

# Safety Pilot Project

## Temporary Road Closure for Oakridge Elementary School Drop-off/Pick-up: 24th St S between S Ode St & S Nash St

- **Project Description:** In partnership with Arlington Public Schools (APS), the Department of Environmental Services (DES) is piloting a temporary lane closure along 24th St S between S Ode St and S Nash St, to improve arrival and dismissal operations at Oakridge Elementary School. This temporary street closure will be in effect 30 minutes prior to the start of school (8:30am to 9:00am) and 30 minutes prior to dismissal (3:20pm to 3:50pm). Cones and signage will be used for the temporary closure and to allow easy access for local traffic, emergency vehicles, and school buses. While local traffic is permitted (including access to driveways), drivers can bypass the temp closure using S Pierce St, 23rd Rd S, and S Nash St. S Ode St is also available as a turn-around for vehicles.
- **Safety Need:** DES-Transportation designed this road closure plan based on requests from APS staff, in response to concerns for pedestrian safety and challenges with bus operations. This pilot will help improve safety and access for pedestrians, bikers, and bus riders as they arrive and dismiss from school, as well as enhance the safety and efficiency of school bus operations.
- **Pilot Timeline:**
  - The temporary lane closure operations began on Monday, August 29, 2022.
  - The pilot is designed so that change or remove of the materials is easy if the pilot does not function as intended. Staff from APS, Police, and DES-Transportation will monitor safety and usage through Fall/Winter 2022 and suggest changes as appropriate.
  - Staff will gather observations and community feedback in late 2022 and use findings to identify next steps for pilot application at Oakridge and other schools in Arlington.

Temporary road closure signs will be in place for 30 minutes during school arrival and dismissal.

