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Quarterfield Elementary School Safe Routes to School Accessibility Study: Existing Conditions and Recommendations

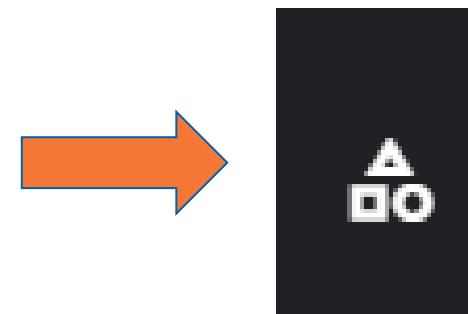
October 10, 2023

Introductions

The screenshot shows the Anne Arundel County website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for News, Events, Jobs, Maps, OpenArundel, and Translate. Below this is the county logo and a search bar. The main content area is titled 'Capital Projects' and includes a sub-header 'Safe Routes to Schools'. A 'Project Documents / Videos' section is highlighted, listing various accessibility study reports for different schools, such as 'Waugh Chapel ES.pdf', 'Tyler Heights ES.pdf', and 'Sunset ES.pdf'. A large orange arrow points from this list towards the right side of the slide.

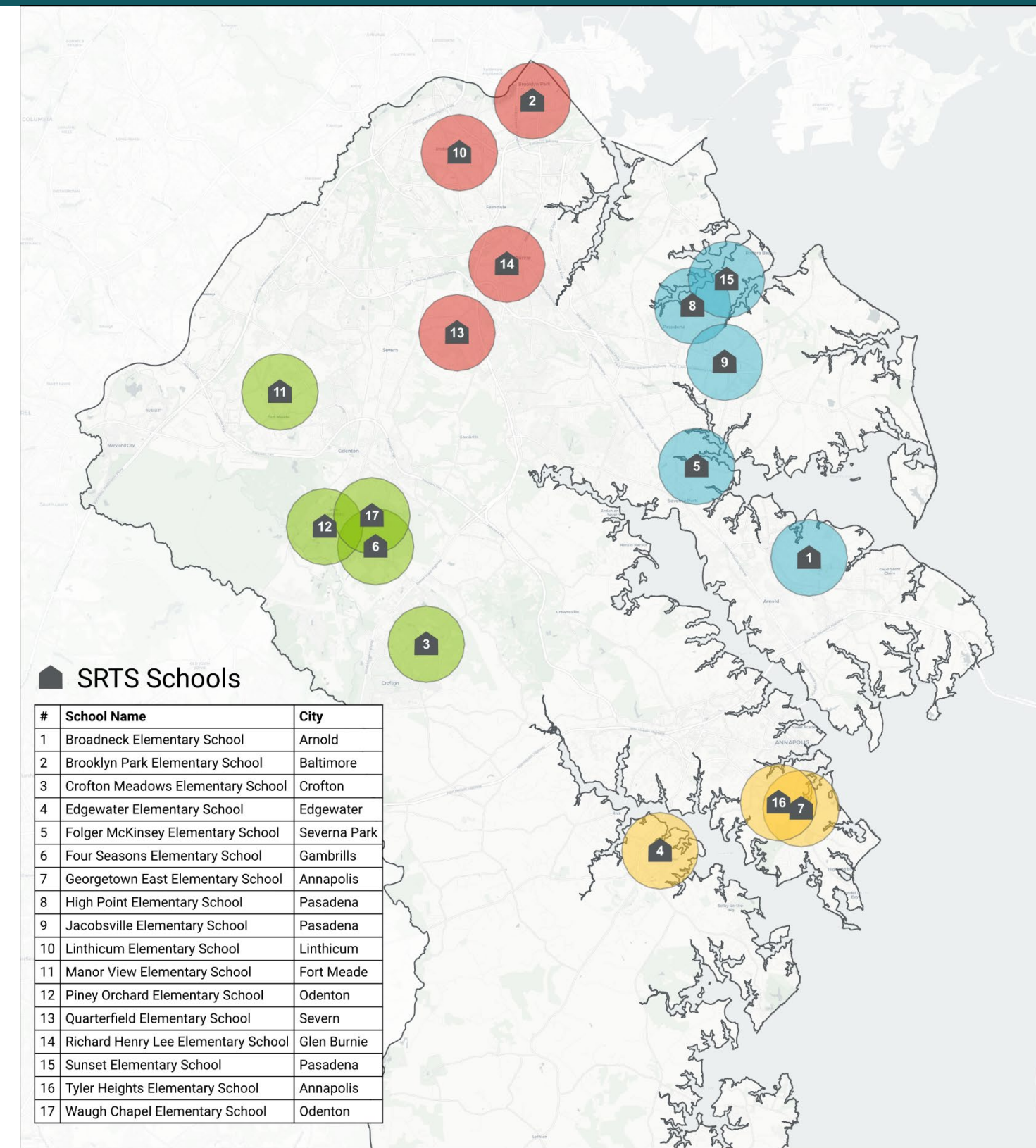
To view full report and provide input,
please visit
<https://tinyurl.com/srtsaacounty>

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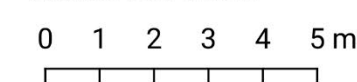
Anne Arundel Safe Routes to School Accessibility Study

- Partnership between County and AACPS
- 17 schools, per *Move Anne Arundel!* – County Transportation Functional Master Plan.
- Oversight by County, State, and AACPS representatives.
- Focus: infrastructure within school walk zone, also assessed opportunities to expand active transportation to school
- Goal: improve safety and transportation choices for all school families



Anne Arundel County 1-mile Buffer Zones

SRTS Schools



- East
- North
- South
- West

Quarterfield Elementary Accessibility Study

Report findings are derived from:

School site visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Observed school arrival and dismissal – November 17, 2022• Assessed pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure within school walk zone and roads immediately adjacent (as connectivity allows) – November 17, 2022
Parent Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• January 26 - February 19, 2023• Available online: English, Spanish, Chinese, and Korean• Survey link was provided via email

Report Content

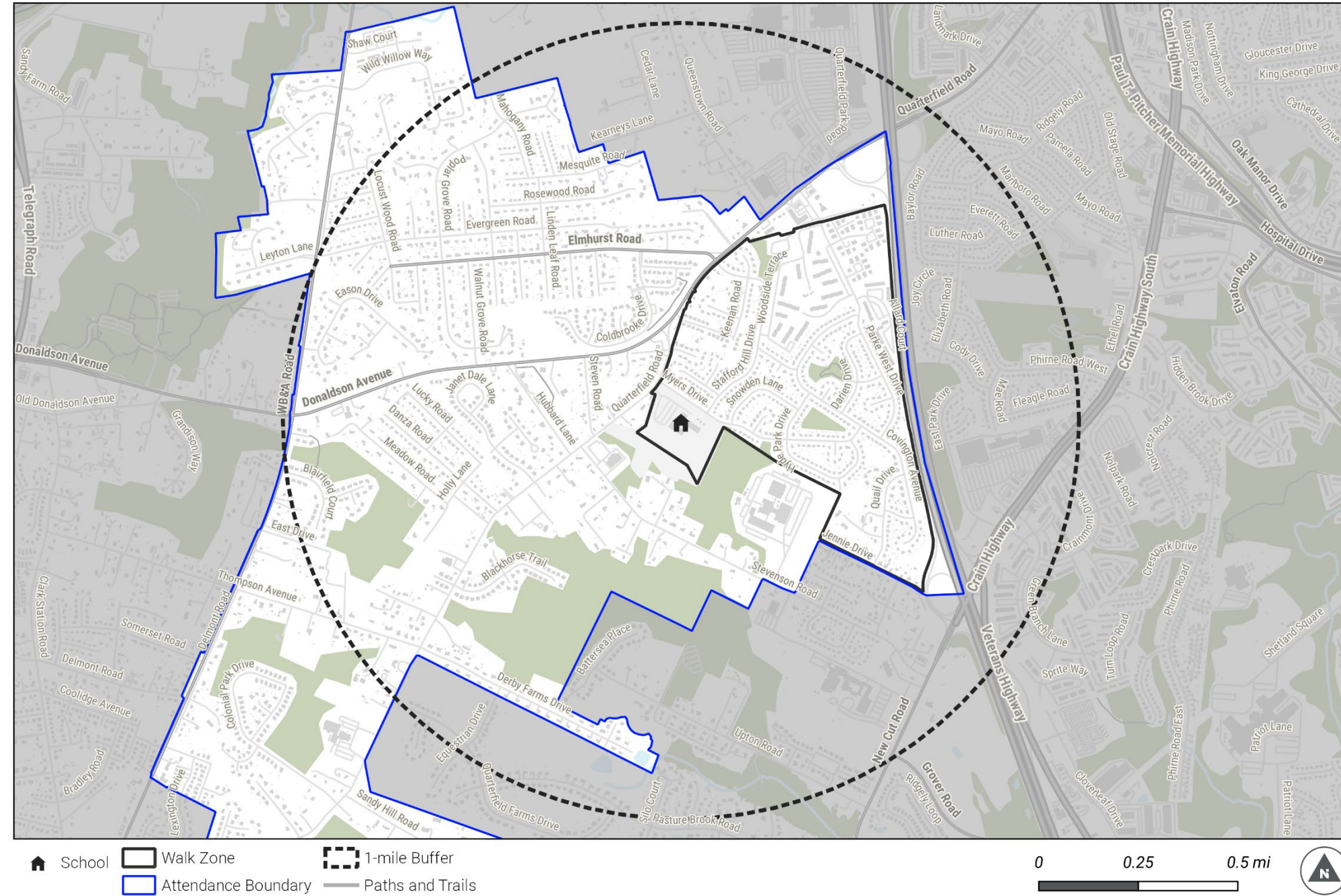
1. School overview
2. Parent-reported student travel modes and barriers
3. Arrival and dismissal observations
4. Existing infrastructure conditions
5. Crash data
6. Infrastructure recommendations
7. Programmatic recommendations
8. Appendix: Infrastructure recommendation photos

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School Overview Section

- Study area
- School attendance and enrollment
- School location and layout
- School access

Quarterfield Elementary School - 1-mile Radius



Parent-Reported Student Travel Modes and Barriers Section

- Distance from home to school
- School bus eligibility and use
- Most common travel mode to school
- Ideal travel mode to school
- Barriers to walking or biking to school
- Streets used to walk or bike to school

Reported Distance from Home to School	
Distance	Number of Respondents
< ¼ mile	9
¼ mile – ½ mile	6
½ mile – 1 mile	5
1 mile – 1 ½ miles	6
>1 ½ miles	4

Quarterfield Elementary - 33 total survey responses received

Arrival and Dismissal Observations Section

- Overview of operations
- General observations
- Arrival and dismissal observations by travel mode (walk, bike, school bus, parent drop-off)



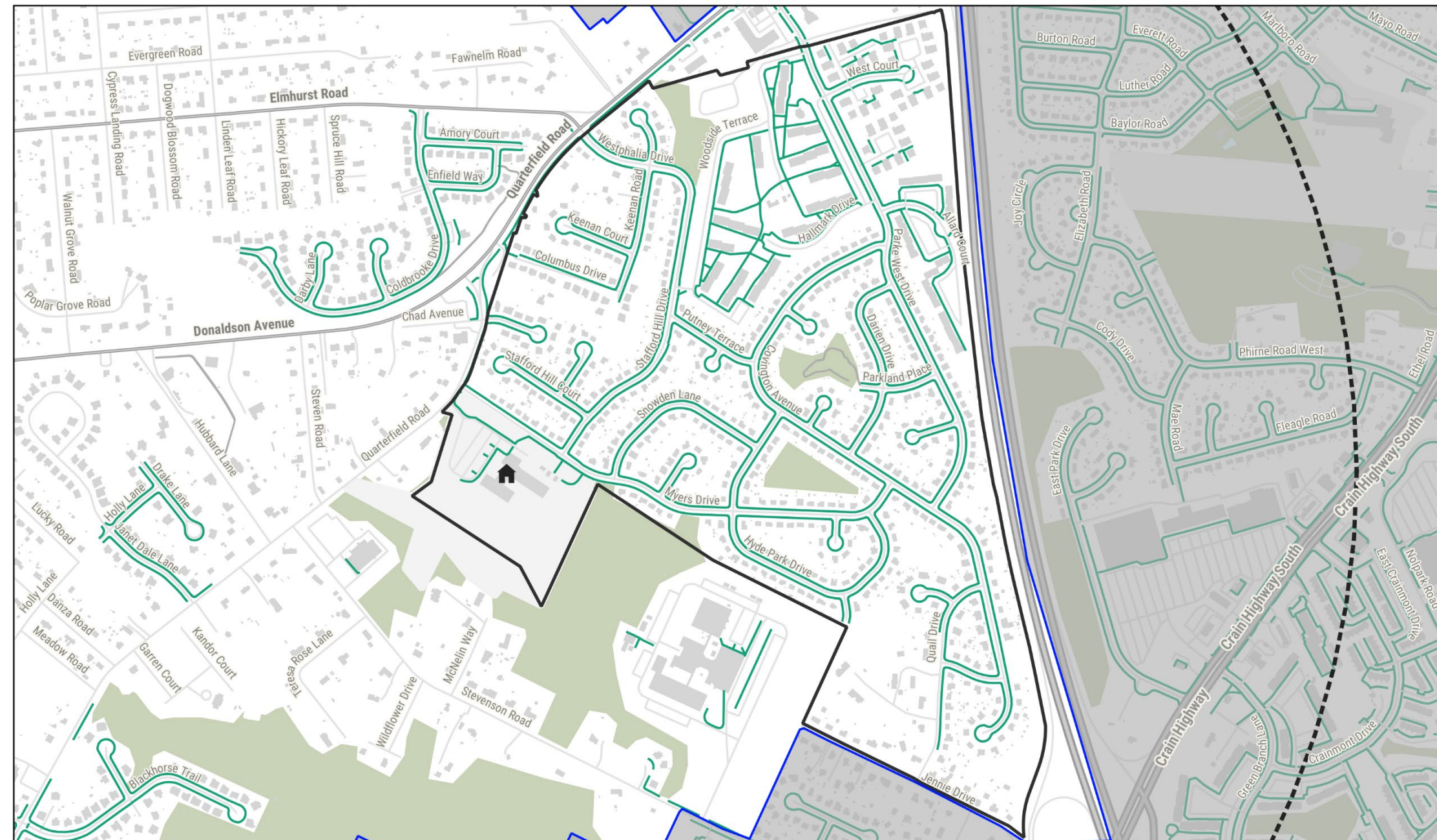
The crossing guard at Myers Drive and Stafford Hill Drive.

Existing Infrastructure Conditions Section

- Sidewalks
- Marked crosswalks
- Curb ramps
- On-road bike facilities*
- Regional trails, park trails, and paths*

**Existing, planned, or programmed*

Quarterfield Elementary School - Existing Sidewalk Network



- 🏠 School
 - Sidewalks
 - ▭ Walk Zone
 - ▭ Attendance Boundary
 - ▭ 1-mile Buffer
- Source: OpenArundel

0 0.25 0.5 mi



Crash Data (2017 – 2021)

Crashes within 1-mile radius of the school*:

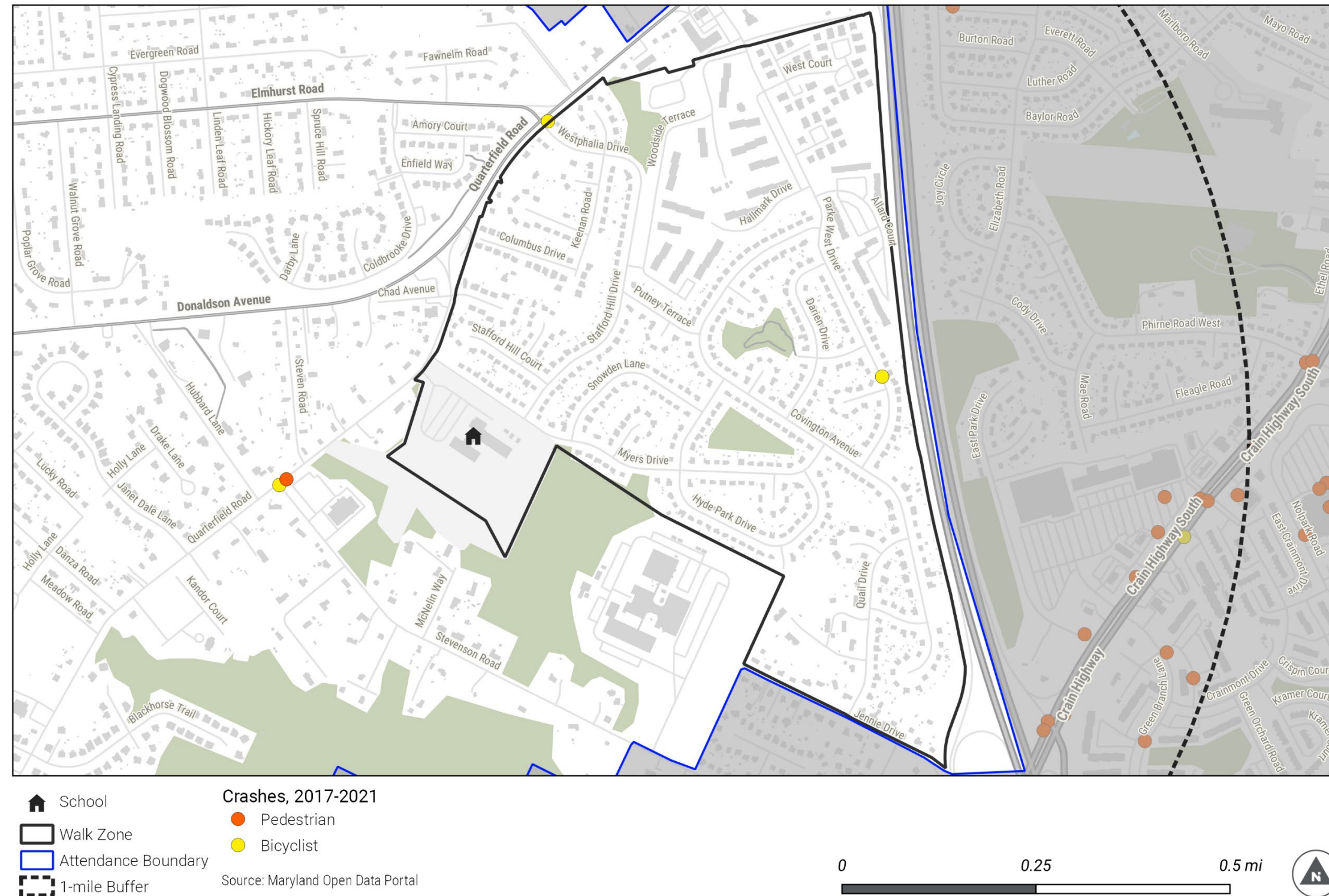
- 1,059 total crashes (all modes), 4 fatal
- 27 pedestrian-involved crashes, 25 resulting in injury, 2 fatal
- 7 bicyclist-involved crashes, all resulting in injury, 0 fatal

*Includes interstate crashes

Pedestrian and bicyclist crashes within the walk zone:

- 0 pedestrian-involved and 2 bicyclist-involved crashes occurred in the walk zone.

Quarterfield Elementary School - Pedestrian and Bicycle Crashes



Infrastructure Recommendations Section

Quarterfield Elementary School - Recommendations



Infrastructure Recommendations within the School Walk Zone

Information contained in this document is for planning purposes and should not be used for final design of any project. All results, recommendations, concept drawings, cost opinions, and commentary contained herein are based on limited data and information and on existing conditions that are subject to change. Further analysis and engineering design are necessary prior to implementing any of the recommendations contained herein.

Map ID	Location	Facility Type	Issue	Recommendation	Potential Cost	Timeframe*
1	Quarterfield Rd (Steven Rd to Chad Ave) (Along key student walking route, Inside school zone)	1a. School Zone Signs and Pavement Markings	School zone sign missing SCHOOL pavement marking missing School zone speed limit sign missing.	Enhance school zone signage per MdMUTCD part 7: - Install new school zone sign (begin/end) - Install new SCHOOL pavement marking - Install new school zone speed limit sign	\$1,000 \$1,000 \$500	Short
		1b. Speed Management	Observed motor vehicle speeds appear to exceed speed limit	Conduct a speed study to consider speed management measures or other modifications. Reduce school zone speed limit to 20mph	N/A \$500	Long Short
2	Stafford Hill Dr & Stafford Hill Ct (Along key student walking route)	Crosswalk	Crossing of Stafford Hill Ct is unmarked, No stop bar	Install new standard crosswalk, Mark new stop bar. Crosswalk should be wide enough that the curb ramps are within the extent of the crosswalk.	\$500	Short

*Short (1 year), medium (2-3 years) or long term (3+ years)

**Note that at locations where installation of new sidewalks is recommended, high-visibility crosswalks, ADA compliant curb ramps, and stop bars should be installed at intersecting streets to facilitate crossings and encourage motor vehicle yielding.

Additional Considerations

Many houses west of Donaldson Avenue and along Elmhurst Road may fall within a one-mile walking or bicycling distance from the school, but both roads lack pedestrian and bicycle facilities and present significant barriers to families choosing active travel modes. For long-term planning, the County could explore adding sidewalks and bike lanes or a shared use path on both roads, creating a path to connect Cold Brook Drive to Donaldson Avenue, and installing a traffic signal and pedestrian crossing facilities at the intersection of Donaldson Avenue and Quarterfield Road. Additionally, there is a recommendation for shared use path on Quarterfield Road/Donaldson Avenue in Walk & Roll Anne Arundel.



Intersection of Donaldson Avenue and Quarterfield Road via Google Maps



View of Elmhurst Road via Google Maps

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program Recommendations

SRTS education can foster life-long skills for safe walking and bicycling. Education messages directed at the broader school community can help create safety role models and encourage safe driving.

Recommendations

Provide pedestrian and bicycle safety education to students. Conduct age-appropriate education regularly (e.g., annually). Provides opportunities for skills practice. This works best integrated into PE or Health curriculum.

Conduct a bicycle rodeo. Teach children skills related to walking and bicycling safely, which can increase student and parent confidence.

Conduct parent and staff safety education campaign. Distribute information packets to parents and school staff at the beginning of the school year with arrival/dismissal maps, rules and procedures for arrival/dismissal, and general safety info. Emphasize driving safely, being alert for pedestrians and bicyclists, and respecting school crossing guards.

Provide walking and bicycling maps. Show locations of pedestrian/bicycle infrastructure and estimated walk/bike times.

INFRASTRUCTURE RECOMMENDATIONS within the School Walk Zone



Crossing Myers Drive at Stafford Hill Drive



Unused bike rack at front of school (top);
bikes leaned against fence at north
gate (bottom)

Next Steps



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- County will finalize prioritized list of recommendations.
- Implementation timeline and funding source will be based on the type of recommendation.
- Schedule yet to be determined.

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QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

SUBMIT USING

