



Jefferson Elementary

1701 4th Avenue S, Fargo, ND 58103

DISTRICT

Fargo Public School District #1

GRADES

K-5

AVERAGE ENROLLMENT

302

ARRIVAL

8:20 a.m.

DISMISSAL

2:42 p.m.

Existing Conditions

Jefferson Elementary is a kindergarten through 5th grade school in the Fargo Public School District. It is located approximately one mile southeast of Downtown Fargo in the city's Jefferson/Carl Ben Eielson Neighborhood. The neighborhood consists primarily of residential single-family and multifamily, as well as commercial and light industrial land uses. Within the Jefferson boundaries, the per capita income is the second lowest in the district and median household income is the fourth lowest in the district. More than 75 percent of students are eligible for free and reduced lunch programs. Nearly 20 percent of students participate in English Language Learners programs.

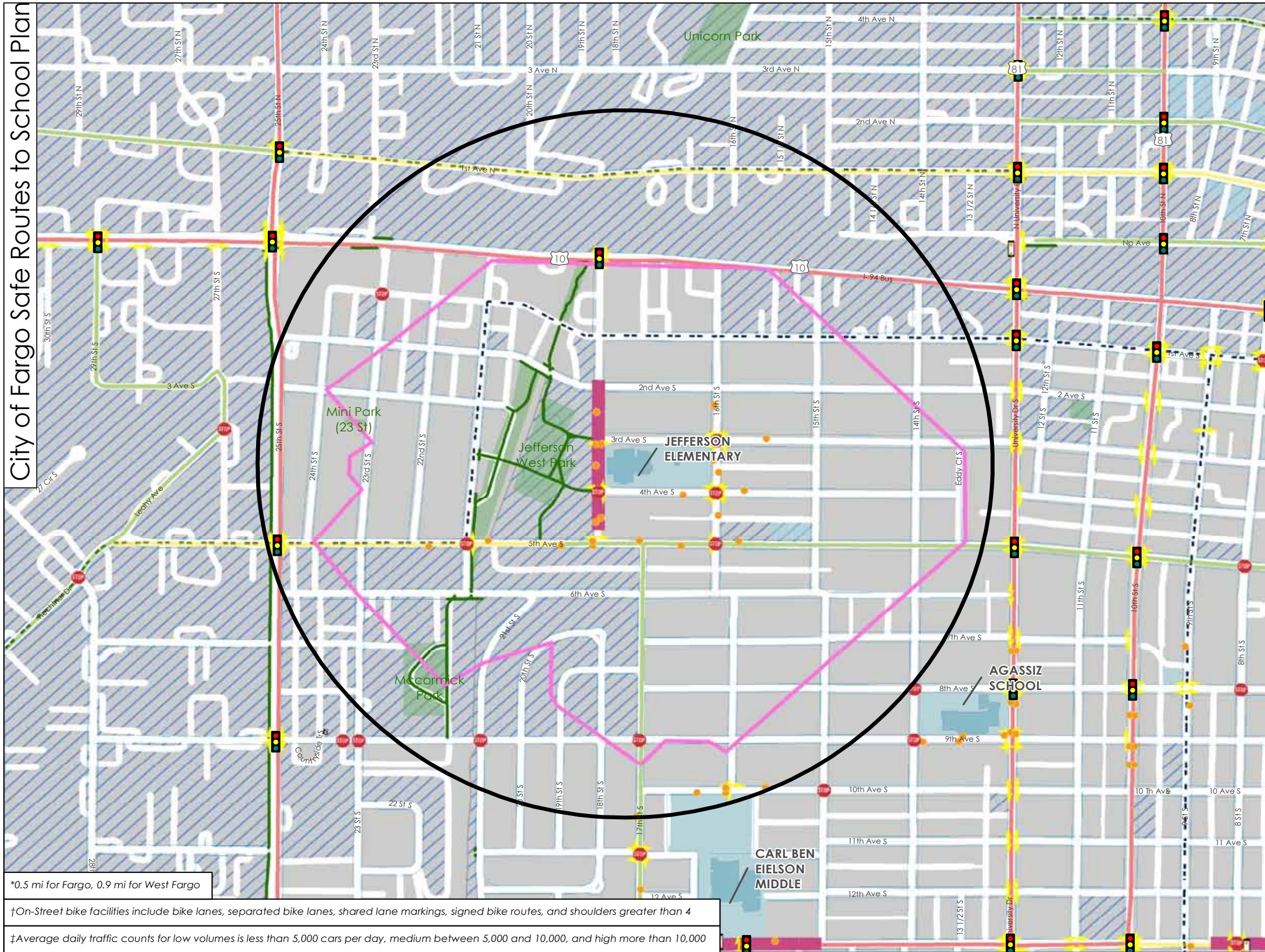
The Jefferson Elementary facility was constructed in 1921. In 2007, it underwent a major renovation and expansion to accommodate the closing of Carl Ben Eielson Elementary. The Jefferson campus is bound by 18th Street S to the west, 3rd Avenue S to

the north, 16th Street S to the east, and 4th Avenue S to the south. The roads surrounding the building consist of low traffic volume local roads with access to Jefferson West Park to the west of the elementary. There is a designated school speed zone on 18th Street S west of the school between 2nd Avenue S and 5th Avenue S. There are multiple sidewalk gaps along 18th Street S as noted by challenges G and H.

On campus, there is a bike rack located at the northern entrance. It is a comb style rack that does not allow for locking of the frame and can result in wheel damage. The north doors remain locked during student arrival.



- ▲ *At the 5th Avenue S and 18th Street S intersection, high traffic speeds, volumes, and poor driver yielding behavior suggests an opportunity for improved crossing facilities.*



*0.5 mi for Fargo, 0.9 mi for West Fargo

†On-Street bike facilities include bike lanes, separated bike lanes, shared lane markings, signed bike routes, and shoulders greater than 4

‡Average daily traffic counts for low volumes is less than 5,000 cars per day, medium between 5,000 and 10,000, and high more than 10,000

Existing Conditions Jefferson Elementary

- School Study Areas*
- Walk Zones
- Building Footprints
- School Grounds
- Park
- Environmental Justice Areas
- School Speed Zone
- Shared Use Path
- On-Street Bike Facility†
- Sidewalk
- Crosswalk
- Pedestrian Crossing Sign
- 4-Way Stop Sign
- HAWK Signal
- Other Flashing Sign
- Signalized Intersection

Traffic Volumes‡

- Low
- Medium
- High



Circulation Challenges

The neighborhood context of the Jefferson Elementary school supports kids walking and biking to school. Many students, and caregivers of students, that do walk and bike to school identified 5th Avenue S as a barrier, with multiple challenging crossing locations due to observed high traffic speeds and long crossing distances. Some of these intersections are at 16th Street S, 17th Street S, 18th Street S, and 21st Street S. Despite the posted speed limit of 25 miles per hour, the field observation identified poor driver yielding behavior and speeding across the corridor.

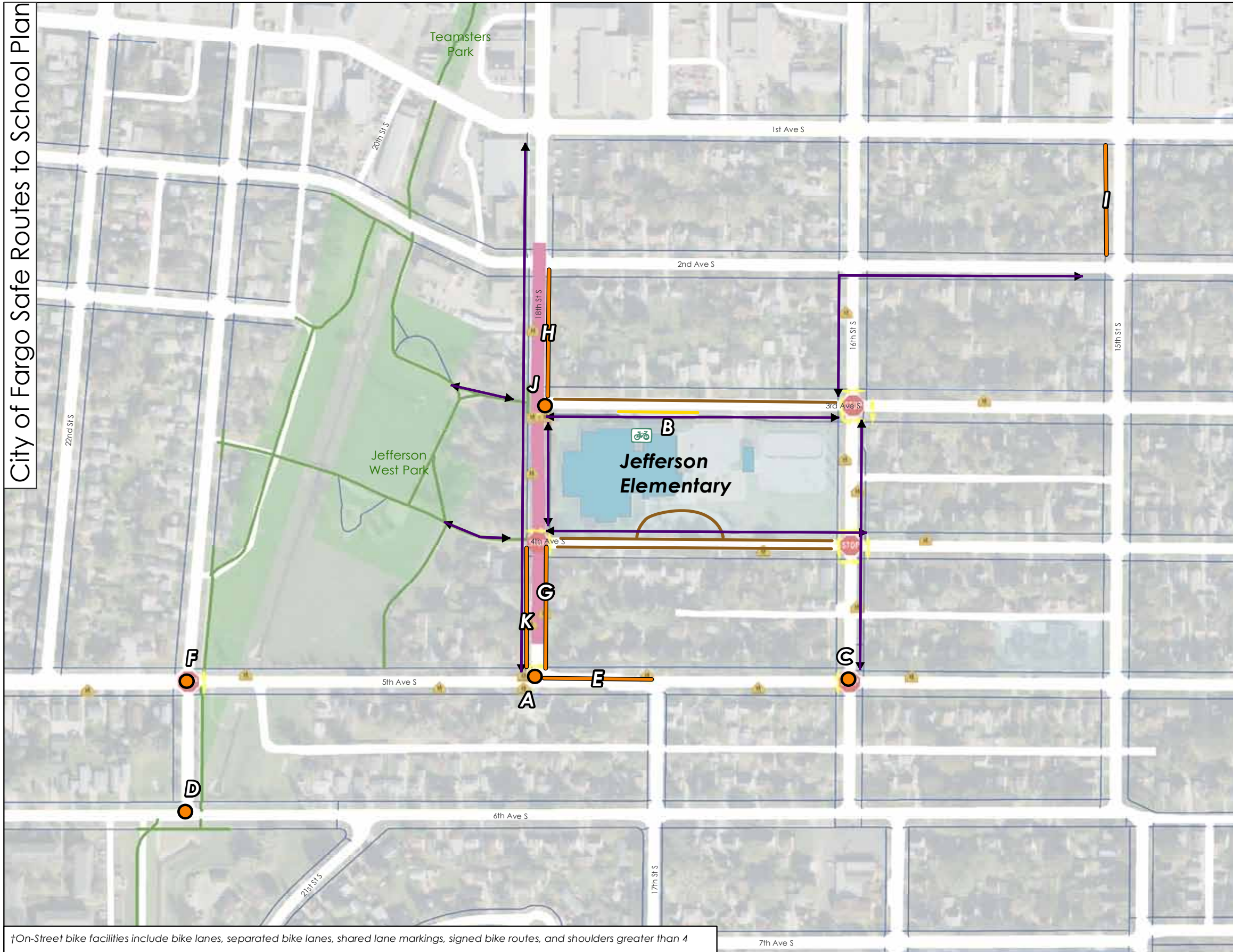
There were also multiple locations with missing sidewalks including 18th Street S between 2nd Avenue S and 3rd Avenue S and between 4th Avenue S and 5th Avenue S. Additional sidewalk gaps were identified along 15th Street S between 1st Avenue S and 2nd Avenue S. Deteriorating/heaving sidewalks were identified along the west side of 18th Street S between 4th Avenue S and 5th Avenue S which limits mobility for users of all abilities.

Some students were observed crossing 18th Street S midblock between 5th Avenue S and 4th Avenue S. No parking signs are posted on the north side of the street. Student teachers park on the south side of 4th Avenue S adjacent to Jefferson. Parents were observed dropping students off on the north side of 4th Avenue S in the morning and queuing along the north side of 4th Avenue S in the afternoon for pickup. This caused some visibility issues for people crossing to vehicles on the south side of the street, but also calmed traffic on the street by narrowing available driving space.

Parents and caregivers also voiced concern about safety and crime.

JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY CHALLENGES

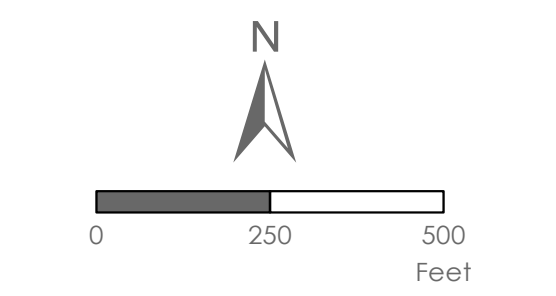
LOCATION	CHALLENGE
A 5th Ave S / 18th St S	Long crossing distances Poor driver yielding behavior
B North side of school	Comb style rack does not allow locking of frame and can lead to wheel damage
C 5th Ave S / 16th St S	Long crossing distances Poor driver yielding behavior
D 6th Ave S / 21st St S	Primary crossing for students accessing mobile homes and public housing to the southwest
E 5th Ave S between 18th St S and 17th St S	Roadway widens to include right turn lanes for one block Long crossing distances
F 21st St S / 5th Ave S	Primary crossing for students accessing mobile homes and public housing to the southwest Long crossing distances
G 18th St S between 4th Ave S and 5th Ave S, east side	Sidewalk gap
H 18th St S between 2nd Ave S and 3rd Ave S	Sidewalk gap
I 15th St S between 1st Ave S and 2nd Ave S	Sidewalk gap
J 3rd Ave S / 18th St S	Long crossing distances Poor driver yielding behavior
K 18th St S between 4th Ave S and 5th Ave S, west side	Sidewalk pavement heaves and creates tripping hazard



Observed Circulation & Challenges Jefferson Elementary

- Key***
- Bus Circulation
 - Challenge
 - Shared Bus and Vehicle Lane
 - Vehicle Drop-off and Pick-up
 - ↔ Observed Walking and Biking Routes
 - Bike Rack
 - Challenge

- Existing Infrastructure***
- Building Footprints
 - School Grounds
 - School Speed Zones
 - On-Street Bike Facility†
 - Sidewalk
 - Shared Use Path
 - ⚡ Crosswalk Marking
 - Signalized Intersection
 - HAWK Signal
 - Other Flashing Sign
 - Pedestrian Crossing Sign
 - 4-Way Stop Sign



†On-Street bike facilities include bike lanes, separated bike lanes, shared lane markings, signed bike routes, and shoulders greater than 4

Opportunities for Improvement

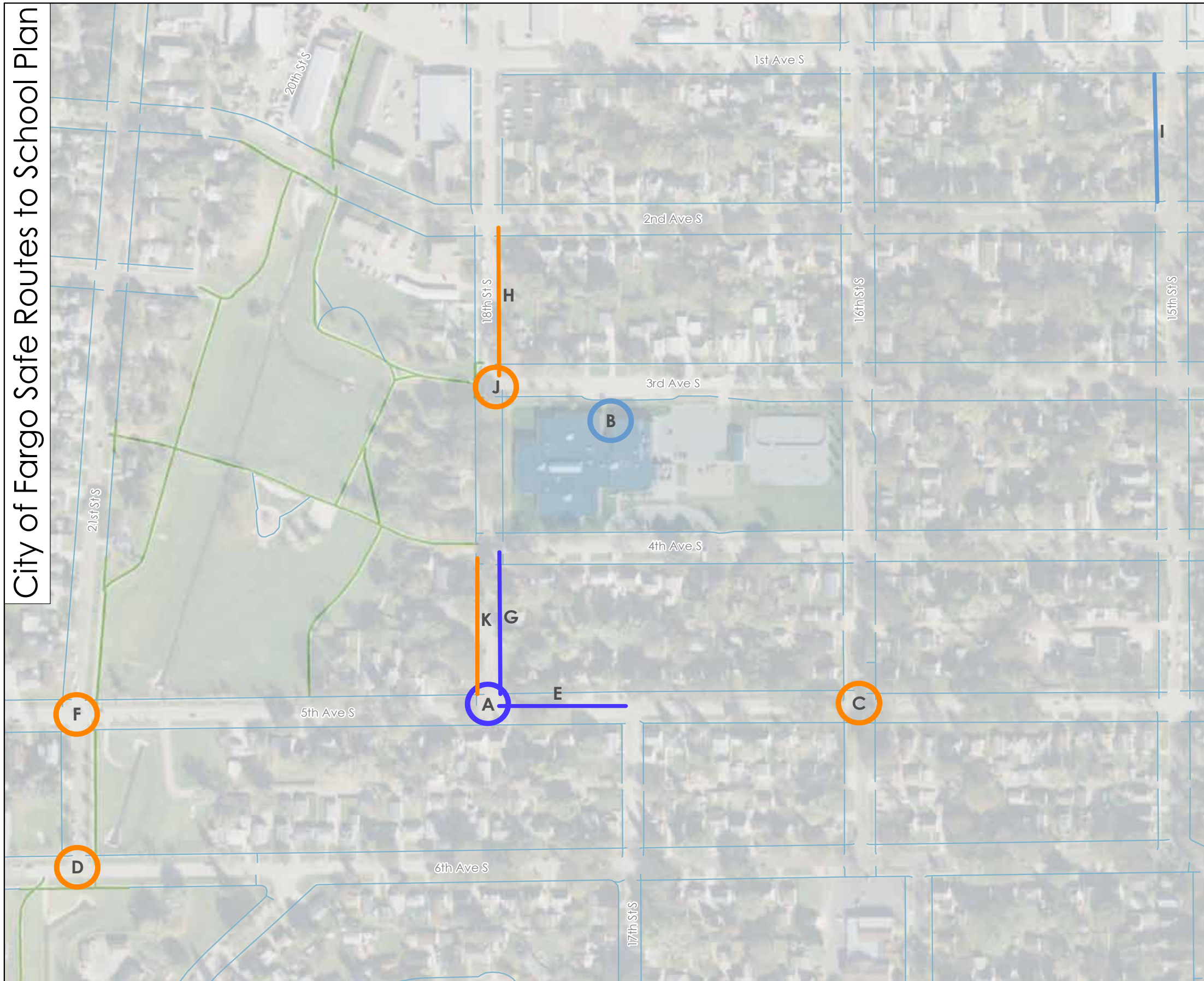
Key infrastructure opportunities for improvement near Jefferson Elementary include filling sidewalk gaps along 18th Street S and improving intersections for pedestrians along 5th Avenue S. Sidewalk gap projects and crossing improvements at uncontrolled intersections along 5th Avenue S were prioritized due to the proximity to school, traffic safety risk, and number of students served.

When the sidewalk gap on 18th Street S between 5th Avenue S and 4th Avenue S is filled, there will be an opportunity to relocate the marked pedestrian crossing at 5th Avenue S and 18th Avenue S to align with the new sidewalk, provide a more direct connection to Jefferson, and eliminate the need for students traveling from the south to cross 18th Street S.













Intersection improvements are also recommended at 21st Street S and 6th Avenue S where an existing trail crosses 6th Avenue S. Crossing improvements at this location will better serve students who live in the mobile home park and multifamily housing southwest of Jefferson Elementary.

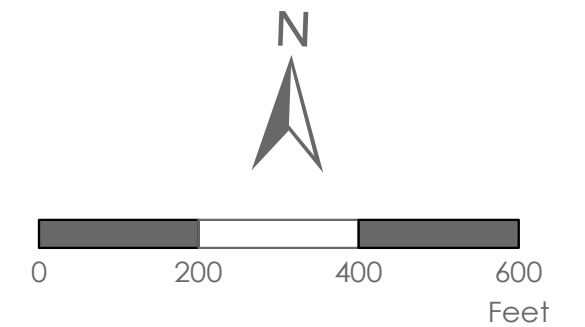
Opportunities for improvement for bicycle parking include upgrading existing racks on the north side of the building and installing additional bike parking on the south side to increase convenience for the majority of students who live south of Jefferson Elementary.

JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT			
LOCATION	POTENTIAL SOLUTION	LEAD AGENCY	IMPACT
A 5th Ave S / 18th St S	Consider geometric improvements such as curb extensions or a median safety island (prioritize 5th Ave S crossings); consider removing westbound to northbound right turn lane; install an RRFB; coordinate with G	City of Fargo	High
B North side of school	Install bike parking to provide two points of contact with bicycle frame (e.g., Inverted U or Post and Ring style rack); consider installing additional bicycle parking on south side of school	Fargo Public Schools	Low
C 5th Ave S / 16th St S	Install high visibility crosswalks; install forward stop bars; consider curb extensions (prioritize 5th Ave S crossings)	City of Fargo	Medium
D 6th Ave S / 21st St S	Install high visibility crosswalks; install forward stop bars; consider curb extensions or raised crosswalk (prioritize east crossing)	City of Fargo	Medium
E 5th Ave S between 18th St S and 17th St S	Consider removing eastbound to southbound and westbound to northbound right turn lanes; install geometric improvements such as curb extensions or a median safety island; install high visibility crosswalks	City of Fargo	High
F 21st St S / 5th Ave S	Install high visibility crosswalks; install forward stop bars; consider curb extensions or raised crosswalk (prioritize east crossing)	City of Fargo	Medium
G 18th St S between 4th Ave S and 5th Ave S, east side	Install sidewalk to fill existing gap on east side	City of Fargo	High
H 18th St S between 2nd Ave S and 3rd Ave S	Install sidewalk to fill existing gap on east side	City of Fargo	Medium
I 15th St S between 1st Ave S and 2nd Ave S	Install sidewalk to fill existing gap on west side	City of Fargo	Low
J 3rd Ave S / 18th St S	Install high visibility crosswalks	City of Fargo	Medium
K 18th St S between 4th Ave S and 5th Ave S, west side	Repair or replace heaving sidewalk pavement	City of Fargo	Medium

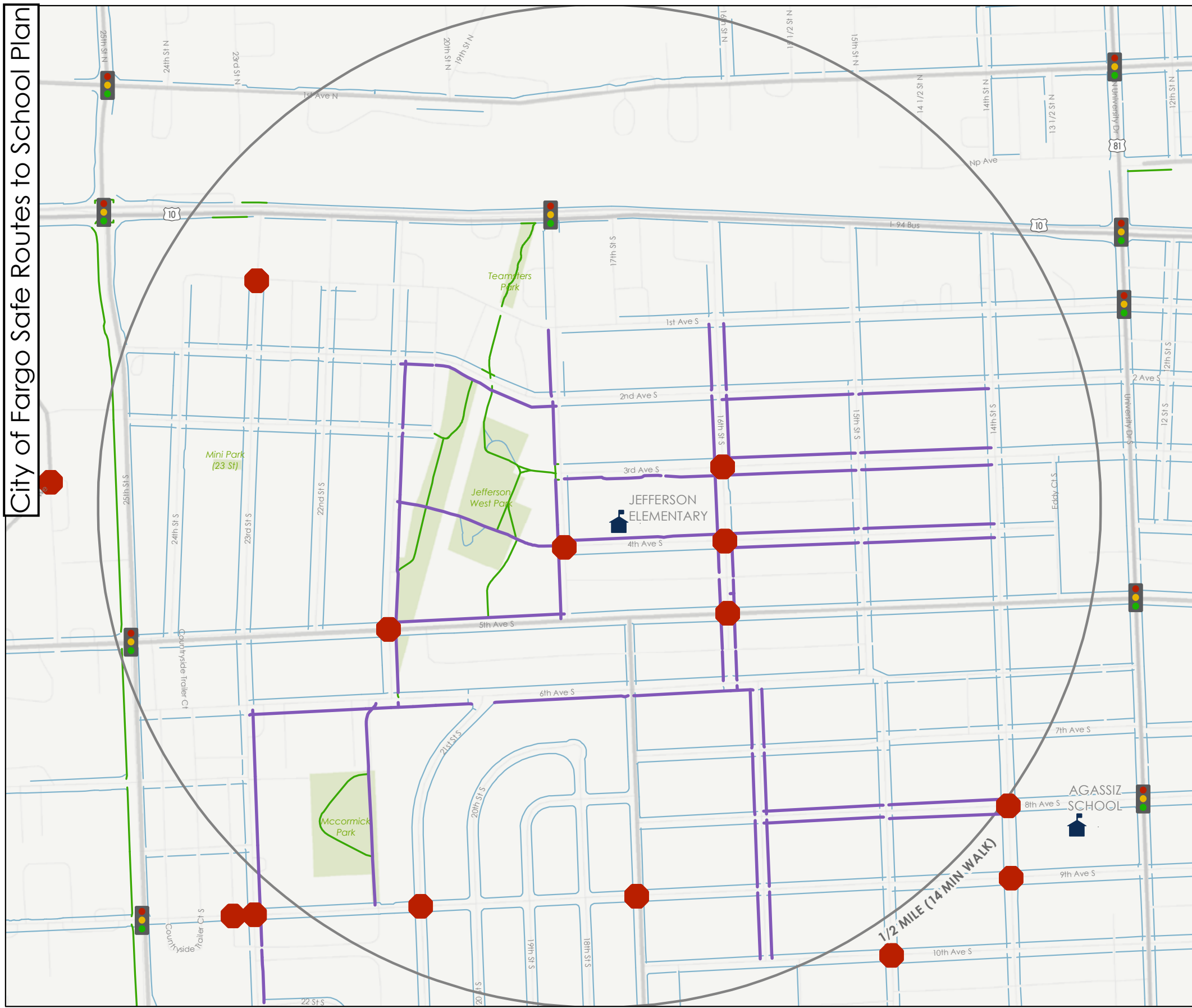


Infrastructure Opportunities Jefferson Elementary

-  Opportunities for Improvement Locations
-  High Impact
-  Medium Impact
-  Low Impact
-  Opportunities for Improvement Segments
-  High Impact
-  Medium Impact
-  Low Impact
-  Shared Use Path
-  Sidewalk
-  Building footprint
-  School grounds



City of Fargo Safe Routes to School Plan



Suggested Routes to School
Jefferson Elementary

- Suggested routes
- Sidewalks
- Shared Use Path
- All-way stops
- Traffic signal
- Pedestrian crossing signal

