

Child Transportation Survey Report

Citizen Advisory Committee Agenda Item 11



SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

November 30, 2016

Background

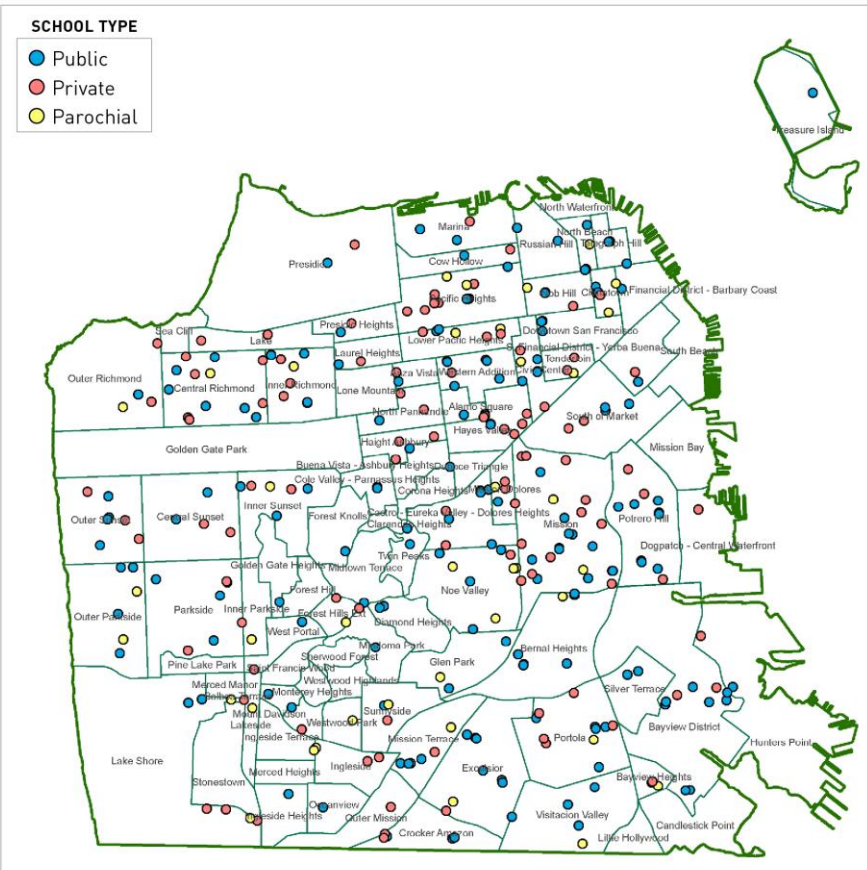


- Provide more in-depth and comprehensive information on K-5 school transportation issues in San Francisco
- Identify potential solutions to help mitigate school commute difficulties
- Initiated at request of Supervisor Katy Tang, led by SFCTA in partnership with Mayor's office
- Key Questions:
 - **How** do most parents get small children to school?
 - **What impact** does school-related driving have on the transportation system?
 - **What challenges** do parents face when getting children to/from school?
 - How interested are parents in **alternatives** to their current school transportation choices?

Methodology



FIGURE 2. Map of San Francisco neighborhoods and locations of public, private, and parochial schools



- Background Research
 - 45,000 K-5 enrollment
- Focus Groups
- Survey
 - K-5 parents only
 - Included all school types (public, private, parochial)
 - On-line + paper
 - English, Spanish, Chinese
 - 1,700+ completed responses

How do most parents get small children to school?



TABLE 3. Modeshare by time/place of commute

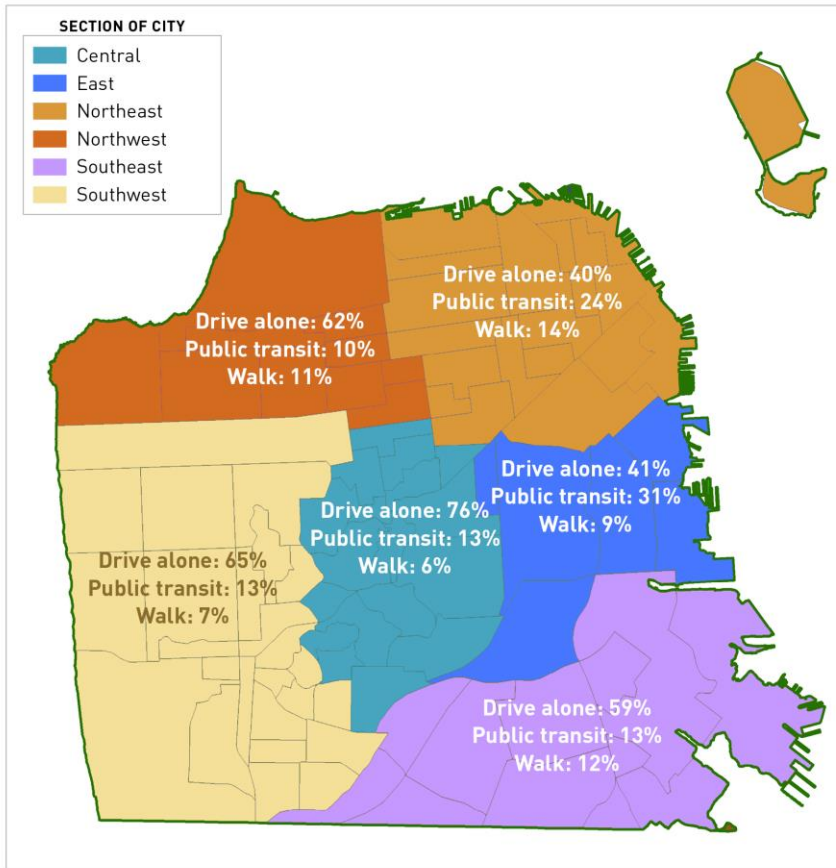
	PERCENT MODE SHARE BY PICKUP TYPE		
	DROPOFF AT SCHOOL	PICKUP FROM SCHOOL AT THE BELL	PICKUP FROM ON-SITE AFTERCARE
Driven by a family member or caregiver - only family members in the car	56.5%	52.1%	70.0%
Public transit (Muni bus, BART, or light rail)	14.0%	26.7%	18.2%
Carpool with other families	8.2%	1.6%	3.0%
Walk	7.8%	10.6%	4.1%
Other bus, like yellow school bus	7.6%	6.8%	1.9%
Bike	3.3%	0.7%	1.5%
Other (please fill in)	2.2%	0.8%	0.8%
Scooter or skateboard	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%
Taxi or rideshare service like Lyft, Uber, or Shuddle	0.1%	0.6%	0.5%
Shuttle transporting multiple children	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%

- Most parents drive, esp. if live farther, more educated, and live in central and southwestern parts of the city.

What impact does school-related driving have on transport system?



FIGURE 6. Top three modes of commuting to school by home city section

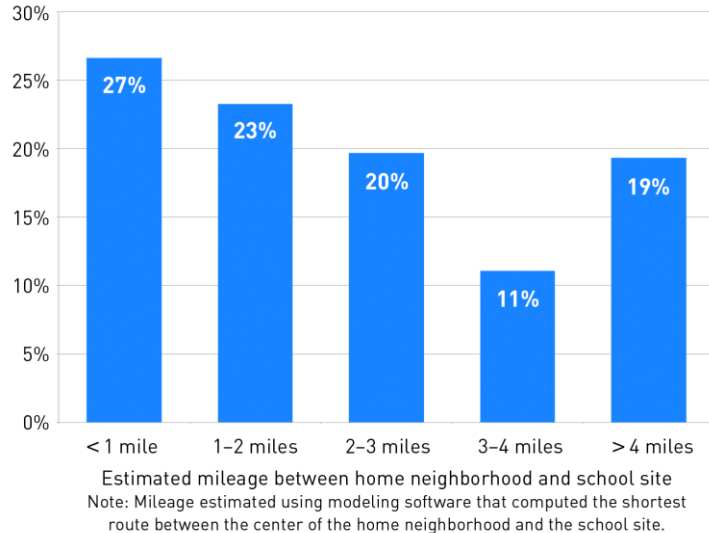


- Contributes a small amount of overall driving mileage in San Francisco
 - 60K – 80K daily VMT (out of 9 million)
- Causes localized congestion issues around specific schools during pickup and drop-off times

What challenges to parents face getting children to/from school?



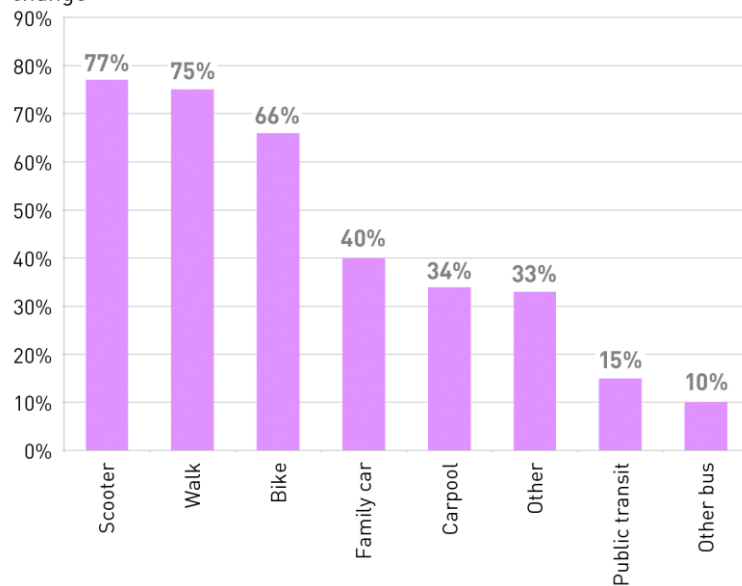
FIGURE 7. Share of respondents by approximate distance between home and school site



- About 20% of respondents have 4+ mile school commutes
- For most parents, school is not on the way to work.
- Most parents have children in aftercare and are picking up during rush hour.
- Lack of transportation options is limiting parents' choices for aftercare and enrichment programs.

How interested are parents in alternatives to their current school transportation choices?

FIGURE 9. Percent of respondents—by commute mode—indicating that their commute option was the best for them and not going to change



- 20% interested in or seeking an alternative to current commute
- 40% are open to alternatives.
- Public transit users and long-distance commuters most interested in alternatives
- Walkers / bikers least interested in alternatives.
- Transit users and longer distance commuters were less satisfied than others.
- Those seeking alternative commute options are most interested in other buses, shuttles, or carpools, and least interested in bicycling

Recommendations



- Scope a program or public-private partnership to offer **shuttle service** in a select geographic area on a pilot basis
- Consider selection of a **preferred mobile application to support carpooling** to school
- Continue investment in programs that **encourage bicycling and walking** to school
- **Improve and expand transit options** to improve transit competitiveness with driving and reduce barriers to transit

Questions?



SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY