

Checklist for Identifying Potential School Bus Route Fixed Driving Hazards

Railroad Grade Crossings

- **Railroad Grade Crossing Identification Number** _____
- **Location** _____
- **How many tracks are present?** _____
- **What are the times of the scheduled trains?** _____
- **What types of trains use the track?** Passenger ____ Freight ____ Commuter ____
- **What are the travel speeds of the scheduled trains?** _____

- | | Yes | No |
|---|-------|-------|
| • Are the regulatory signs (crossbucks) clearly visible? | _____ | _____ |
| • Are there regulatory devices (lights/gates/bells) present? | _____ | _____ |
| • Are there any unique characteristics to the operation of the crossing controls? | _____ | _____ |
| What are they? _____ | | |
| • When stopped approximately 15 feet from the nearest railroad track, is there an unobstructed sight distance of approximately 1,000 feet in both directions? | _____ | _____ |
| • Is there at least enough room on the other side of the furthest railroad track for the largest school bus to stop without encroaching on the train's right-of-way? | _____ | _____ |
| • Are there any roadway design features that could affect the safe operation of a school bus at the railroad crossing? | _____ | _____ |
| What are they? _____ | | |

Dangerous Intersections and Roadways

Location _____

- | | Yes | No |
|--|-------|-------|
| • Is this a high-frequency crash location? | _____ | _____ |
| • Are traffic control devices present? | _____ | _____ |
| • Are there visibility obstructions? | _____ | _____ |
| What are they? _____ | | |
| • Are there areas with no shoulders? | _____ | _____ |
| • Are there peculiar roadway features? | _____ | _____ |
| What are they? _____ | | |

Bridges, Tunnels/Underpasses and Overpasses

Location _____

- | | Yes | No |
|---|-------|-------|
| • Is the weight capacity of the bridge/overpass sufficient for a fully-loaded school bus? | _____ | _____ |
| • Is the height of the tunnel/underpass adequate for the tallest school bus, including open roof hatches? | _____ | _____ |
| • Is the lane width of the bridge, tunnel/underpass, or overpass adequate for the widest school bus, including the mirrors? | _____ | _____ |

Queuing/Storage Areas

Location _____

- | | Yes | No |
|---|-------|-------|
| • Is there sufficient area for the largest school bus in the acceleration/deceleration lane? | _____ | _____ |
| • Is there sufficient area for the largest school bus in the median area between a multi-lane road? | _____ | _____ |
| • Is there sufficient area for the largest school bus in the turning lane? | _____ | _____ |

Industrial Intersections and Construction Zones

Location _____

- | | Yes | No |
|--|-------|-------|
| • Do heavy vehicles enter/exit/cross the roadway frequently? | _____ | _____ |
| • Are there highway signs alerting drivers of the industrial/construction traffic? | _____ | _____ |
| • Are there traffic controls in the area? | _____ | _____ |

Steep Downgrades

Location _____

- | | Yes | No |
|--|-------|-------|
| • Are there highway signs alerting drivers to the downgrade? | _____ | _____ |
| • Are there signs alerting drivers to “Check Brakes”? | _____ | _____ |
| • Are there areas marked and designated for vehicles to safely leave the road (run-off areas)? | _____ | _____ |

Areas of Significant Speed Differential Between Vehicles

Location _____

- | | Yes | No |
|---|-------|-------|
| • Is there sufficient space to accelerate/decelerate a school bus when entering/exiting a high-speed road? | _____ | _____ |
| • Does slow-moving farm equipment operate on the road? | _____ | _____ |
| • Do non-motorized vehicles, e.g., horse-drawn carriages, operate on the road? | _____ | _____ |
| • Are there roadway conditions, e.g., mountainous terrain, that result in vehicles operating at high speeds and low speeds? | _____ | _____ |

What are they? _____

Pedestrian Areas

Location _____

- | | Yes | No |
|---|-------|-------|
| • Are there difficulties seeing pedestrians at school bus stops? | _____ | _____ |
| • Are there narrow streets with parked vehicles where children may run into the street? | _____ | _____ |
| • Are there areas of heavy pedestrian congestion, e.g., shopping and business areas? | _____ | _____ |

Other Conditions Identified in Local Area

Location _____

- | | Yes | No |
|---|-------|-------|
| • Are there unique roadway conditions? | _____ | _____ |
| • Are there roads without guardrails that pose a danger, e.g., next to rivers, lakes, quarries? | _____ | _____ |
| • Are there dirt or gravel roads that could affect braking? | _____ | _____ |
| • Others? | _____ | _____ |
| What are they? _____ | | |
| • Are there roadway conditions that make it difficult to make a “right turn on red?” | _____ | _____ |
| What are they? _____ | | |
| • Are there areas with visibility problems due to industrial smoke, air quality, etc.? | _____ | _____ |
| • Are there areas where emergency equipment operate on a regular basis, e.g., fire stations or hospitals? | _____ | _____ |