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<p><b>Statement</b></p>	<p>Pedestrian safety is the responsibility of the local municipalities.</p> <p>Transportation, as a result of a hazardous situation that is either temporary or cannot be resolved by the local municipality, may be provided if it meets the criteria as set out below.</p>
<p><b>Criteria</b></p>	<p>WESTS uses the following criteria to make a determination on the need for transportation based on a hazardous situation. Each issue in and of itself may not warrant a hazard definition, but a combination of several issues may result in a walking route being identified as "hazardous".</p> <p><b>Volume of Traffic</b> – the volume of traffic is taken into consideration when looking at crossing streets or roads. The Provincial warrants, developed by the Ontario Traffic Conference with the Ministry of Transportation, count the number of vehicles in a five (5) minute period and determine the number of gaps in a five (5) minute period to allow students to cross. Based on these numbers it can be determined if the crossing is a hazard or can be managed with crossing support (guard/patrols) or requires no intervention.</p> <p><b>Number of Travelled Lanes of a road</b> – WESTS looks at the number of travelled lanes a student would cross to walk to school. In most cases, more lanes on a road are an indicator of high traffic volumes.</p> <p><b>Posted Speed Limits</b> –WESTS considers the posted speed limits of a street or road. A safety consideration is given to roads that have speed limits above 70 kph.</p> <p><b>Sidewalks</b> – lack of sidewalks is not a consideration for bus transportation in and of itself. There are numerous communities in the area that by design do not have sidewalks. This is considered in conjunction with other issues.</p> <p>Signalized Intersection or Crossing – the presence of a</p>



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	<p>signalized intersection to allow for a safe crossing of a student in the absence of a crossing guard or student patroller is considered in determining a hazard.</p> <p><b>Physical Barriers</b> – physical barriers such as construction (long term), bridges without sidewalks or railing, unguarded railroad crossings or unprotected waterways are looked at when determining a hazardous situation.</p> <p><b>Grade Level of Student</b> – the grade level and age of the student will be considered in conjunction with the physical issues when looking at a hazard situation.</p>
<b>Procedure</b>	<p>WESTS will assess the walking route based on the above criteria to determine if it is a safe option for the student. If it is deemed a hazard situation the student will be approved for hazard transportation.</p> <p>All historical designations will be reviewed annually to determine if there have been any changes in the criteria to convert the area back to a safe walking situation.</p> <p>Once a hazard situation is identified the student(s) will be provided with transportation and the information will be provided to both the school and the parent/guardian.</p>

Approved by Motion ETC#09-07;Dated: November 20, 2009