



# Hawthorne Elementary

555 8th Avenue S, Fargo, ND 58103

## DISTRICT

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Fargo Public School  
District #1

## GRADES

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K-2

## AVERAGE ENROLLMENT

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400 (with Clara Barton)

## ARRIVAL

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8:20 a.m.

## DISMISSAL

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2:42 p.m.

### Existing Conditions

Hawthorne Elementary is a kindergarten through 2nd grade school in the Fargo Public School District. It is located just under one mile south of Downtown Fargo in the city's Hawthorne Neighborhood. The neighborhood consists primarily of residential land uses. Within the Hawthorne boundaries, per capita income is slightly higher than the district average, but median household income is slightly less. Nearly one-quarter of Hawthorne's students are eligible for free and reduced lunch programs. Less than one percent of students participate in English Language Learners programs.

The Hawthorne school facility was constructed in 1958. In 2003, Clara Barton Elementary and Hawthorne Elementary schools were joined together with kindergarten through 2nd grades housed at the Hawthorne campus, while grades 3 through 5 attend Clara Barton Elementary. Prior to 2003, both schools included kindergarten through 5th grade.

The Hawthorne campus is bound by 7th Street S to the west, 6th Avenue S to the north, 5th Street S to the east, and 9th Avenue S to the south. The roads surrounding the building

consist of local roads with primarily localized traffic patterns. There are sidewalks on both sides of the roadway throughout most of the walk zone. Existing major corridors such as 4th Street S and 13th Avenue S have adequate infrastructure in place to account for safe walking corridors to the school site, including a school speed zone on 4th Street S. A pedestrian hybrid beacon (HAWK) signal at the intersection of 4th Street S and 8th Avenue S provides an improved crossing for people coming from neighborhoods east of 4th Street S.

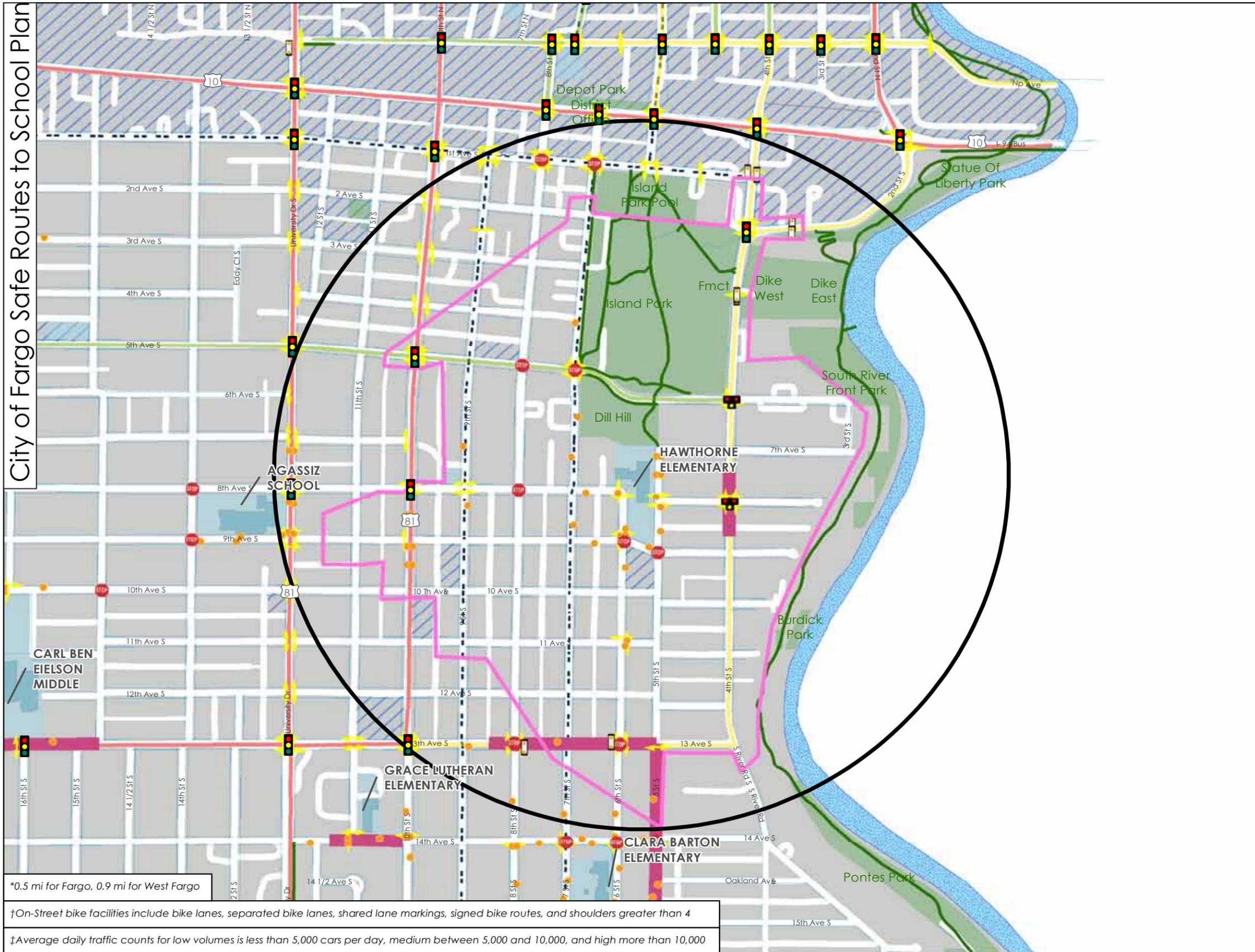
Currently, 13th Avenue S has a school speed zone between 5th Street S and 9th Street S and a four-way controlled stop with a marked pedestrian crossing at 6th Street S. Another school speed zone exists along 4th Street S between 7th Avenue S and 9th Avenue S. The conditions on the south end of the study area ensure good connectivity throughout the Hawthorne area, and provide safe pedestrian and bike mobility between the paired campuses.



▲ Parents park along 6th Street S during arrival and dismissal, resulting in visibility issues for students who use the crosswalk to 8th Avenue S.



▲ The 8th Avenue S and 10th Street S intersection was observed having high speeds and high traffic volumes. Pavement markings have faded and the intersection does not include lead pedestrian interval.



\*0.5 mi for Fargo, 0.9 mi for West Fargo

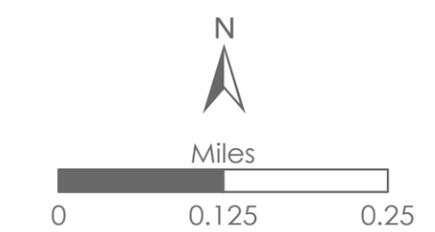
†On-Street bike facilities include bike lanes, separated bike lanes, shared lane markings, signed bike routes, and shoulders greater than 4

‡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 Hawthorne 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

\*Hawthorne serves grades K-2



## Circulation Challenges

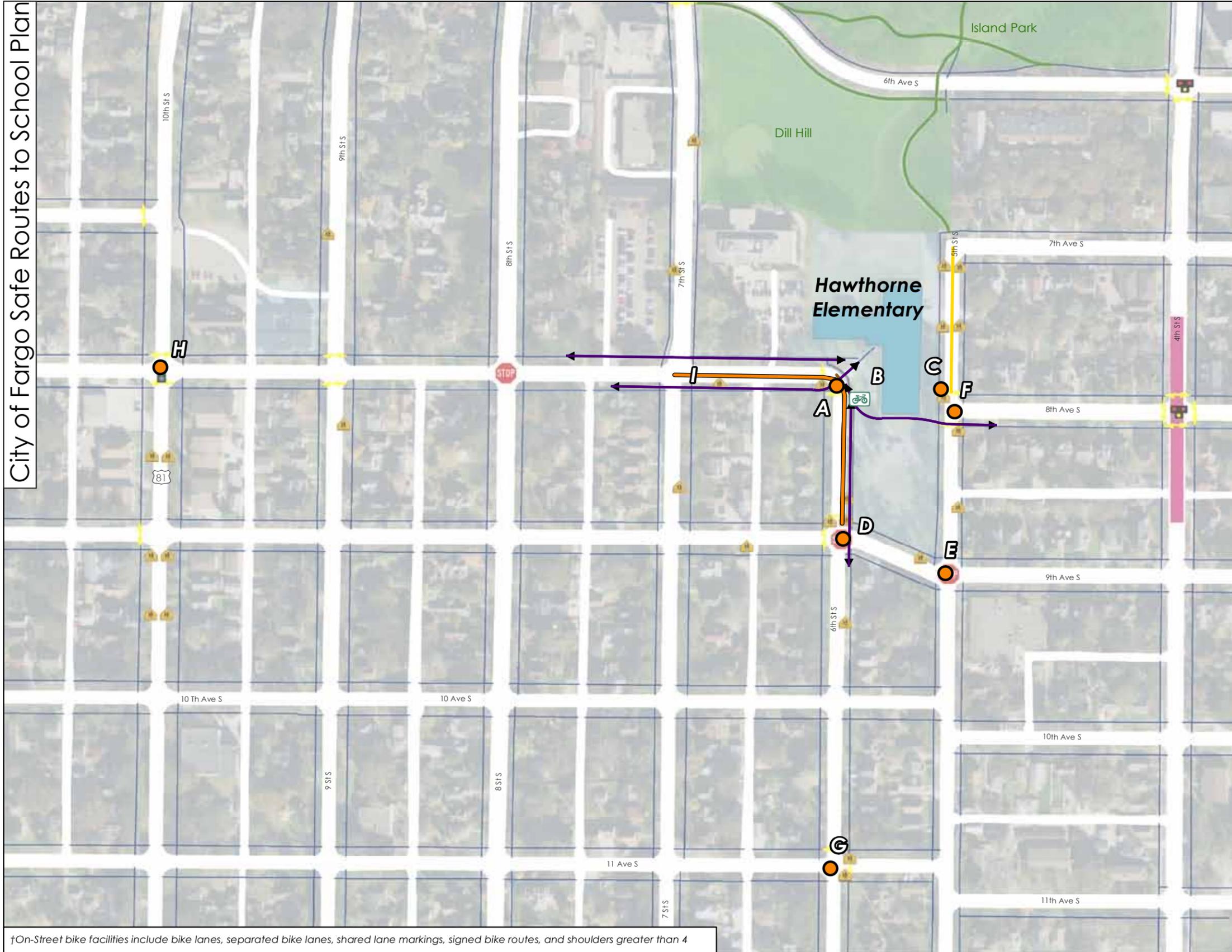
Given its location in a walkable neighborhood, Hawthorne students and families cross relatively low traffic and low speed roads. Field observations indicated a large share of students biking and walking to the school site, many with an accompanying parent.

The 6th Street S corridor is viewed as a primary north-south circulation route to the campus, also providing a link to Hawthorne's paired school of Clara Barton Elementary. The 9th Avenue S intersection is skewed and multiple intersections have inconsistent crosswalk markings.

Parents and caregivers dropping students off and picking them up creates congestion surrounding the school grounds. Parked vehicles encroach on the crosswalk space along 6th Street S and school buses encroach on the crosswalk space on 5th Street S. This creates potential safety challenges for students crossing 6th Street S and 5th Street S. Enhancing the walking and biking connections to Clara Barton Elementary should be considered and prioritized.

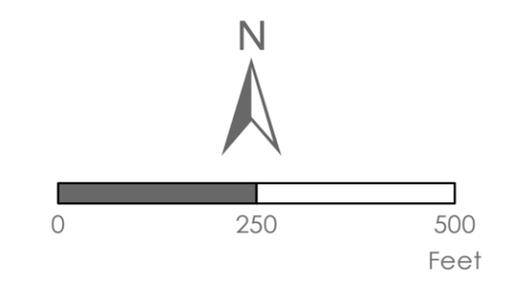
### HAWTHORNE ELEMENTARY CHALLENGES

LOCATION	CHALLENGE
<b>A</b> 6th St S / 8th Ave S	Congestion during arrival and dismissal ..... Parked vehicles encroach on the crosswalk space ..... Faded crosswalk markings ..... People walking must go out of their desired path to cross 6th and 8th ..... Accessible parking is poorly marked
<b>B</b> Main entrance	Comb style bike rack does not allow locking of frame and can lead to wheel damage
<b>C</b> Bus Drop	Vehicle encroachment into crosswalks
<b>D</b> 9th Ave S / 6th St S	Long crossing distances at skewed intersection
<b>E</b> 9th Ave S / 5th St S	Long crossing distances at skewed intersection
<b>F</b> 8th Ave S / 5th St S	No signal or stop signs
<b>G</b> 11th Ave S / 6th St S	No crosswalk marking
<b>H</b> 8th Ave S / 10th St S	Long crossing distances ..... No leading pedestrian interval ..... Faded crosswalk markings
<b>I</b> 6th St S & 8th Ave S	Poor visibility of people walking outside school ..... General confusion and illegibility for road users



### Observed Circulation & Challenges Hawthorne 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



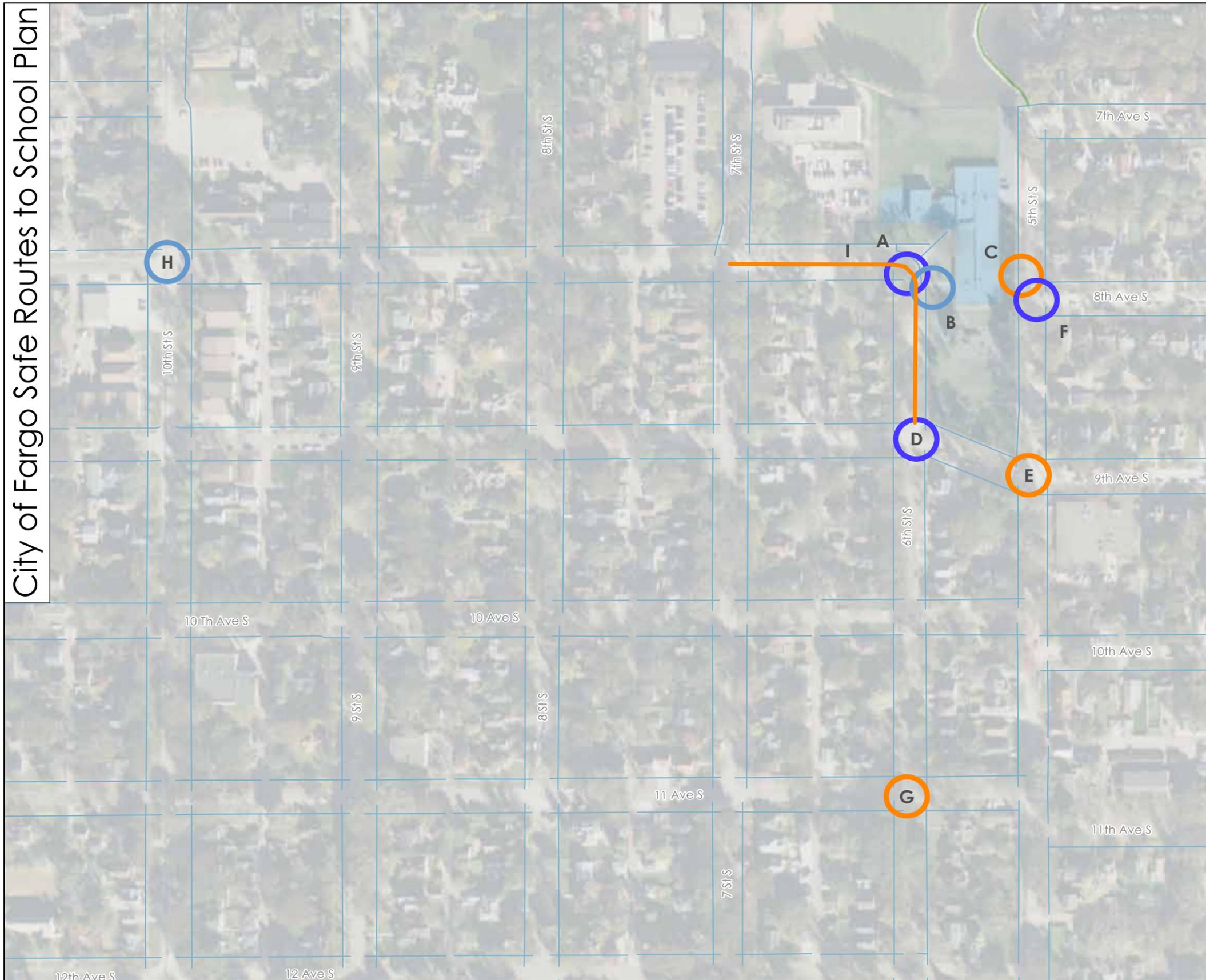
**METROCOG**  
\*Legend Common to All Maps -  
Not all Features Present on All Maps

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

## Opportunities for Improvement

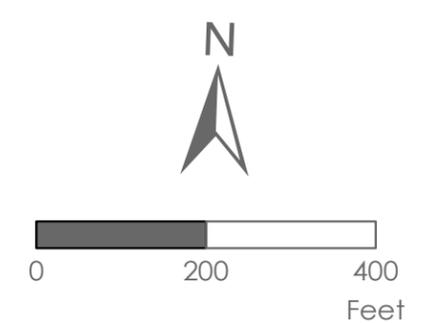
The major challenge students and families face while walking and biking to Hawthorne is the area immediately outside school on 6th Street S/8th Avenue S. The congestion and general lack of delineated space makes the area confusing and uncomfortable for anyone in the area. By installing a raised crosswalk diagonally across the intersection from the school site to the west corner, the city would provide a clear path for people walking to and from the west of school. A raised crossing would formalize and prioritize the space for people walking and visibility would improve. To further decrease confusion in this area, the city could consider limiting access only to traffic traveling north and west bound by restricting access at the intersection of 9th Avenue S and 6th Street S, effectively making this L-shaped street into a one-way north and west bound. The Hawthorne principal mentioned that the two streets were temporarily turned into a one way during a recent road construction project, and during that time, comfort for people walking and biking was improved.

HAWTHORNE ELEMENTARY OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT			
LOCATION	POTENTIAL SOLUTION	LEAD AGENCY	IMPACT
<b>A</b> 6th St S / 8th Ave S	Install raised crosswalk that crosses diagonally from school property to northwest corner of intersection; install curb extensions on diagonal; consider installing a raised intersection; repaint and maintain accessible parking	City of Fargo	High
<b>B</b> Main entrance	Install bike parking to provide two points of contact with bicycle frame (e.g., Inverted U or Post and Ring style rack)	Fargo Public Schools	Low
<b>C</b> Bus drop	Consider curb extensions on north crossing of 5th St S	City of Fargo; Fargo Public Schools	Medium
<b>D</b> 9th Ave S / 6th St S	Consider limiting access to northbound traffic on 6th St by installing curb extension into current southbound lane; install forward stop bars; install curb extension or median safety island on east crossing of intersection and install marked crosswalk	City of Fargo	High
<b>E</b> 9th Ave S / 5th St S	Install curb extensions or median safety island to shorten crossings (prioritize west and north crossings); install forward stop bars	City of Fargo	Medium
<b>F</b> 8th Ave S / 5th St S	Install stop sign to control traffic on 8th Ave	City of Fargo	High
<b>G</b> 11th Ave S / 6th St S	Install high visibility crosswalk where missing	City of Fargo	Medium
<b>H</b> 8th Ave S / 10th St S	Consider curb extensions on south and east crossings to shorten crossings and decrease curb radii; install high visibility crosswalks where missing; install leading pedestrian interval	City of Fargo	Low
<b>I</b> 6th St S & 8th Ave S	Consider installing diverters to make this a one way north and west bound; coordinate with Locations A, B, & D	City of Fargo; Fargo Public Schools	Medium



### Infrastructure Opportunities Hawthorne 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  
Hawthorne Elementary

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

