



Hunterdon County  
Safe Routes to School

# Safe Routes to School TRAVEL PLAN 2011



## Stockton School Stockton, NJ

Stockton School  
19 Main Street  
Stockton, NJ 08859  
Grades: K-6

## Introduction

Stockton School is located on Main Street, also known as State Routes 29, in Stockton, NJ. Stockton School is an historic structure.

Stockton is designated a walking district. Approximately half of the 41 students walk or bicycle to school, the other half are dropped by car. This figure increases significantly during inclement weather. A crossing guard and members of the student safety patrol are present in the morning and afternoon hours.

Despite the posted speed limit of 25 mph, actual speeds during the morning hours, in particular, are perceived to be much higher.

Stockton School has prepared this plan with several objectives.

**Community Profile:** Borough of Stockton

**POPULATION:** 561 (2002 estimation)

**AREA:** 0.6 square miles

**POLICE:** NJ State Police

## Working Group

- Suzanne Ivans, School Administrator
- Faculty members
- 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Student Leaders
- PTO
- Stockton School Board of Education
- Stockton Borough Council

## Objectives of the Travel Plan

1. To make travel to and from Stockton School safer and more efficient.
2. To reduce traffic congestion around the school.
3. To encourage travel to school by means other than the car.
4. To encourage students to walk and bicycle to school as a health option.
5. To incorporate travel safety, health and environmental information into the school day.
6. To continue to build on previous efforts to educate students about bicycle and pedestrian safety, thereby increasing bicycle/pedestrian activity among students.
7. Host Bicycle Safety Days and additional bicycle field trips.



Stockton School- Built 1872

*In 1871 the State of New Jersey passed an act that made all public schools free.*

*The following year the voters of the school district decided to build a new schoolhouse in the middle of the lot where the existing schoolhouse was. The structure was completed in 1872.*

*In 1884, an addition was placed on the structure making it 3 rooms in all.*

## Current School Policy

Stockton School students walk to school from neighborhoods that all ultimately intersect with busy Route 29. Students are permitted to ride bicycles to school. Most students ride on the Delaware and Raritan Canal Tow Path rather than Route 29. The Tow Path is also used by a few walkers because Route 29 does not have sidewalks or sufficient shoulders north and south of town.

Vehicular drop offs are to occur in the parking lot located south of the school.

## Current “Walk/Bike to School” Challenges

Motorist speed and awareness of students along Route 29 is an ongoing concern.

## Efforts to Date

Stockton School developed a bicycle safety program in 2006 to educate students on bicycle safety, including riding skills and correct helmet use. State Police were engaged to present a workshop and “bicycle rodeo” at the school. Following the workshop, students and parents were rewarded for their graduation of the workshop with a bicycle field trip to Bull’s Island (part of the D&R Canal Park). This program has been conducted annually since 2006.

Stockton Borough School makes use of the Delaware and Raritan State Park Towpath regularly for Physical Education classes and several times throughout the year (3-5) for walking fieldtrips to the Historic Prallsville Mills or other local destinations. On these trips, safe pedestrian behaviors are incorporated and demonstrated for the students.

Safe walking behaviors are also discussed periodically during Circle Time, a part of the morning set aside to discuss good character traits.

In the 2008-2009 school year, Stockton Borough School began using a theme to integrate different subjects throughout the year and to provide practical applications for lessons. The first year, this theme was “Helping the Planet: One Step at a Time,” and alternative transportation modes played a key role in a number of lessons.



*Route 29 in Stockton*



*Bike Rodeo*

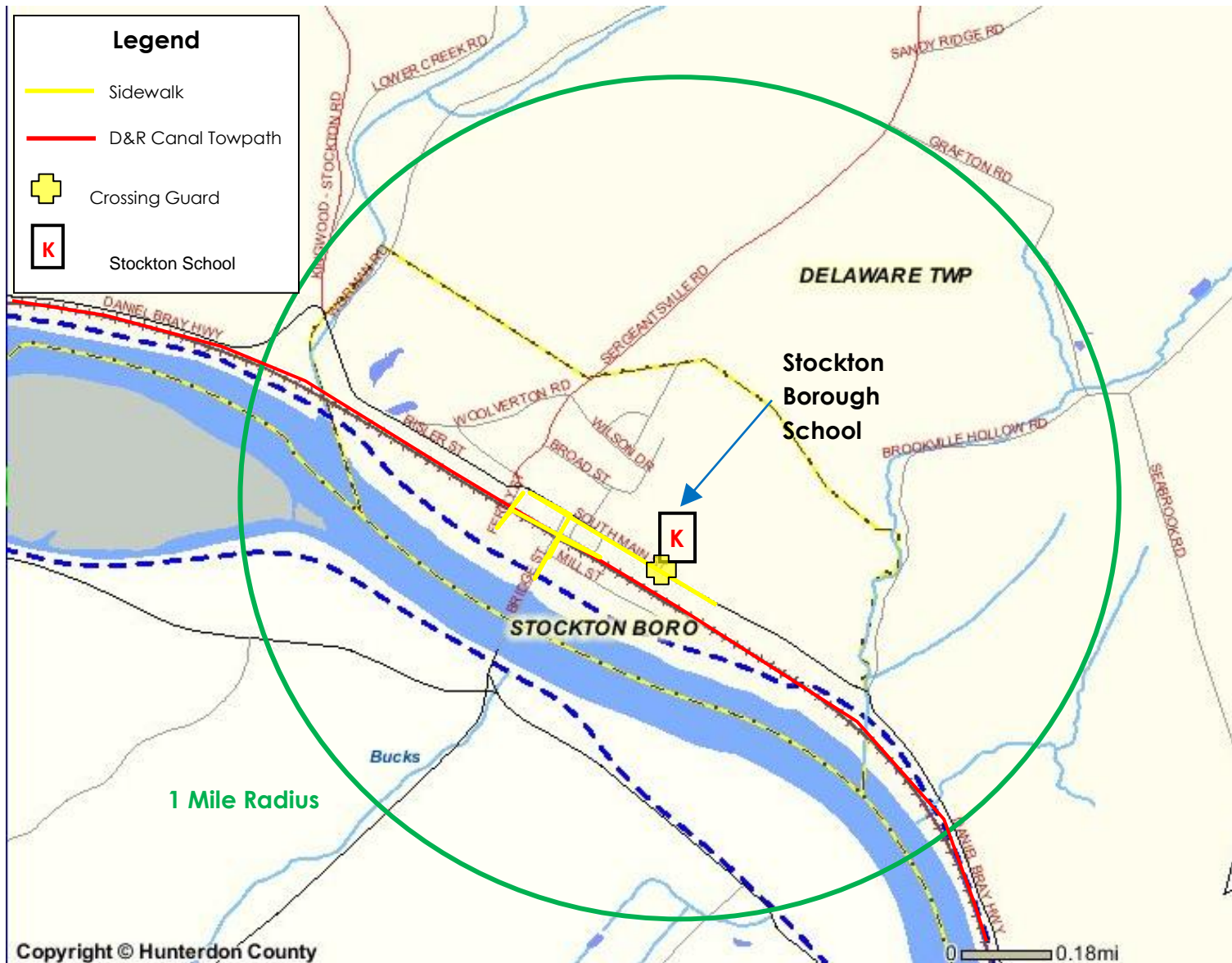


In response to consistent concerns of speeding on Route 29, through the 2008 Hunterdon County SRTS Coalition grant, a radar feedback speed sign was purchased for permanent installation on Route 29 near Stockton Borough School. Since Route 29 is a state highway, NJDOT approval was required to mount the sign and delayed the deployment of the device. Final approval was received in February 2011 and the sign will be installed in spring 2011. After the sign is installed and data collected, Ms. Ivans intends on incorporating that data into math lessons.

A walkability audit of Stockton was conducted in November 2010, to evaluate the pedestrian environment of Stockton. The Audit Report is attached. Students identified speeding on Broad Street as an issue and to further explore this, HART and Stockton Borough School are proposing that a separate radar feedback speed sign be temporarily installed on Broad Street. This will provide objective data of vehicular speeds on this street and inform future actions. HART has a radar feedback speed sign on rotating loan to Hunterdon municipalities which could be used on Broad Street. This installation should take place in May 2011.

## Proposed Actions

<b>Education Actions</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Classroom pedestrian and bicycle safety instruction	School	Ongoing	Low
Student Pedestrian Safety Assembly	TMA	Spring 2011	Low
<b>Encouragement Actions</b>			
Participate in International Walk to School Day 2011	School	Fall 2011	Low
Spring Bicycle Safety Day	School	Spring 2011	Low
Helmet Check & Distribution	School	Spring 2011	Med.
<b>Enforcement Actions</b>			
Speed enforcement	State Police	Ongoing	Low
Yield to Pedestrians at crosswalks	State Police	Ongoing	Low
<b>Engineering Actions</b>			
Walkability Audit	School/TMA	Completed Fall 2010	Low
Mount Radar Feedback Speed Sign on Route 29	School	Spring 2011	Low
Temporary Installation of Radar Feedback Speed Sign on Broad Street for Data Collection	School/TMA/ Municipality	May 2011	Low
<b>Evaluation Actions</b>			
Student Travel Tally	School/TMA	Annually	Low



*This map was developed using Hunterdon County, New Jersey, Geographic Information System digital data, but this secondary product has not been verified by Hunterdon County and is not county-authorized.*