



**TRANSPORTATION
ALTERNATIVES**

School Streets: Making Arrival & Dismissal Work For Everyone

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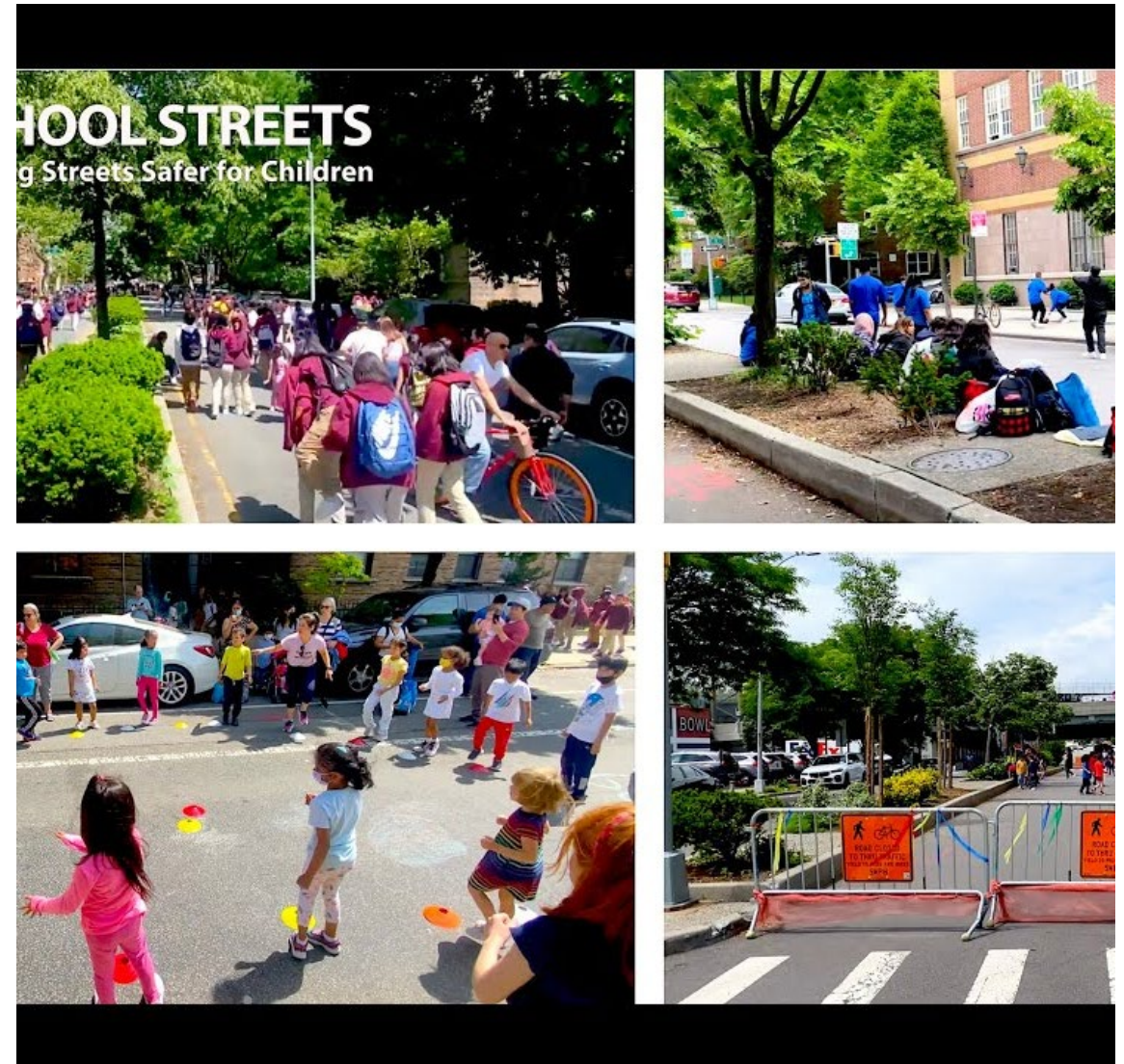
What is a School Street?

- A street near a school building that is closed to car traffic for certain hours during the school day.
- The NYC Department of Transportation's (DOT) official program for this type of street is called **Full Closure Open Streets for Schools**.



Benefits

- Reduce congestion and vehicles travelling through the School Street
- Reduce pollution around the school entrance
- Encourage more walking, cycling and active journeys from pupils and parents/caregivers
- Result in less inconsiderate parking and dangerous maneuvers
- Create a calmer, safer and cleaner environment
- Encourage independent mobility
- Create space for community connection and sociability



Getting to Know Relevant Partners

- Getting acquainted with those already doing Open Streets work and who are regularly engaged with school communities.
- Beginning outreach with schools to listen to their experiences with DOT's School Streets program.



Stakeholder Collaboration and Engagement

Recognize Your Stakeholders



Engaging
Stakeholders

Using Data to Strengthen Narrative

- Consider where traffic safety data shows a greater number of traffic injuries or deaths within 500 feet of the school grounds over the last five years.
- Consider where there are high air pollution levels outside of schools (high levels of traffic or manufacturing).
- **Data provided upon request for NYC schools - contact research@transalt.org**

Common Myths About Open Streets for Schools	Reality
Open Streets for Schools prevent teachers and other school staff from accessing their place of work and/or street parking.	Operational hours coincide with school opening and closing times. In most circumstances, teachers will have already arrived at school before the restrictions come into effect and therefore will not be negatively affected by the time constraints regardless if they drive to work or not. All cars already parked inside the zone when the restriction comes into effect are permitted to exit at their leisure. The DOT may also shift reserved teacher parking to an adjacent street if necessary.
Full Closure Streets mean that emergency services can't get through.	Emergency vehicles are exempt from Full Closure restrictions - they are able to access addresses within the Open Street zones, and are also able to pass through Open Street zones when responding to an emergency.
School Streets are only possible in high-density neighborhoods, where school community members live within walking distance.	School Streets are possible in lower-density areas. Think of ways to encourage cycling and the use of public transit.

Address Common Misconceptions



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THANK YOU!

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