

Clermont Elementary School Clermont, FL

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'A' SCHOOL!

August 2012



Lake-Sumter
mco
Metropolitan
Planning Organization

Clermont Elementary School Snapshot



December 7, 2011

Grades: Pre-Kindergarten – 5th

Total Students: 648

- Provided Bus Transportation : 250
- Not Provided Bus Transportation: 398

Students Living within the “Walk Zone”: 489

- Provided Bus Transportation: 202
- Not Provided Bus Transportation: 287

Observation Day (Partly Cloudy)

- Walkers: 30
- Bike Riders: 0

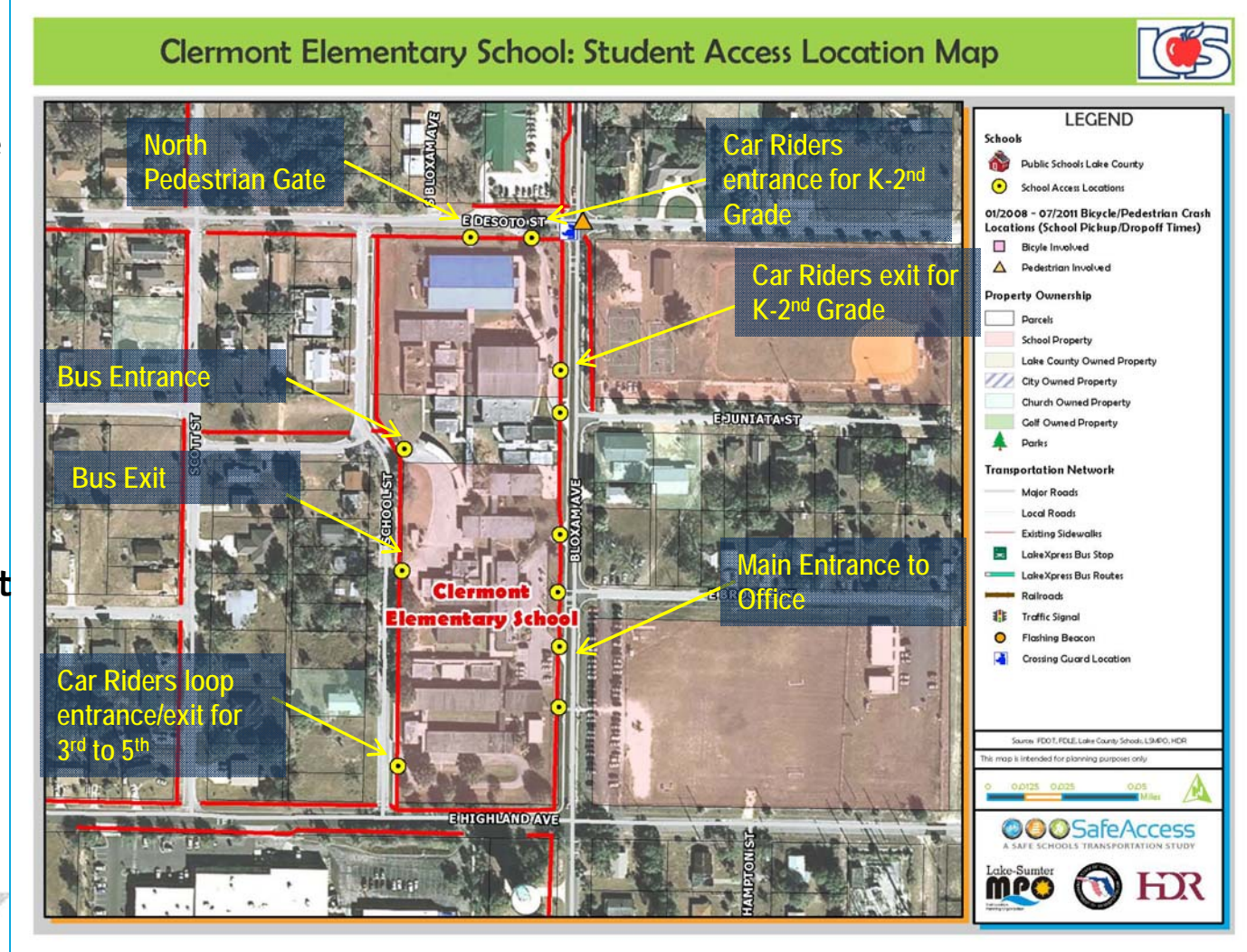


- ✓ Clermont Elementary School website – Click [here](#)
- ✓ City of Clermont website – Click [here](#)
- ✓ Lake County Schools website – Click [here](#)

Clermont Elementary School

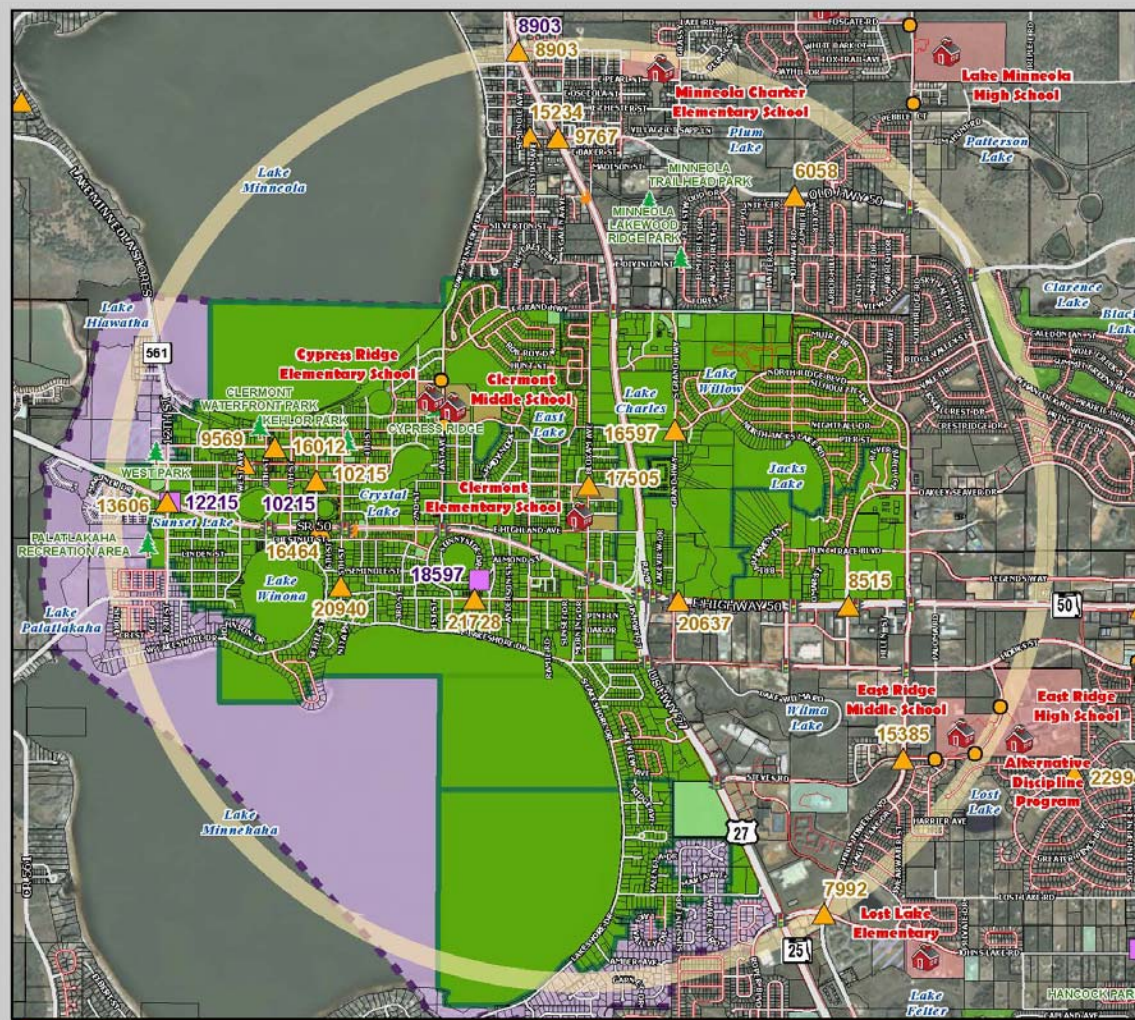
Findings:

- ✓ Approximately 40% of students within the 2 mile walk zone are bused (fairly even distribution)
- ✓ There are 2 car drop-off / pick-up areas
- ✓ Car drop-off / pick-up areas are separated from the bus loop.
- ✓ Walking access allowed at multiple points.
- ✓ There is very limited on site queuing, vehicles are routed on surface streets by limiting turning movements during arrival/dismissal times.



Attendance and 2-Mile "Walk" Zone Map

Clermont Elementary School: Attendance and 2-Mile "Walk" Zone Map



LEGEND

Schools

- Public Schools Lake County
- 2-Mile Buffer of Clermont ES
- Parent Responsibility Zone
- Special Exception Areas
- Clermont ES Attendance Zones (2010-2011)

01/2008 - 07/2011 Bicycle/Pedestrian Crash Locations (6 am - 7 pm only)

- Bicycle Involved
- Pedestrian Involved

Property Ownership

- Parcels
- Parks

Transportation Network

- Major Roads
- Local Roads
- Existing Sidewalks
- LakeXpress Bus Stop
- LakeXpress Bus Routes
- Railroads
- Traffic Signal
- Flashing Beacon

Source: FDOT, FDEE, Lake County Schools, LSUMPO, HDR

This map is intended for planning purposes only.



Arrival and Dismissal Schedule

8:00-8:30 am: Arrival – Gate Opens at 8 am, 7 Regular Buses, 5 ESE Buses, 3 Bus Loading Positions

7:45 am: 20 Students Waiting at North Gate, Free Breakfast is Offered Across Street from North Gate, Heavy Foot Traffic

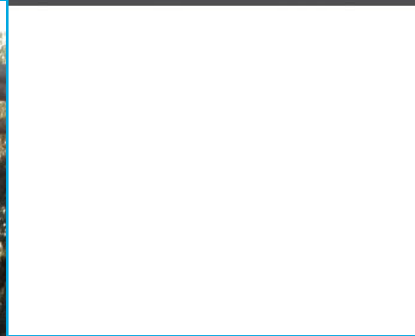
8:30 am: School Start Time

2:35- 3:05 pm: Release – Staggered for Kindergarten Students and their Siblings (2:35 Dismissal vs. 2:55)

3:05 pm: Gates Close



Note: Students are released one hour early on Wednesdays



Findings:

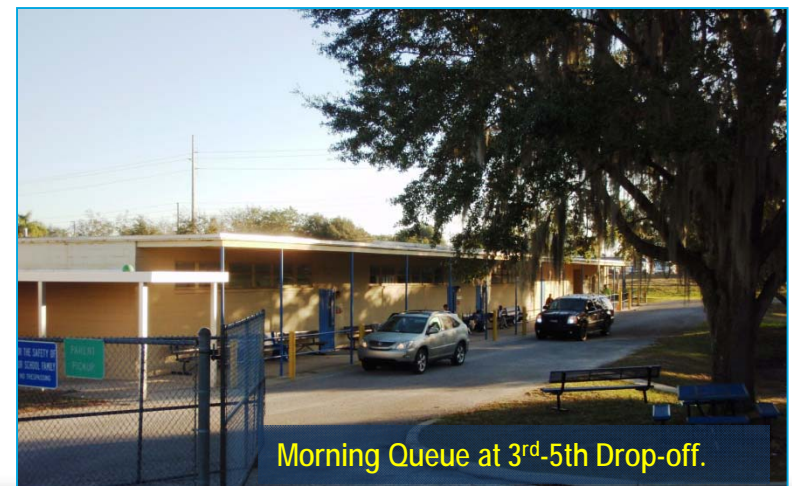
- ✓ The bus loading and unloading is organized and efficient
- ✓ Buses have some issues navigating around car queue, but is well managed
- ✓ Groups of buses arrive in two waves, some bus traffic conflicts with the grade 3-5 car rider pick-up queue was observed (Traffic queued for pick-up line blocked arriving or departing buses)

Findings:

- ✓ The school has limited space on site for queuing of cars for student drop-off / pick-up
- ✓ Car pick-up / drop-off occurs in two locations, Pre-K - 2nd on the Northeast corner and 3rd - 5th, on the south side of the school
- ✓ Car queue is managed on street by limiting turning movements during pick-up / drop-off times

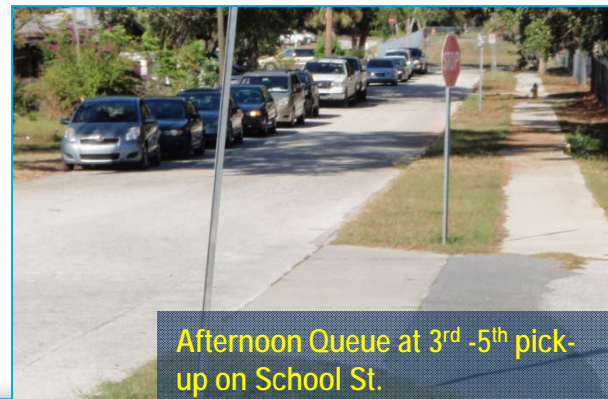
Morning Observations

- ✓ During drop-off the longest observed queue on Desoto Street was 5 to 7 cars
- ✓ Time of queuing on Desoto Street was approximately 5 to 10 minutes.
- ✓ The 3rd - 5th drop-off was not busy, queue formed briefly due to drivers not moving forward in queue



Afternoon Observations:

- ✓ 8 cars were queued at the school at 1:30 at Pre-K - 2nd pick-up (contained on property)
- ✓ At 1:35 the queue spilled onto Desoto St
- ✓ Queue peaked at 21 cars before the queue began to move
- ✓ Queue was cleared by approximately 1:45
- ✓ On the west side, 9 cars were observed queued north of Highland Ave at 1:55, queue cleared by 1:58
- ✓ 2 cars from the queue were on Juniata St, the rest were queued on School St



Bicycle/Pedestrian “Walkers” Access

School Existing Conditions and Procedures:

- ✓ Approximately 20 students were waiting at the walker gate on Desoto St prior to the gate opening at 8 am
- ✓ There is one crossing guard staffed by Clermont police to assist pedestrians crossing Bloxam Ave and Desoto St. Officer had observed only a few walkers to and from the north.
- ✓ A few students were observed coming from the south along School St to Desoto St to go to the Learning Center prior to using the north walker gate
- ✓ There are no sidewalks on the north side of Desoto St, nor is there a crossing area from the school to the Learning Center
- ✓ There is no school zone established by the north walker gate on Desoto Street.
- ✓ A small section of sidewalk is missing on Highland St at Desoto St.

Students queuing at the North Pedestrian Gate.



Children crossing from Learning Center to North Pedestrian Gate.



Waiting to cross with the cross guard.

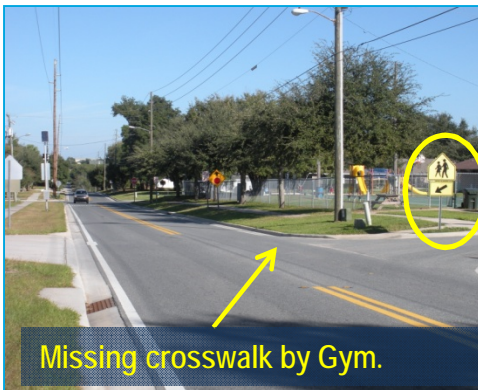


Crosswalks faded at Pre-K-2nd, Desoto / School and School / Juniata, respectively

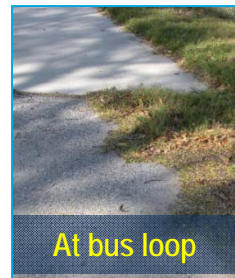


School Existing Conditions and Procedures:

- ✓ Many of the crossings are faded, are missing zebra or ladder style markings, or are not marked at all
- ✓ Several of the existing sidewalks are in need of maintenance.
- ✓ Several people were observed crossing Bloxam Ave from the parking area and church to the school
- ✓ A sign exists for a crosswalk on Bloxam Ave from the Gym area to the park/playground, but the striping on the roadway is absent
- ✓ There are signs posted on the fence for drivers to yield to pedestrians at the Pre-K-2nd drop-off / pick-up area, but the angle of the driveway makes them difficult to see. It appeared there was once a stop sign, but during the observations it was lying by the fence



Missing crosswalk by Gym.



At bus loop



Maintenance needs.



Yield sign on fence after crosswalk at K-2nd, stop sign is down.



Bicycle/Pedestrian “Walkers” Access

Recommendations

- ✓ Provide a marked crossing and pedestrian area from the North pedestrian gate across Desoto St to the Learning Center
- ✓ Establish a marked school zone and sign as appropriate on Desoto St between Bloxam Ave and School St
- ✓ Restore/add FDOT ladder style crosswalks at all school driveways
- ✓ Restore the crosswalk on Bloxam Ave from the gym area to the playground area
- ✓ Restore/add FDOT ladder style crosswalks on:
 - ✓ School St at Desoto St
 - ✓ School St at Juniata St (at Curve)
 - ✓ School St at Highland Ave
 - ✓ Scott Road at Desoto St
 - ✓ Remainder of Crosswalks on Desoto St between East Ave and Bloxam Ave
 - ✓ Install Stop or Yield Sign at Pre-K-2nd driveway and sidewalk on Desoto St
 - ✓ Complete sidewalk on south side of Highland Ave west of Bloxam Ave
 - ✓ Install bicycle parking to accommodate bicyclists

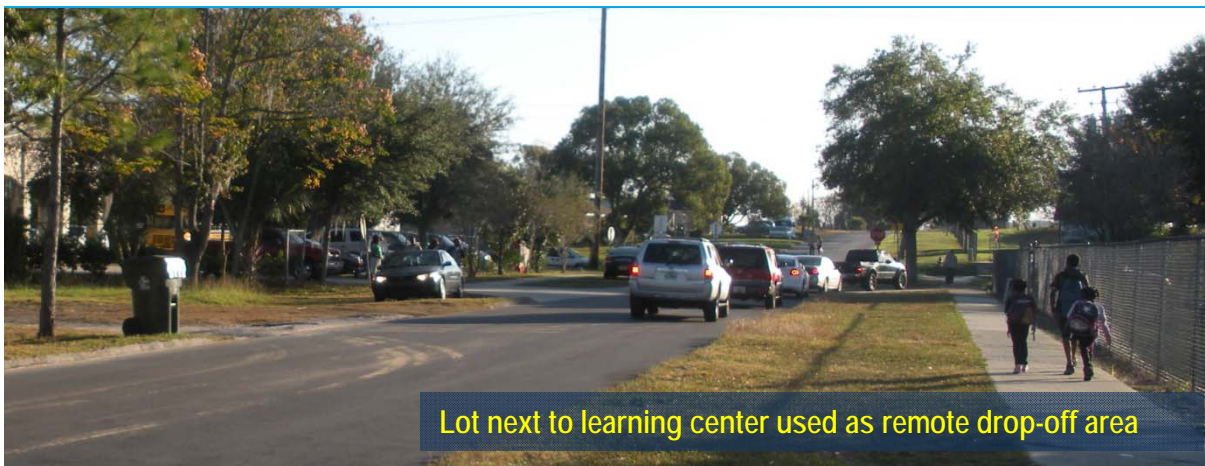


Remote Drop-off/Pick-up

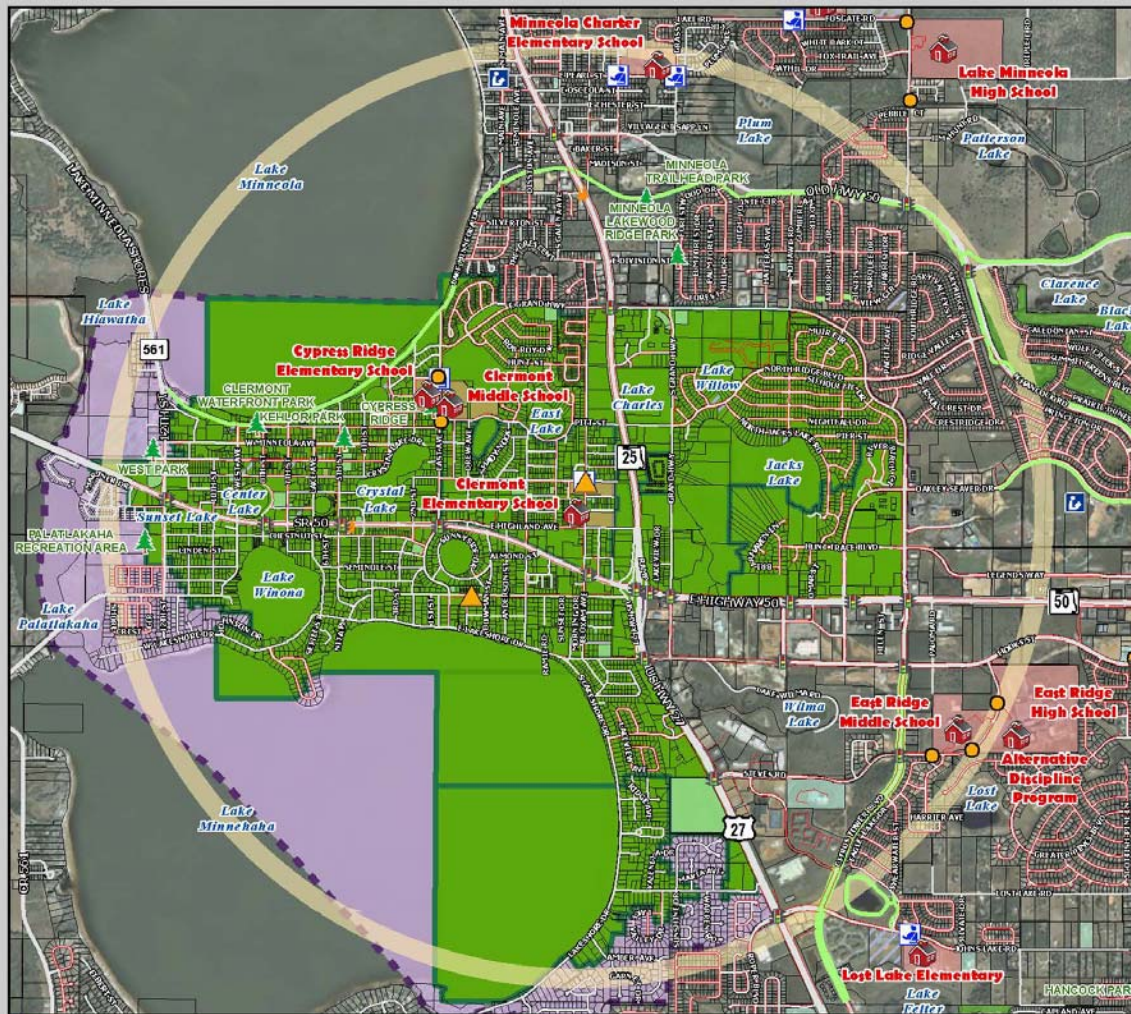


Findings:

- ✓ Approximately 5 cars (am) and 12 cars (pm) were observed using the empty lot west of the school on Desoto Street as an informal drop-off area. Some parents parked and escorted their child/children
- ✓ Some parents were observed pulling off to the side of Desoto St near the Learning Center to drop children off



Clermont Elementary School: Existing Conditions Map



- Schools**
- Public Schools Lake County
 - Crossing Guard Locations
 - Libraries
 - 2-Mile Buffer of Clermont ES
 - Parent Responsibility Zone
 - Special Exception Areas
 - Clermont ES Attendance Zones (2010-2011)
- 01/2008 - 07/2011 Bicycle/Pedestrian Crash Locations (School Pickup/Dropoff Times)**
- Bicycle Involved
 - Pedestrian Involved
- Property Ownership**
- Parcels
 - School Property
 - Lake County Owned Property
 - City Owned Property
 - Church Owned Property
 - Golf Owned Property
 - Parks
- Transportation Network**
- Major Roads
 - Local Roads
 - Existing Sidewalks
 - Existing Trails
 - LakeXpress Bus Routes & Stops
 - Railroads
 - Traffic Signal
 - Flashing Beacon

Sources: FDOT, POLE, Lake County Schools, LCMPO, HDR

This map is intended for planning purposes only.



Clermont Elementary School

Findings:

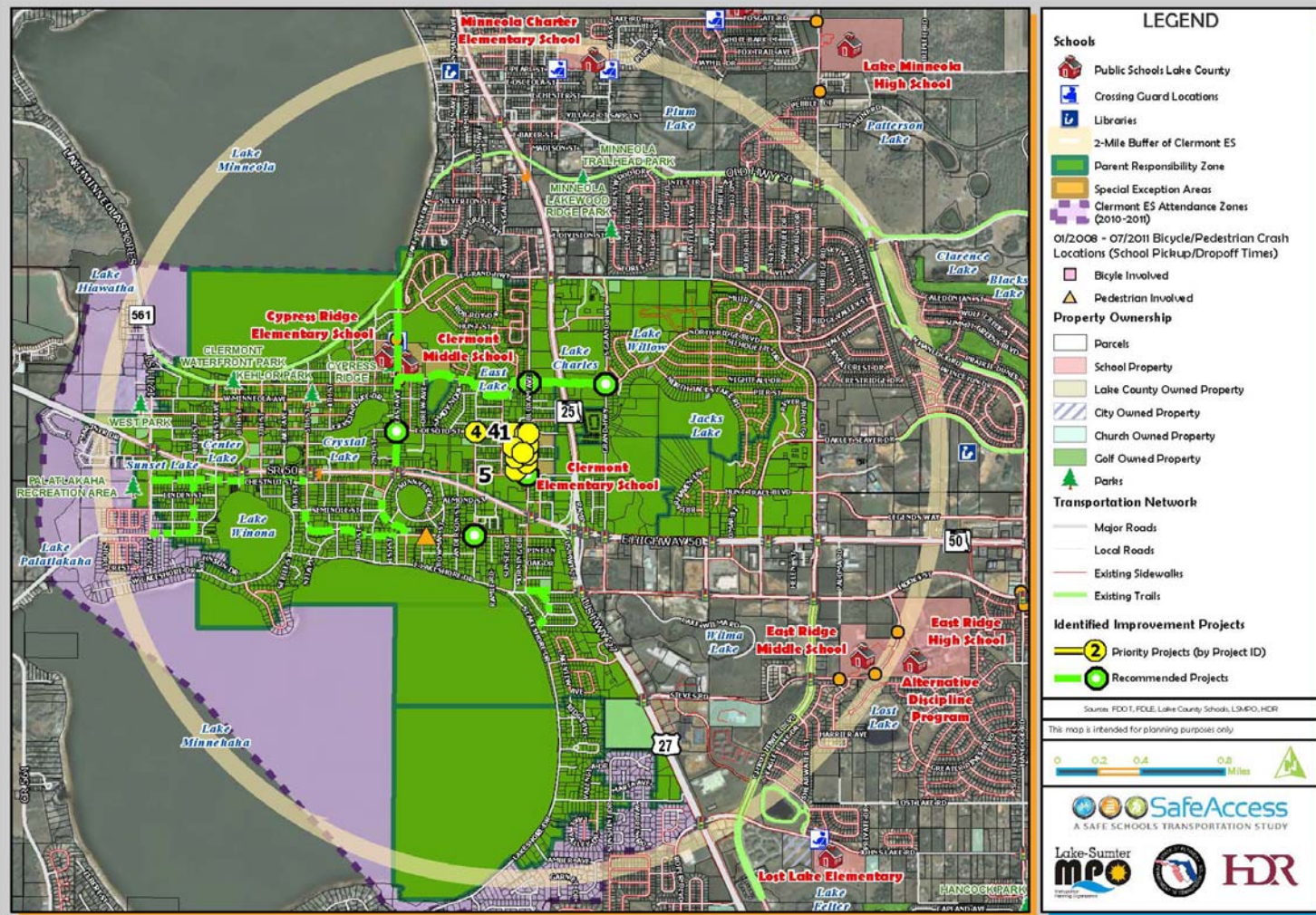
- ✓ The City has recently installed several new sidewalks in the vicinity of the school, including sidewalks on School St, Juniata St, and Scott Rd north to Pitt St
- ✓ The City of Clermont has a planned project in 2012 to reconstruct East Ave from SR 50 to Lake Minneola, creating an opportunity to look at pedestrian and bicyclists needs in this corridor
- ✓ The City of Clermont has a planned project in 2013 or 2014 to reconstruct Pitt St from East Ave to Grand Highway with potential to consider pedestrian and bicycle needs

Recommendations:

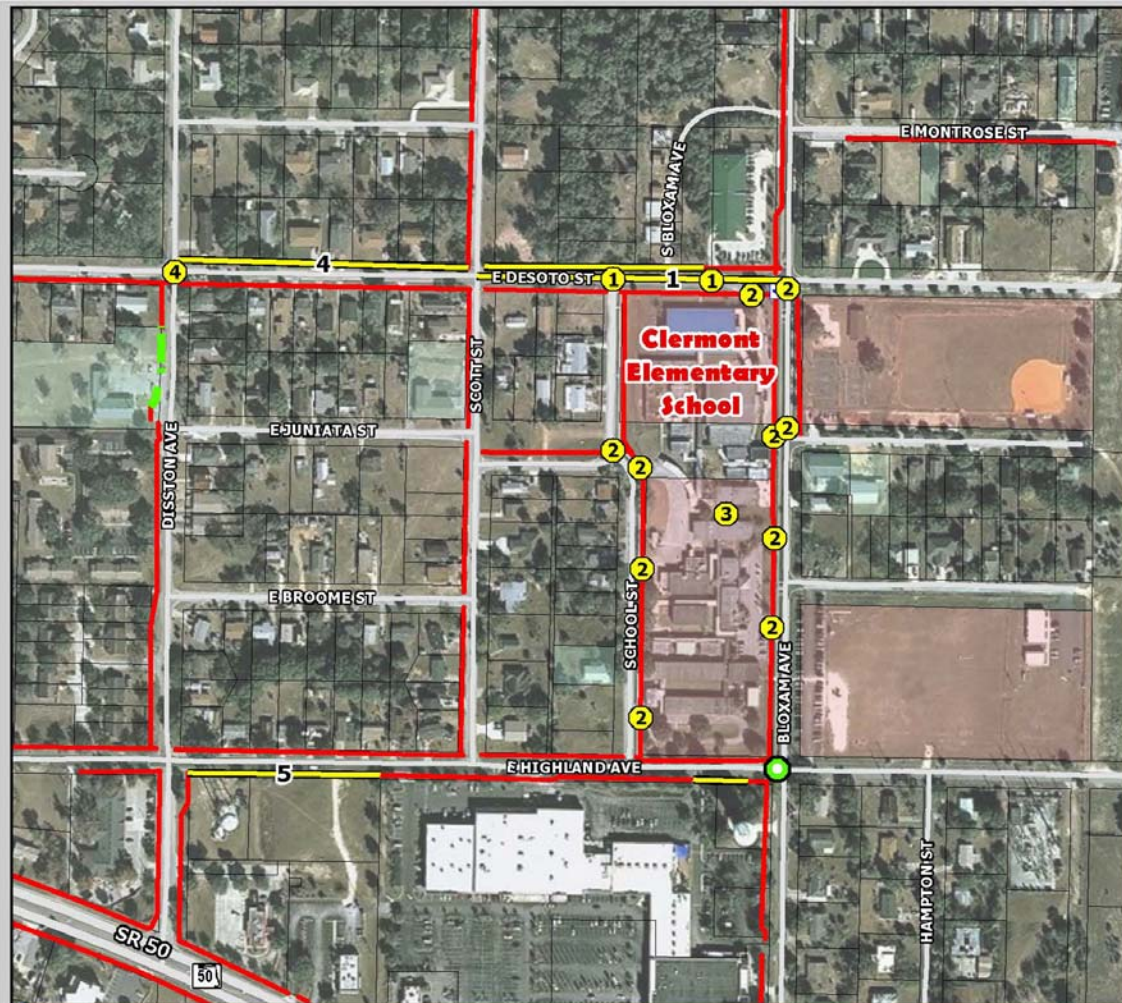
- ✓ Coordinate with the City on the planned maintenance/improvement of these roadways to included needed projects



Clermont Elementary School: Transportation Access Master Plan



Clermont Elementary School: Priority Projects



LEGEND

Schools

- Public Schools Lake County

Identified Improvement Projects

- Priority Projects (by Project ID)
- Recommended Projects

Property Ownership

- Parcels
- School Property
- Lake County Owned Property
- City Owned Property
- Church Owned Property
- Golf Owned Property
- Parks

Transportation Network

- Major Roads
- Local Roads
- Existing Sidewalks
- LakeXpress Bus Stop
- LakeXpress Bus Routes
- Railroads
- Traffic Signal
- Flashing Beacon
- Crossing Guard Location

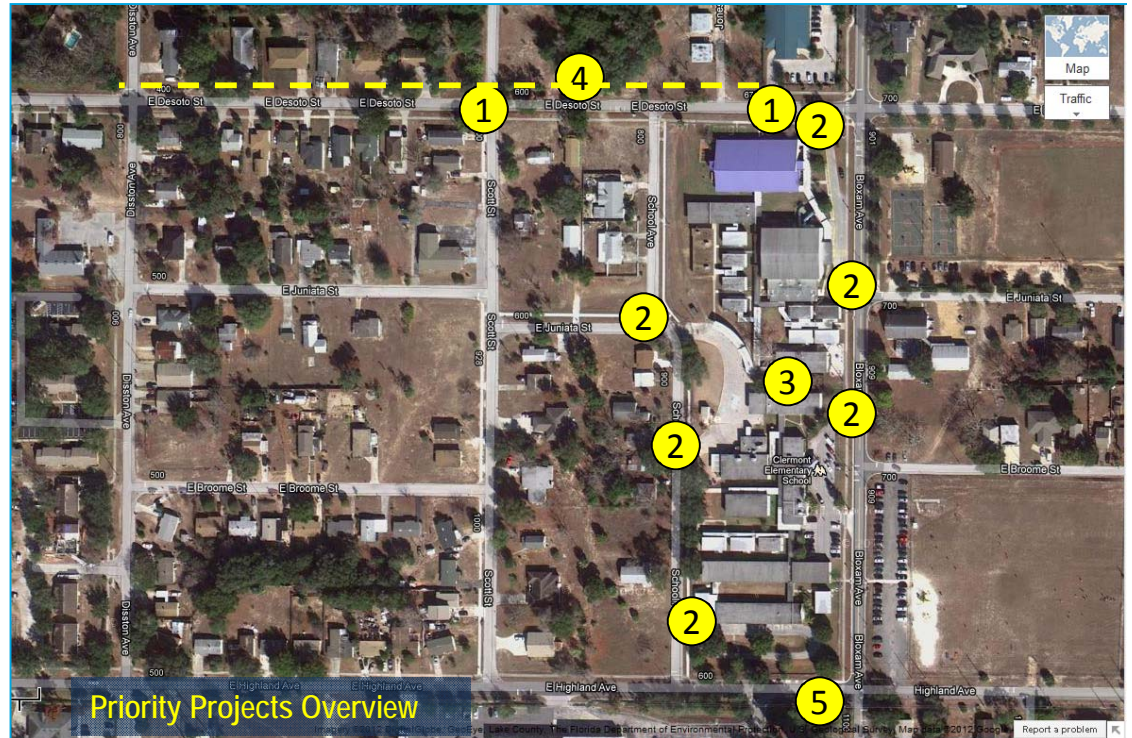
Source: FDOT, FDLE, Lake County Schools, LSR&D, HDR
This map is intended for planning purposes only.

0 0.015 0.03 0.06 Miles

Clermont Elementary School

Priority Projects:

1. Safety improvements on Desoto St, including crosswalks and school zone
2. Reinstall / update all crosswalks at school driveways to FDOT ladder style crosswalks, repair pavement on sidewalks around school
3. Add bicycle parking, preferably covered hitch style in an interior secure location on a concrete pad
4. Add sidewalk to north side of Desoto St from Disston Ave to Bloxam Ave
5. Add sidewalk on Highland Ave to complete sidewalk on the south side of the roadway

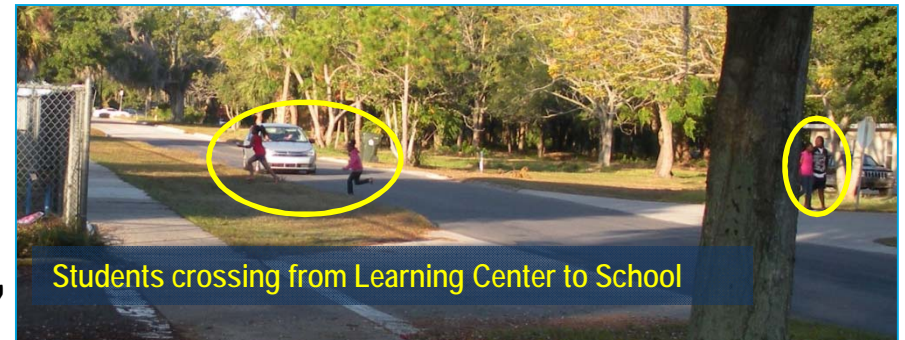


Priority Project #1

Desoto Safety Improvements
including crosswalks and school zone

Findings:

- ✓ There is a heavy amount of pedestrian traffic on Desoto St due to the confluence of the north gate pedestrian access, the Learning Center, and the breakfast provided by the Learning Center. Currently many students and parents cross midblock between the Learning Center and the north pedestrian gate
- ✓ Traffic accessing the Pre-K-2nd drop-off queues onto Desoto St, creating potential conflicts with pedestrians
- ✓ The Clermont officer who serves as a crossing guard stated that speeding is an issue on Desoto St during school times. Currently there is not a marked school zone on Desoto St, but it is the entrance to the Pre-K-2nd drop-off / pick-up and the north pedestrian access
- ✓ There is sidewalk on the south side of Desoto St and the west side of Scott St, but the crosswalks are either missing, or are very faded



Students crossing from Learning Center to School



Missing Crosswalks on Desoto St



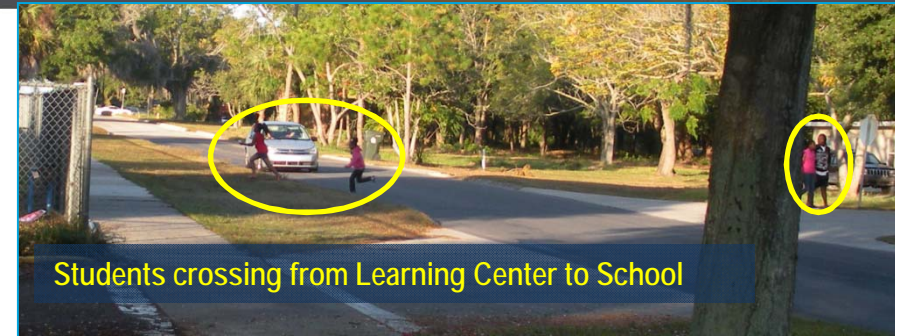
Missing Crosswalks on Desoto St

Priority Project #1

Desoto Safety Improvements
including crosswalks, school zone and sidewalks

Findings:

- ✓ There is a heavy amount of pedestrian traffic on Desoto St due to the confluence of the north gate pedestrian access, the Learning Center, and the breakfast provided by the Learning Center



Recommendations:

- ✓ Establish and sign a school zone on Desoto St from School St to Bloxam Ave
- ✓ Install FDOT ladder style crosswalk and yield sign / striping on Desoto St between the Learning Center and the north pedestrian gate.
- ✓ Install FDOT ladder style crosswalks at appropriate locations on Desoto St at School St, Scott St and Diston Ave
- ✓ Construct sidewalk on the north side of Desoto St from the current Learning Center driveway to School Ave



Priority Project #2

Reinstall / update all crosswalks at school driveways to FDOT ladder style crosswalks

Findings:

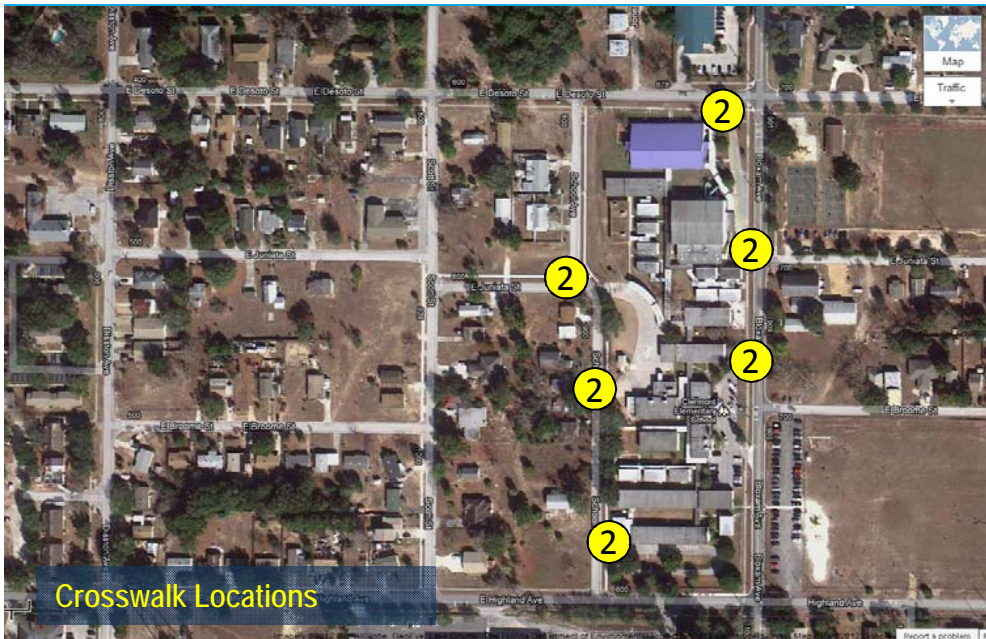
- ✓ Most of the crosswalks accessing the school, or crossing school driveways, have become faded, or have been paved over and need to be re-painted / established. Much of the pavement on the older sidewalks around the school need to be repaired.

Recommendation:

- ✓ Repaint all of the crosswalks at school access points or driveways



Repaint crosswalks at all School Driveways



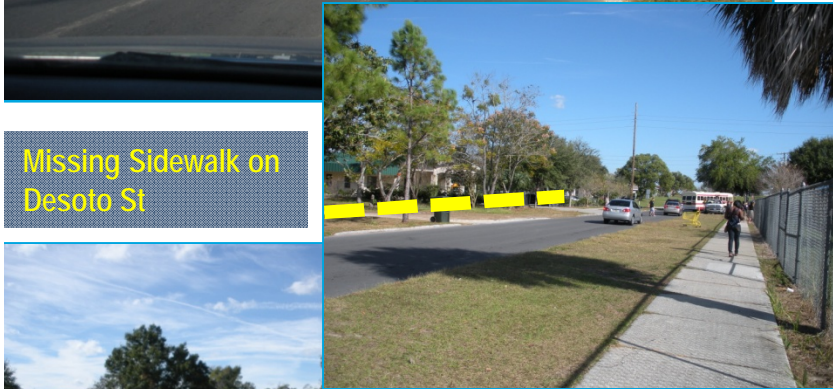
Crosswalk Locations



FDOT ladder style crosswalk



No crosswalk with sign



Missing Sidewalk on Desoto St

Findings:

- ✓ Currently there is no bicycle parking at the school

Recommendation (3):

- ✓ Work with FDOT and Lake County Schools to obtain and install bicycle parking, preferably covered, hitch style, in an interior secure location on a concrete pad

Findings:

- ✓ Pedestrian or bicycle traffic coming from the North on Scott St must cross in an unmarked crosswalk to an area outside of the marked school zones

Recommendation (4):

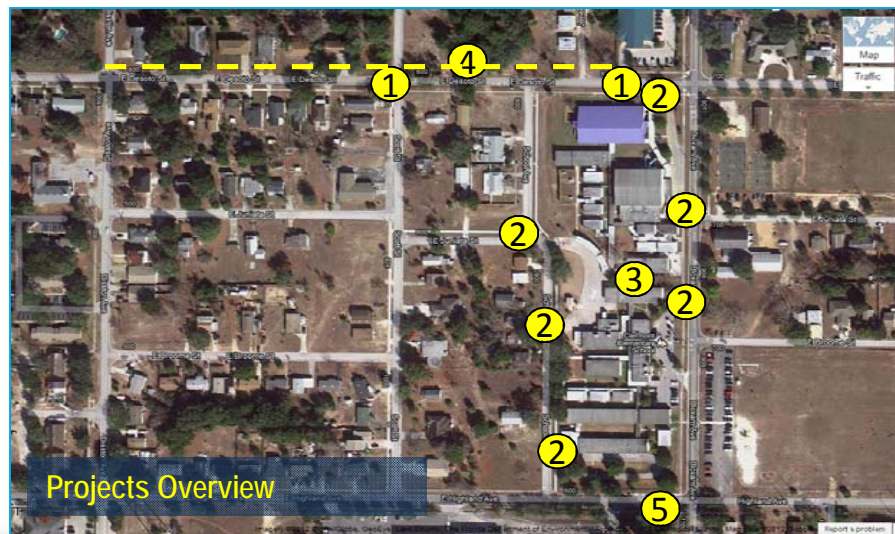
- ✓ Construct sidewalk on the north side of Desoto St from the current School Ave to Diston Ave

Findings:

- ✓ There is a one lot gap in the sidewalk on the south side of Highland Avenue immediately west of the intersection with Bloxam Ave. There is an additional gap just east of Disston Ave

Recommendations:

- ✓ Construct and complete the sidewalk on the south side of Highland Avenue between School St and Bloxam Ave and also complete the gap in the sidewalk on the south side of Highland Ave just east of Disston Ave



Priority #	Item	Quantity	Units	Cost Estimate
1	School Zone Signs	2	Signs	\$600.00
1	Crosswalk	189	ft	\$420.00
1	No Parking signs	3	Signs	\$900.00
1	Stop or yield sign	1	Sign	\$300.00
1	Sidewalk	178	ft	\$35,000.00
2	Crosswalk	162	ft	\$360.00
4	Crosswalk	22	ft	\$50.00
4	Sidewalk	1,056	ft	\$105,500.00
5	Sidewalk	663	ft	\$73,600.00

ESTIMATE BASIS AND ASSUMPTIONS:

- Sidewalk estimates based on estimating tool developed for Phase 1, Estimates for all other improvements based on Unit Costs per FDOT Lake County (Area 7) averages (07/2011 - 06/2012).
- Estimate does not include utility relocation costs, utility relocation assumed by others.
- The mobilization costs are based on 15% of the construction cost and estimates include maintenance of traffic costs (15% of construction costs).
- No Regular excavation & embankment to 1 ft depth is assumed
- No R/W Impact
- No specialized landscaping (beyond sodding) is included.
- Sidewalk is assumed to be 5 feet wide, unit given is in linear feet.



SafeAccess

A SAFE SCHOOLS TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Clermont Elementary School

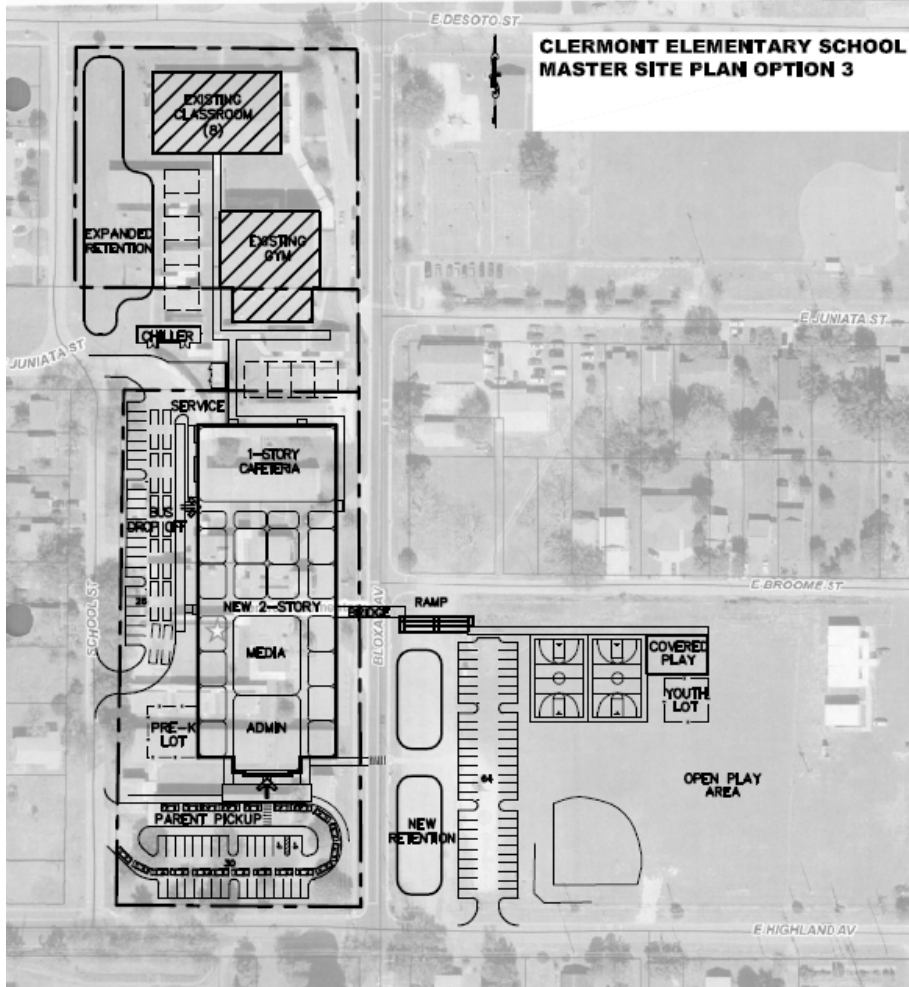
Other Sidewalk Connections

<i>Road</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Project</i>
Chestnut St	12th St to West Ave; 8th St to 7th St; missing section W of Lake Ave; Lake Ave to 5th St	Construct sidewalk (one side, preferably S side W of 8th St, N side E of 8th St); mark crosswalks at side streets & sign uncontrolled locations (12th St, 10th St, West Ave, 7th St, 5th St) as school crossings
Minnehaha Ave	5th St to Knapp St	Construct sidewalk (S side preferred)
Minnehaha Ave	CR 561/12th St to 10th St	Construct sidewalk (N side preferred)
10th St	Chestnut St to Minnehaha Ave	Construct sidewalk (W side preferred)
5th St	Seminole St to Minnehaha Ave	Construct sidewalk (W side preferred)
Minnehaha Ave	at Disston Ave	Mark crosswalks (S & E legs); move stop bar & stop sign further south
Hook St	Bloxam Ave to The Crescent	Construct sidewalk (S side preferred); mark crosswalk at Bloxam Ave intersection (E leg)
The Crescent	Hook St to Lakeshore Dr	Construct sidewalk (E side preferred)
East Ave	Linden St to Minnehaha Ave	Construct sidewalk (W side); mark crosswalks at Linden St, Seminole St/2nd St, & Minnehaha Ave
East Ave	at Desoto St	Mark midblock crosswalk; add curb extensions (S leg)
Disston Ave	at St. Mark AME Church	Correct sidewalk to go around parking (currently crosses through middle of parking spaces)
Pitt St	Bloxam Ave to Grand Hwy	Construct sidewalk (S side preferred)
Pitt St	at Bloxam Ave intersection	Mark crosswalks (S & E legs); employ crossing guard
Pitt St	at Grand Hwy	Mark crosswalk (S leg); employ crossing guard; evaluate potential for signalization (or use school speed zone or RRFBs)

Master Site Plan Recommendations

Recommendations:

The South Lake Schools Long Range Planning Committee recommended master site plan option 3 for the future Clermont Elementary. The text indicates that the current pick-up and drop-off area would continue to be used, however that is not indicated on the site plan (see left). If the pick-up and drop-off areas are consolidated, it is unlikely that the queue could be accommodated in the space shown on the site plan, and would likely back up on School Street past Desoto Street. Also the text recommends that pedestrian access be consolidated, however it is unclear where that point of entry would be. It is strongly recommended that a pedestrian access study be undertaken to determine if a single point of access is the most beneficial and where that would occur. Given that the majority of walkers are from the north and west, a north or west access point seems the most logical, however this would have to navigate the expanded retention area and the bus access area, avoiding vehicle conflict points. It is also recommended that the bus access drive and Juniata Street intersection be aligned to a 'T' to the maximum extent feasible.





Clermont Elementary School

Contact Information

This website represents an ongoing commitment to increase safe access to schools within the Lake-Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization Planning Area.

Updates to data, and suggestions for programming and project ideas are welcome from all agencies and the general public.

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*Promoting Regional
Transportation Partnerships*