

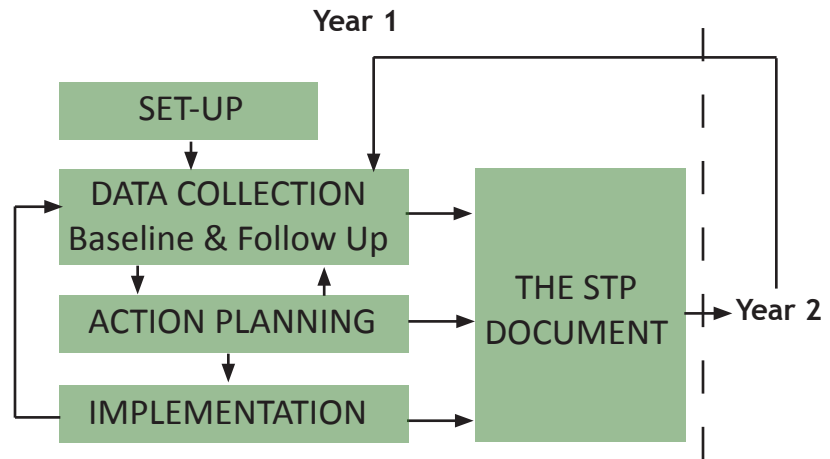


Bringing communities together

School Travel Planning (STP) brings community stakeholders together to devise detailed plans for making active travel a safe and realistic choice for children at individual schools. School Travel Plans are based on transportation demand management (TDM) principles and they benefit the schools they are designed for as well as the communities that surround them.

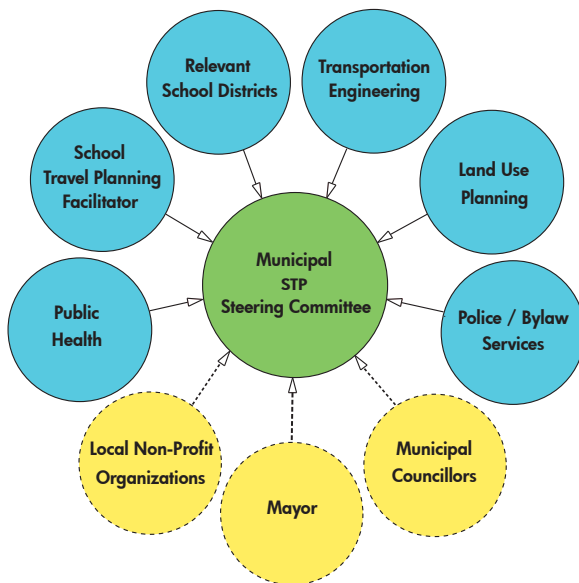
Overcoming active travel barriers with a comprehensive, flexible process

School Travel Planning gets the whole community working together to remove physical and attitudinal barriers to active school travel and establishes strategies that encourage the use of active transportation. With STP, active school travel becomes a realistic choice for a greater number of families, while educating citizens and pooling community resources efficiently. Under the guidance of an STP Facilitator, the STP process flows through five phases:

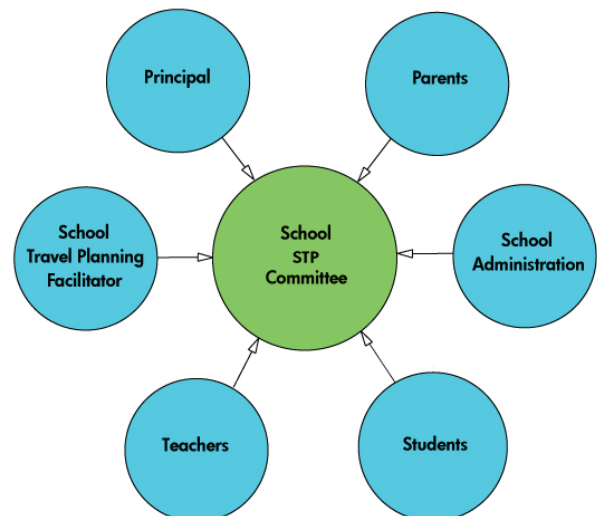


Stakeholders cooperate to take action

Community stakeholders come together to work on School Travel Planning:



It is recommended that schools adopting STP have the support of a **Municipal STP Steering Committee** that includes representation by Transportation Engineering, City Planning, Police and Bylaw Services, School Districts and Public Health, as well as the STP Facilitator. Representation by Municipal Councillors, Mayors or local non-profit organizations is welcome, but is not necessary.



The Municipal STP Steering Committee meets to view and discuss barriers to active travel indicated by the **School STP Committee**. Working together to create an Action Plan ensures that each group recognizes the role it plays in the successful implementation of the plan, and that all members deal with any limitations together.

Finding Solutions to Active Travel Barriers

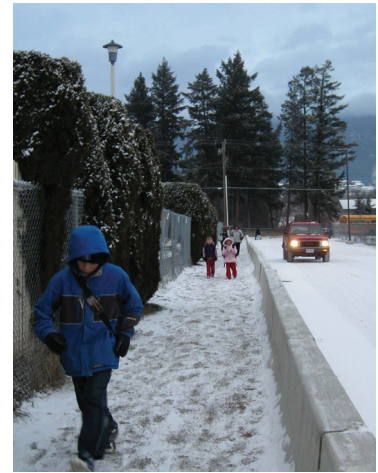
Municipal School Travel Planning Committees use the *Child and Youth Friendly Land Use and Transport Planning Guidelines* (the Guidelines) to inform the process of finding solutions to active travel barriers in an effort to create child-friendly urban spaces. If our communities are easily navigable by children, they will be easily navigable by all people.

The document includes 19 guidelines created with two main goals:

- reducing the amount of automobile travel by children and youth
- reducing the amounts of all road traffic near children and youth

These goals align with School Travel Planning goals. Additionally, each of the guidelines is designed to move transport and land use towards sustainability, which corresponds with the environmental values that STP was founded upon.

The full *Guidelines* document is available at www.kidsonthemove.ca.



Planning reliable solutions to active travel barriers is easier with the Guidelines.

Happiness, Health and School Travel Planning

Happiness studies show that the feeling of happiness corresponds with many positive health outcomes.



Further studies show that youth who are physically active rate their quality of life higher than those who are not physically active. The physical activity associated with the active school commute can have a positive effect on children's well-being.

School Travel Planning works towards reducing the incidence of chronic disease by fostering emotional and physical well-being.

*School Travel Planning adheres to the principle of **Sustainable Happiness**: happiness that contributes to individual, community and/or global well-being and does not exploit other people, the environment or future generations. For more on Sustainable Happiness, see www.sustainablehappiness.ca.*

School Travel Planning in Canada



Spearheaded by Green Communities Canada, STP was pilot tested in Nova Scotia, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia. The pilot test resulted in the creation of a model framework and a comprehensive STP toolkit that is available for public use.

In 2010, STP received funding to expand to provinces and territories across Canada. For details about this project or to view the toolkit, visit www.saferoutestoschool.ca/schooltravel.asp.