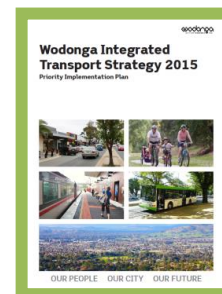


## Healthy Together Wodonga: *Smart Steps* Workshop

### Background

[Healthy Together Wodonga](#) provided Victoria Walks the opportunity to showcase [Smart Steps](#) and [Walking Maps](#) to local school communities as part of its broader strategy to promote and support active travel for Wodonga. Teachers, parents and students attended a comprehensive “hands-on” workshop to learn about the resources and to determine how they could be used to support the unique requirements of their school.



### The “Walkshop”



A path to nowhere! No crossing point.

Participants were provided an overview of Walking Maps and the opportunity to explore all its features and functions. Students enjoyed using the technology and they quickly managed to create a practice route of their own design.

The group then walked a chosen route focusing on the “walkability” around Frayne College. Participants could observe and experience first-hand what factors made a path “good or bad for walking”. Students identified and took photos of walkability issues and general points of interest along the way.

On return to the classroom, students honed their mapping skills, learned how to upload photos and show hazards along the route. The importance of providing good text for each point of interest was also discussed. Some groups mapped the route they had walked, while others chose to map a walk that was relevant to their school. For example, Frayne College students mapped a “Nature Walk” that exists within their school grounds. (Students have a walking club that walks this route during lunchtime.)

### Outcomes

Students, parents and teachers developed the knowledge and skills to share with their school communities and identified preliminary plans as to how Victoria Walks resources may assist them to take action in their school. These include:

**Frayne College:** is looking to create a “Stop and Drop” route to ease traffic congestion around the school and to encourage students to walk part of the way. Frayne College intends to apply for funding to assist with the possible installation of route markers and infrastructure improvements.

**Barandudu Primary School:** is very keen to promote active travel for students. However, current walkability concerns pose real impediments to this, so students plan to use their map as evidence to highlight infrastructure issues to council in an effort to work towards long term improvement strategies.

**St Monica’s Primary School:** intends to promote “Part Way is OK” and map a route that links St Monica’s to the transport hub at Wodonga Senior Secondary College.

**Victory College:** Already a keen supporter of active travel, are looking to map and publicise preferred routes to school.



School in the distance – no path!

### Opportunities for schools

Victoria Walks is keen to support efforts to “get students walking” and is able to provide similar workshops for schools in Healthy Together Communities or those registered for the Achievement Program. These workshops can be offered for students, teachers and parents and will be tailored to suit school requirements.

Contact Leigh Cawood (9662 3975 or [htc@victoriawalks.org.au](mailto:htc@victoriawalks.org.au)) for more information.