

# Sidewalk Improvements Fremont ES

## Summary

At Fremont Elementary School, sidewalks on campus will be improved under this grant, as well as off campus along Saliman Road under the Carson City Public Works grant application. The entire project is included here because the two parts complement each other. The school entry from the Saliman crosswalk and from along Saliman leads to overgrown vegetation, a narrow sidewalk along the bus loop, and a fence with obscure gates. The sidewalk, fencing, and vegetation will be improved to offer a welcoming and safer entry into the school.

## Sidewalk Improvements

Students using the crosswalk across Saliman Rd (which is staffed with a crossing guard) are met with an unwelcoming entrance to the school. The crosswalk ends at a wide radius corner, exposing the students to vehicles exiting the bus loop. Vehicles exiting must creep out in order to see around overgrown vegetation, and causes them to encroach on the crosswalk. A narrow sidewalk overgrown with vegetation pushes students into the bus loop roadway, and leads to narrow, in-obvious gates in the fence.



*unwelcoming entrance from Saliman*

Students using the crosswalk across Firebox Rd mostly follow the sidewalk east toward the front school entrance, even though they must enter by the playground area rather than the front entrance. This route exposes them to conflicts with vehicles entering and exiting the main parking lot, which is also used as a vehicle holding area for drop-off and pick-up. The existing sidewalk is five feet wide, but the practical width is reduced by vegetation which has overgrown the sidewalk. Students avoid this route because they feel unsafe with the Saliman traffic, and because it seems like a less clear and welcoming entry to the school.

The sidewalk improvement project does not address the congestion on Firebox Rd. Rather, students will be discouraged from using the sidewalk on the south side of Firebox Rd, which leads to a crosswalk over the parking lot entrance, which is very unsafe for students. No engineering solution for this challenge has been developed, so it is best to move students away from the vehicles until the vehicles can be moved away from the students with future projects.



*narrow overgrown sidewalk on Saliman*

This engineering project is in two parts:

- A. Widen the sidewalk on Saliman Rd; this area is mostly or entirely with the public right-of-way and will be placed in the Carson City Public Works grant application.
- B. Widen the sidewalk from the crosswalk to the school fence and install a new wider gate aligned with this sidewalk; this area is entirely on the school campus and will be placed in the Carson City School District grant application.

**A. Widen sidewalk on Saliman Rd**

This project will widen the sidewalk from Firebox Rd to the school bus loop exit.

- 1. The existing sidewalk will be widened from five to eight feet (2.4m) for a linear distance of about 230 feet. The wider sidewalk will also provide additional wait areas for both the Saliman and the Firebox crosswalks, both of which are currently too small. The boundary between the public right-of-way for Saliman and the school district property has not been determined, but it is possible that the new sidewalk would be partially on school property.
- 2. All vegetation in the strip between the sidewalk and the main school parking lot would be trimmed to increase visibility and connection with the school. Unhealthy trees and shrubs will be removed and replaced with single stem trees and lower growing ground cover. Vegetation expenses will be on the school district grant application. Some irrigation system may need to be removed or replaced.
- 3. A crosswalk will be painted across the bus loop exit. This route is not normally used by students, but it is a reminder for vehicles of pedestrians crossing here.

**Cost**

sidewalk concrete, including installation, \$10/sqft, 230 x 3 = 690	6900
crosswalk paint, including installation	200
<b>subtotal, part A</b>	<b>\$7100</b>

**B. Widen sidewalk entrance to the school**

This project will widen the sidewalk directly from the crosswalk into the school playground area, with a new wider gate in the fence for entry.

- 1. The existing sidewalk will be widened from five to eight feet (2.4m), and will continue on a straight line of sight to and through the school campus fence. This will be about 40 feet of widened sidewalk, and about 20 feet of new 8 foot sidewalk.
- 2. All vegetation in the area between the sidewalk and the main school parking lot will be removed, with the exception of existing, healthy, single-stem trees. This area will be replanted with low-growing vegetation which is bred to remain below the eye level of students. Some single-stem trees will be planted to replace visibility-reducing multiple-stem trees. Vegetation south of the bus loop exit will be trimmed to increase visibility so that vehicles exiting the loop do not need to creep into the crosswalk to see.
- 3. A new gate will be placed in the campus fence, the same width as the sidewalk (8 feet) and in direct line of sight with it. A new fence will be installed from the corner of the existing campus fence towards Saliman Rd to isolate the entrance from the parking lot, preventing students from cutting across the parking lot which is dangerous. The fence will be 4 feet high by 40 linear feet.

**Cost**

sidewalk concrete, including installation, \$10/sqft, $40 \times 3 = 120 + 20 \times 8 = 160 = 280$	2800
new gate, two 4 foot sections, associated hardware	200
new fence, 4 x 40, associated posts and hardware	300
gate and fence installation	200
plants, including installation	500
<b>subtotal, part B</b>	<b>\$4000</b>

**F.H.**

