

Winchell Avenue Traffic Calming

UPDATE

Immediate Changes to Winchell Avenue

Right Sized Travel Lanes: To improve on-street safety for motorists and other users, Winchell Avenue travel lanes will be reduced to 11 foot lanes in each direction. This will be installed the week of October 18th by using on-street paint and is expected to take one day.

Non-Motorized Connectivity: The additional on-street space will be marked to provide non-motorized connectivity through the neighborhood. The presence of marked bike lanes in streets not only provide non-motorized connectivity, but is shown to slow vehicle traffic making Winchell Avenue safer for all users.

No On-Street Parking: With our goal of improving non-motorized connectivity and safety, on-street parking will be removed on Winchell Avenue. This change will provide both motorists and cyclists a clear visual of the street and improve safety, especially for children.



Walk & Bike To School Day | Source: UNC Highway Safety Research Center

What Projects Are Coming?



SEPTEMBER 2021

Project Review

Engage neighborhood residents and provide information on the project goals and objectives. Gather input online.



FALL 2021

Right Size Winchell

Install paint and signs to right size Winchell Avenue. Remove on-street parking and provide a passenger loading zone on school days only.

2022

WALK Nature Route

WALK Nature Route connects parks and natural spaces throughout the neighborhood is expected to be complete.

2022-2024

Additional Traffic Calming

As funding is available, consider traffic calming for other nearby streets including Broadway Avenue and Rambling Road.

2024

Winchell Avenue Sidewalk

If awarded the grant, the Safe Routes to Schools sidewalk project will construct a new sidewalk on the southside of Winchell Avenue from Oakland Drive to Rambling Road with crosswalks and updated signage.

NO PARKING ANYTIME

PASSENGER LOADING ZONE SCHOOL DAYS ONLY



READ MORE ABOUT THE WINCHELL AVENUE TRAFFIC CALMING PROJECT
<http://www.imaginekalamazoo.com/projects/winchellavenuetrafficcalming/>

Stopping and Standing Only: To alleviate congestion around school time, the section of Winchell Avenue between Lomond Drive and Bruce Drive will share the on-street bike lane with a passenger loading zone during school drop-off and pick-up times only. When a parent exits the vehicle, it is considered 'parking' and parents who wish to park must use a recommended alternative. If a parent arrives early, they too must use a recommended alternative (please see back). The Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety will assist in monitoring this change. Signage is expected to be installed in late October.



New Dismissal for Car Pick Ups

During the spring of the 2018-2019 school year, we began working with the City of Kalamazoo through Safe Routes to School. The goal of Safe Routes to School is to make it safe, convenient, and fun for children to walk and bicycle to and from school. As part of our initial work we also looked at school dismissal to identify ways we could improve the safety and efficiency of our pick up time. The work with the city identified the sidewalks on Winchell Avenue as an opportunity to alleviate some of the congestion around the school at dismissal time. We will break up our pick up areas by grade and utilize the sidewalk along Winchell Avenue. The pick up area for **grades 4 and 5 will be in front of The Disciples of Christ Church, the pick up area for grades PK, K and 1 will in the main parking loop and the pick up for grades 2 and 3 will be in front of the Third Christian Reformed Church.**



Parking Procedures

Grade level teachers will walk students to their assigned pick up areas. **Walkers, bike riders and Primetime students will be dismissed from the classroom. Bus riders will be taken to the north parking lot by a grade level teacher.**

Siblings: Older siblings will report to their youngest sibling's classroom and wait for pick up in the assigned area of the youngest sibling.

Parking/Waiting: Parents/guardians should park/wait at the assigned area of their youngest child. In the grade 2-3 and 4-5 areas, our goal is for parents to park along the sidewalk curb, stay in or near their cars, and allow children to come to the car (no child will be allowed to cross the street without a parent or guardian). If you are planning to come into the school, or stay after school to play, please park in one of the church lots so we can keep the flow of cars moving.

The flow of traffic in the PK-1 area will run differently. PK and K parents must come to the teacher to pick up their children (first graders may walk to their cars but no child will be allowed to cross the parking loop without an adult, this includes older siblings walking younger siblings). The parking loop has been separated into thirds. The outside lanes are for parking. The middle lane is for through traffic. Mr. Hughes, or his designee, will be directing traffic in this area at dismissal. Cars blocking the flow of the middle lane will be waved through (if this happens I encourage you to take Broadway to Crosswind to Aberdeen and reenter the loop).

Weather: This pick up procedure will happen every day. Students should be prepared for inclement weather. I encourage you to keep small umbrellas in backpacks and make sure students are dressed appropriately in cold weather.