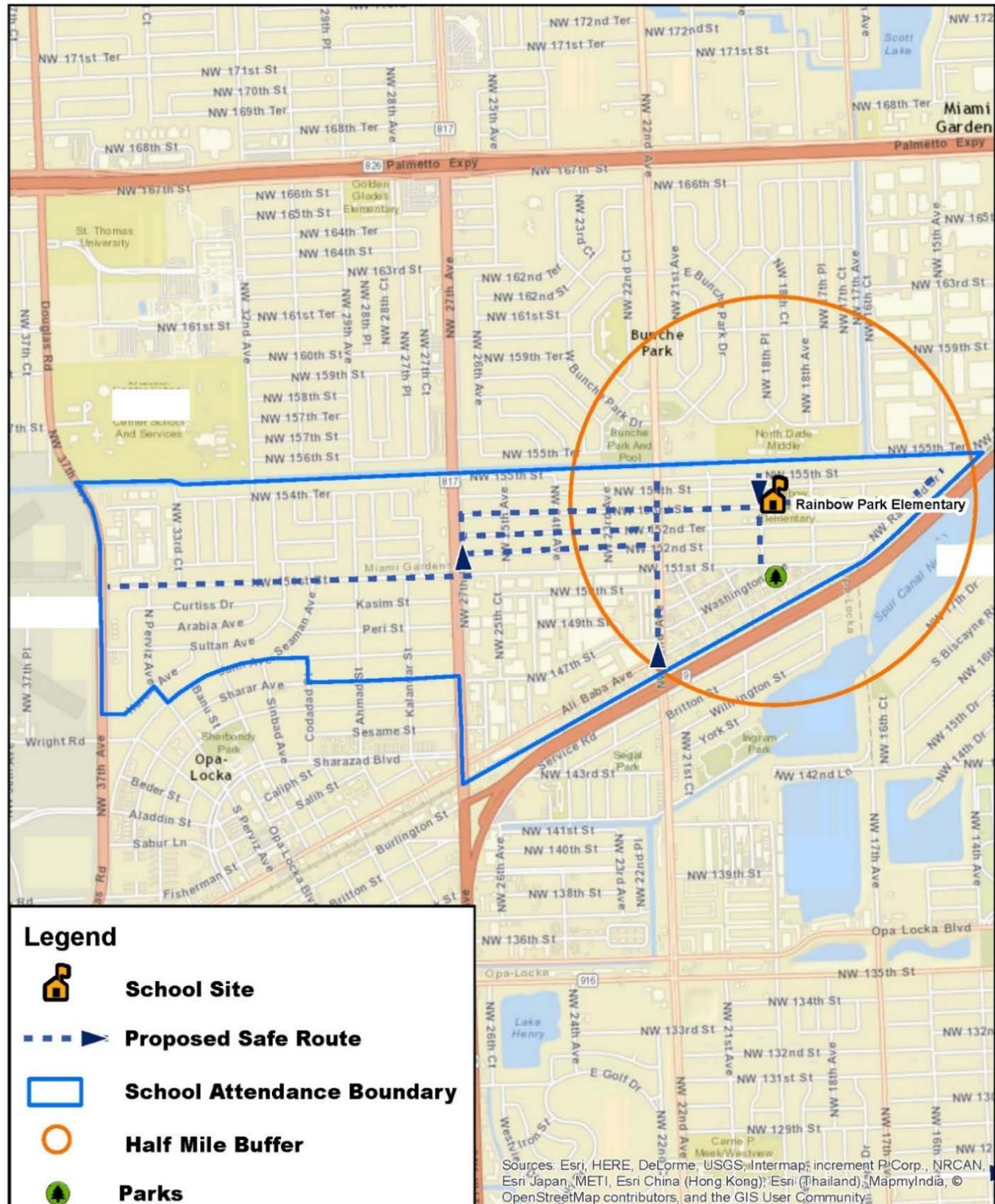


**Behavior
Issues**



RAINBOW PARK ELEMENTARY

SCHOOL LOCATION AND ATTENDANCE BOUNDARY



RAINBOW PARK ELEMENTARY

OBSERVATIONS

Damaged pedestrian sign in front of 1721 NW 154th Street. Review of Google imagery at the same location reveals that the sign has been in this condition since at least 2013.



LEGEND



**Maintenance
Issues**



**Behavior
Issues**

LAKE STEVENS ELEMENTARY

NO OBSERVATIONS

NORWOOD ELEMENTARY

NO OBSERVATIONS

SPEEDING IN SCHOOL ZONES

Interviews with crossing guards and parents revealed that the most common complaint is about cars speeding through the school zones during arrival and dismissal time. Speeding was a complaint at the following locations for each school:

Rainbow Park Elementary	NW 153 St and NW 19th Ave in front of school
Norwood Elementary	NW 199 St, NW 14th Ct, NW 196 Terr, NW Sunshine State Pkwy
North County K-8 Center	NW 207 St in front of school, NW 32 Ave
Golden Glades Elementary	NW 29th Ave, NW 28th Ave, NW 164 Terr
Benjamin Franklin K-8 Center	NW 13th Ave, NW 12th Ave, NW 135th St/Opa-Locka Blvd
Charles R. Hadley Elementary	NW 7th St, NW 8th St, NW 82nd Ave, NW 87th Ave
Mae M. Walters Elementary	W 33rd St, W 32nd St, W 7th Ave
Lake Stevens Elementary	Miami Gardens Dr
Henry E.S. Reeves Elementary	NW 111th St, NW 22nd Ave
Dante Fascell Elementary	SW 157 Ave, SW 80th St

GENERAL OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE ISSUES SUMMARY

The following table is a summary of all issues identified above with a responsible stakeholder identified. Discussion with staff from Miami-Dade County indicate that in general, DTPW and the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces work together on many general maintenance issues. Signs and Pavement Markings are maintained by DTPW, while issues such as mowing and trash may be resolved by DTPW or Code Compliance enforcement.

O&M Observations Summary

#	School	Location	Issue	Stakeholder
1	North County K-8 Center	NW 32 Ave @ NW 207 St	Students were observed walking in the roundabout in front of the school at the roundabout at NW 32 nd Ave.	School Admin
2	North County K-8 Center	NW 207 St in front of school	Vehicles dropping students in front of school engage in unpredictable behaviors such as stopping in the street, letting children out of the car on the north side of SW 207 th St to cross midblock, and turnarounds in the midst of traffic flow.	School Admin
3	Golden Glades Elementary	NW 29th Ave just south of NW 167th Street	Semi-trucks were parked near entrance gate on NW 29 th Ave.	City/Code Compliance
4	Golden Glades Elementary	NW 29th Ave just south of NW 167th Street	The enclosed area which accesses the pedestrian bridge as well as the school grounds is not mowed, nor does it provide a sidewalk. Sidewalks were recommended inside the enclosed area to connect to the sidewalk along NW 167 th St.	DTPW/FDOT
5	Golden Glades Elementary	Pedestrian Bridge over Palmetto Expressway	Trash accumulation was noticed along the entire length of the pedestrian bridge.	DTPW/FDOT
6	Golden Glades Elementary	Pedestrian Bridge @ NW 167 Ave (north side of Palmetto)	The landing area on the north side of the pedestrian bridge was not mowed and tall grass and debris surrounded the landing area.	DTPW/FDOT
7	Benjamin Franklin K-8 Center	NW 11th Ave just north of NW 135th Street	Cars were observed to be parked on NW 11 Ave just north of NW 135 th Street. Sidewalk installation was recommended at this location, however, parking encroachment on the sidewalk may still be an issue in the future.	City/Code Compliance
8	Benjamin Franklin K-8 Center	West side of NW 12th Ave near NW 133rd St	More strict parking restrictions or better delineation of restricted parking areas could be used on NW 12 th Ave along the school property. Vehicles were observed to park on grass areas immediately adjacent to the sidewalk.	City/Code Compliance
9	Benjamin Franklin K-8 Center	East side of NW 12th Ave near NW 133rd St	Cars were observed to be parked encroaching the sidewalk on the east side of NW 12 th Ave during the field visit and in a subsequent review in Google.	City/Code Compliance
10	Mae M. Walters Elementary	W 33rd St @ W 6th Ave	Two crossing guards were observed on W 33 rd St @ W 6 th Ave and no crossing guard was observed on W 33 rd St @ W 7 th Ave. It is likely that one of these crossing guards belonged at the W 7 th Ave intersection.	Police Dept
11	Mae M. Walters Elementary	W 6th Ave and W 32nd St	The grass on the corner of W 6 th Ave and W 32 nd St was not mowed.	DTPW/MDPR
12	Mae M. Walters Elementary	W 32nd St west of W 6th Av	The school zone sign on W 32 nd St west of W 6 th Ave is completely covered by a tree.	DTPW
13	Mae M. Walters Elementary	W 8th Ave @ W 33rd St	Pedestrian signs need to be replaced at W 8 th Ave @ W 33 rd St.	DTPW
14	Mae M. Walters Elementary	601 and 602 W 30th Street	Vehicles are parked encroaching the sidewalk in front of 601 and 602 W 30 th Street.	City
15	Dante Fascell Elementary	SW 80th St in front of Dante Fascell	High-Emphasis crosswalks in front of the school along SW 80 th Street are very faded.	DTPW
16	Dante Fascell Elementary	SW 80th St @ SW 152 Ave	SW 80 th St @ SW 152 Ave- Crosswalks are faded. These were recommended for upgrade to high-emphasis.	DTPW
17	Dante Fascell Elementary	SW 154th St north of SW 88th St (in front of Olympic Park)	Midblock crossings on SW 154 th St (providing access to Olympic Park) are faded.	DTPW
18	Henry E.S. Reeves Elementary	NW 19th Ave south of NW 103rd St (in front of Turner High)	Stop bars are faded on driveways at William Turner Technical Arts High School.	School Facilities
19	Charles R. Hadley Elementary	NW 87th Ave @ NW 7th St	Signal Timing: the intersection Of NW 87 th Ave @ NW 7 th Street has signal timing that makes it difficult for pedestrians to cross.	DTPW
20	Charles R. Hadley Elementary	SE corner of NW 8th St @ NW 82nd Ave	Pedestrian sign was knocked over on the SE corner of NW 8 th St @ NW 82nd Ave	DTPW
21	Charles R. Hadley Elementary	NW 82nd Ave @ NW 7th St	Signs were completely worn away and pushbuttons need to be upgraded at NW 82nd Ave @ NW 7th St.	DTPW
22	Rainbow Park Elementary	1721 NW 154th Street.	Damaged pedestrian sign in front of 1721 NW 154th Street.	DTPW