





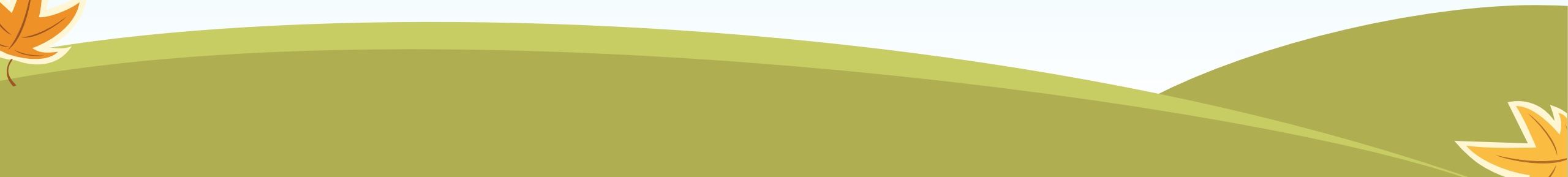


Transportation 2022-2023

April 13, 2022



Transportation Workgroup Representatives

- Teachers
 - Principals
 - Students
 - Parents
 - School Board Members
 - Community Partners
 - Central office staff from special education, secondary activities, and transportation
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SPS Transportation Team

Rebecca Doughty - Executive Director of School Supt Services

Corey Arkle - Transportation Supervisor

Michael Warnecke - Transportation Specialist Lead (General Education)





Dani Galvez - Transportation Specialist Lead (Special Education)









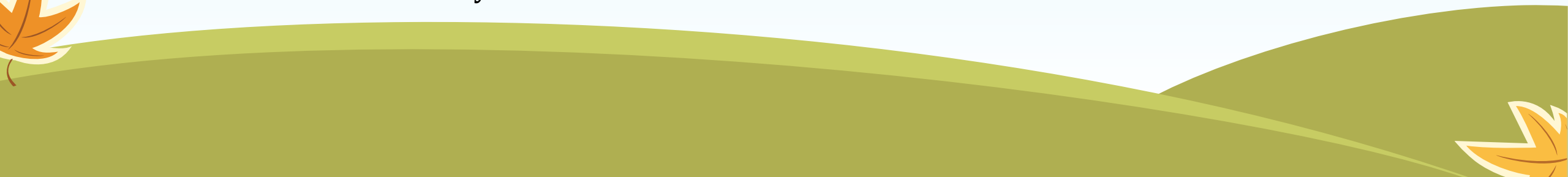
Purpose

School districts across the nation are having to evaluate their transportation models and service options due to the national bus driver shortage.

- Evaluate options to improve transportation for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year to ensure all students are arriving to school or their activities safely and on time.
 - Develop a plan to ensure a more successful school year for students and minimize the potential learning minute loss that could result from transportation challenges.
 - Identify long-term strategies for further exploration and the respective implementation timelines.
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At a Glance

- Spokane Public Schools contracts with Durham School Services to transport:
 - **850** special education and **12,000** general education eligible daily student riders.
 - Average **1,350+** McKinney-Vento eligible students each school year.
 - **9,000+** miles traveled daily.
 - Current total student enrollment is **29,000+**. We transport an average of **35%** of our total student population.
 - Prior to 2020 Durham had **150-158** school bus routes and averaged **170** route drivers.
 - Durham currently has **91** school bus routes and **85** route drivers.
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Short-term Strategy Recommendations

- 1) Increase efficiencies of routes.
 - 2) **Change bus arrival times before & after school to provide more time between tiers. THE DISTRICT IS HOLDING ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS STRATEGY**
 - 3) Expand walk-zone radius from 1.0 mile to 1.5 mile for MS & HS.
 - 4) Increase high school student ridership with STA through partnership.
 - 5) Explore alternative transportation service options for special programs and option programs.
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Strategy 1A: Increase Efficiencies of Routes





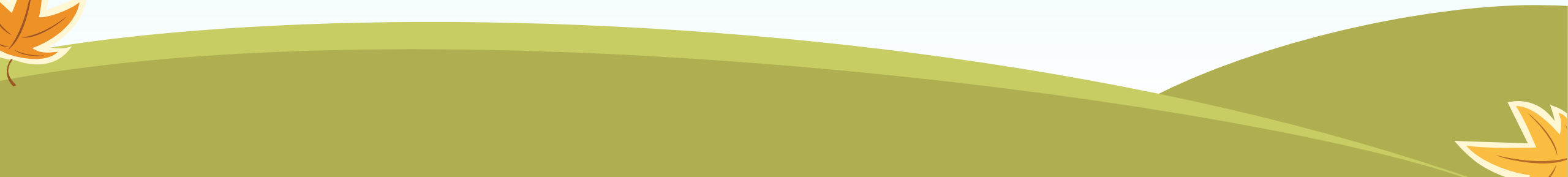
Centralized Area Stops

- Reducing the number of neighborhood stops and creating more centrally located stops deemed safe and accessible. Reducing the number of stops (i.e., **Chase currently has 51 stops**).
 - Students residing within the current 1.0 mile walk boundary average a walk distance of **0.6 miles** to and from school.
 - Students eligible for a school bus walk an average of **0.2 miles** to get to and from a bus stop.
 - Increasing walk-distance to stops to **0.5 miles** will eliminate underutilized stops, increase efficiency and on-time arrival.
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Strategy 1B: Increase Efficiencies of Routes

Enhance Bus Registration Process

- Communicating the need to register for transportation services before the current school year ends.
 - Reinforcing early transportation registration helps to better plan the bus routes for the upcoming school year.
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Strategy 2: Extend Bus Arrival Times

Permitting more time between drop-offs in the morning and pick-ups in the afternoon will allow buses to pick up more riders, be safer, and improve on-time arrivals.



Benefits:

- **Allows for routes to better utilize available capacity per bus.**
- **Better on-time arrival.**
- **More efficient routes.**



Considerations:

- **Impact to schools and community must be evaluated.**
- **May require increased supervision at the schools. Staffing could be a challenge.**

Strategy 2: Extend Bus Arrival Times

THE DISTRICT IS HOLDING ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS STRATEGY



- Changes time between tiers from 10-20 min to 30-40 min

		Current:	Proposed:		Current:	Proposed:	
Tier	Bell Times	Arrive School AM	Arrive School AM	AM Change	Arrive School PM	Arrive School PM	PM Change
High School	8:00-2:30	7:40 AM	7:20 AM	20 min	2:30 PM	2:30 PM	0 min
Elementary	8:30-3:00	8:20 AM	8:10 AM	10 min	3:00 PM	3:10 PM	10 min
Middle School	9:00-3:30	8:40 AM	8:45 AM	5 min	3:30 PM	3:45 PM	15 min

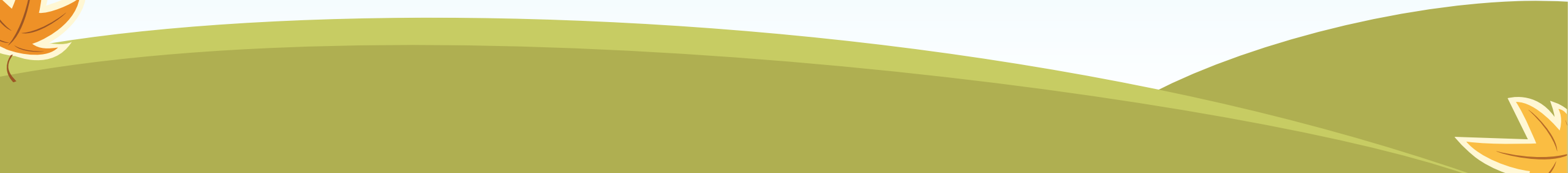




Strategy 3: Expand Walk-Zone Radius

Existing policy

- Students for all grade levels living beyond a **1.0-mile radius** from their neighborhood school are eligible for transportation.
 - Transportation is also provided to students K-12 who live within the specified 1.0-mile radius but whose travel is impeded by a **hazardous area**.
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*The requirements differ for special needs students with transportation as a related service.





Strategy 3: Expand Walk-Zone Radius


- Expand the walk-zone distance from a 1.0-mile to a 1.5-mile radius for MS & HS.
- Elementary walk-zone distance would remain 1.0-mile.



Benefits:

- 1. Fewer riders would reduce route count.**
- 2. Allow consistent service to those that really need a yellow bus.**
- 3. Can continue transportation for all three tiers.**

Considerations:

- 1. Community buy-in.**
 - 2. New Hazardous areas would need to be identified.**
 - 3. May need to hire more crossing guards in some areas. Staffing could be a challenge.**
 - 4. Inclement weather conditions.**
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Strategy 3: Expand Walk Zone

Comparable District Walk-Zone Distances

Seattle Public Schools

- 1 mile for elementary students
- 2 miles for middle school students
- 2 miles for High School students (Transit cards provided for those not in SPED or HEART)

Carpentersville School District (IL)

- 1.5 miles for all grade levels

Kent School District

- 1.34 miles for elementary students
- 1.75 miles for middle school students
- 2 miles for high school students

Beaverton School District (OR)

- 1 mile for elementary students
- 1.5 miles for secondary students

Bethel School District

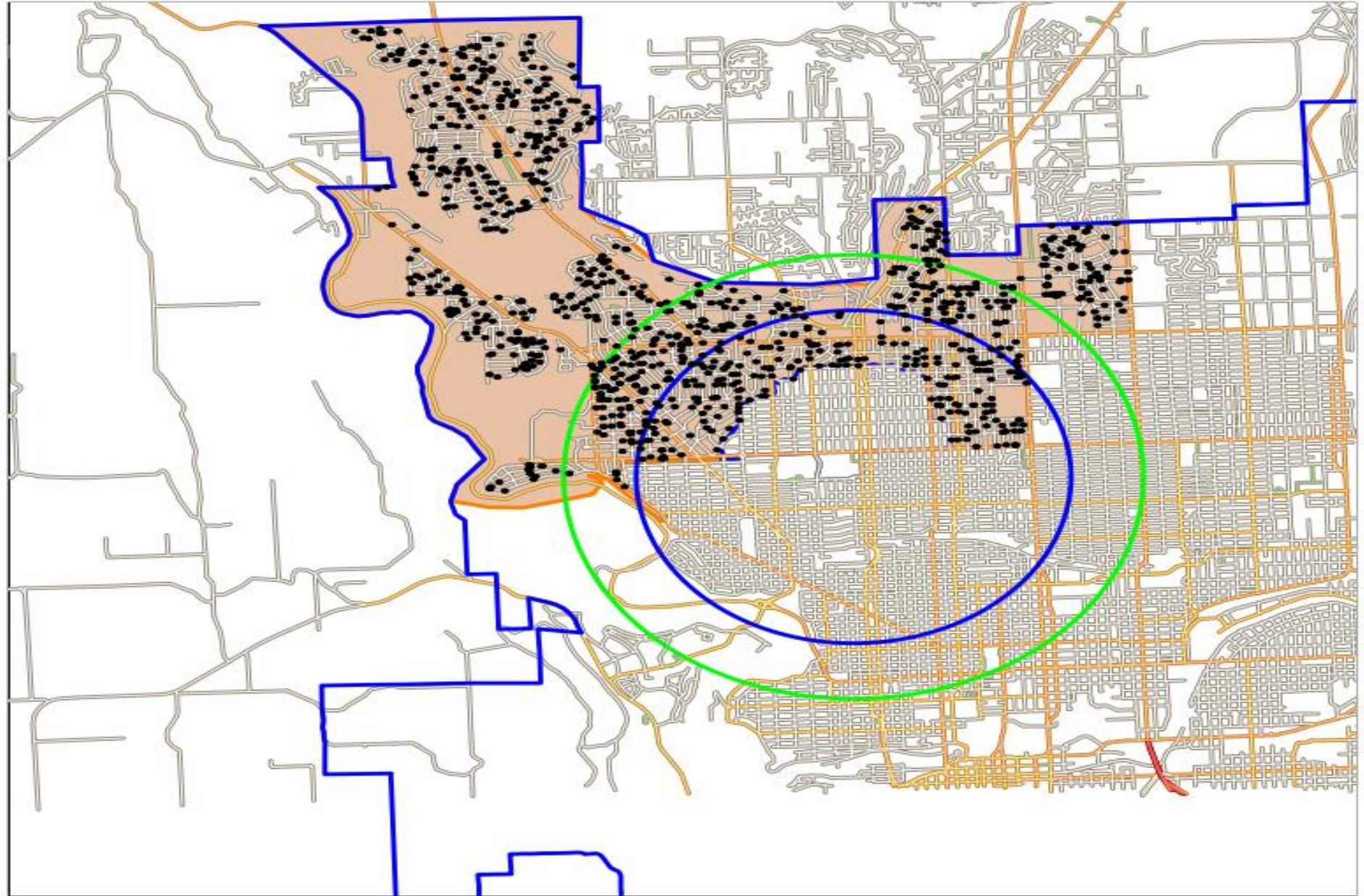
- 1 mile for elementary students
- 2 miles for middle school students
- 2 miles for high school students

Boise and West Ada School Districts (ID)

- 1.5 miles for all grade levels
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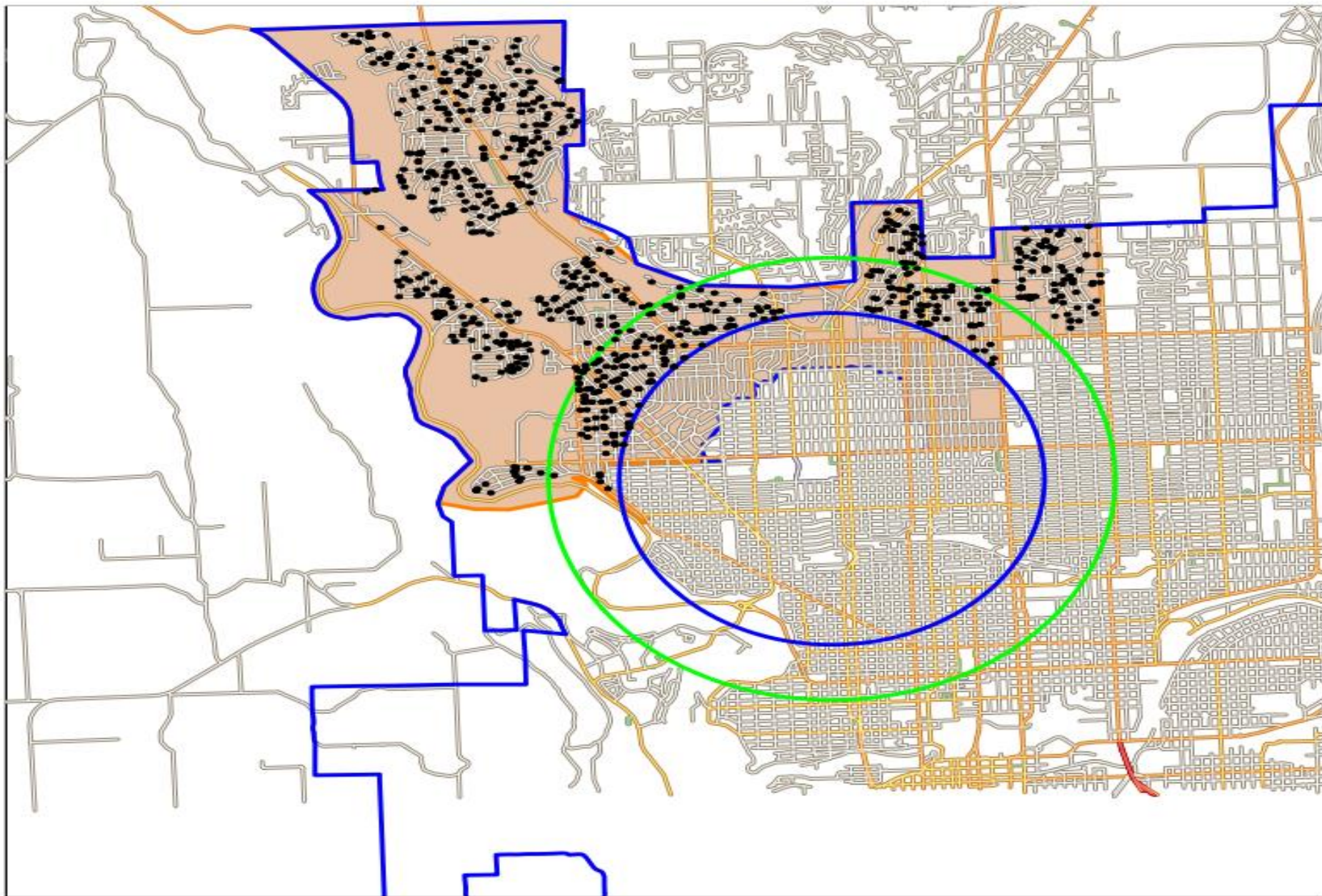
Shadle 1.0 Walk Boundary
1301 Eligible - 29 Routes

Example



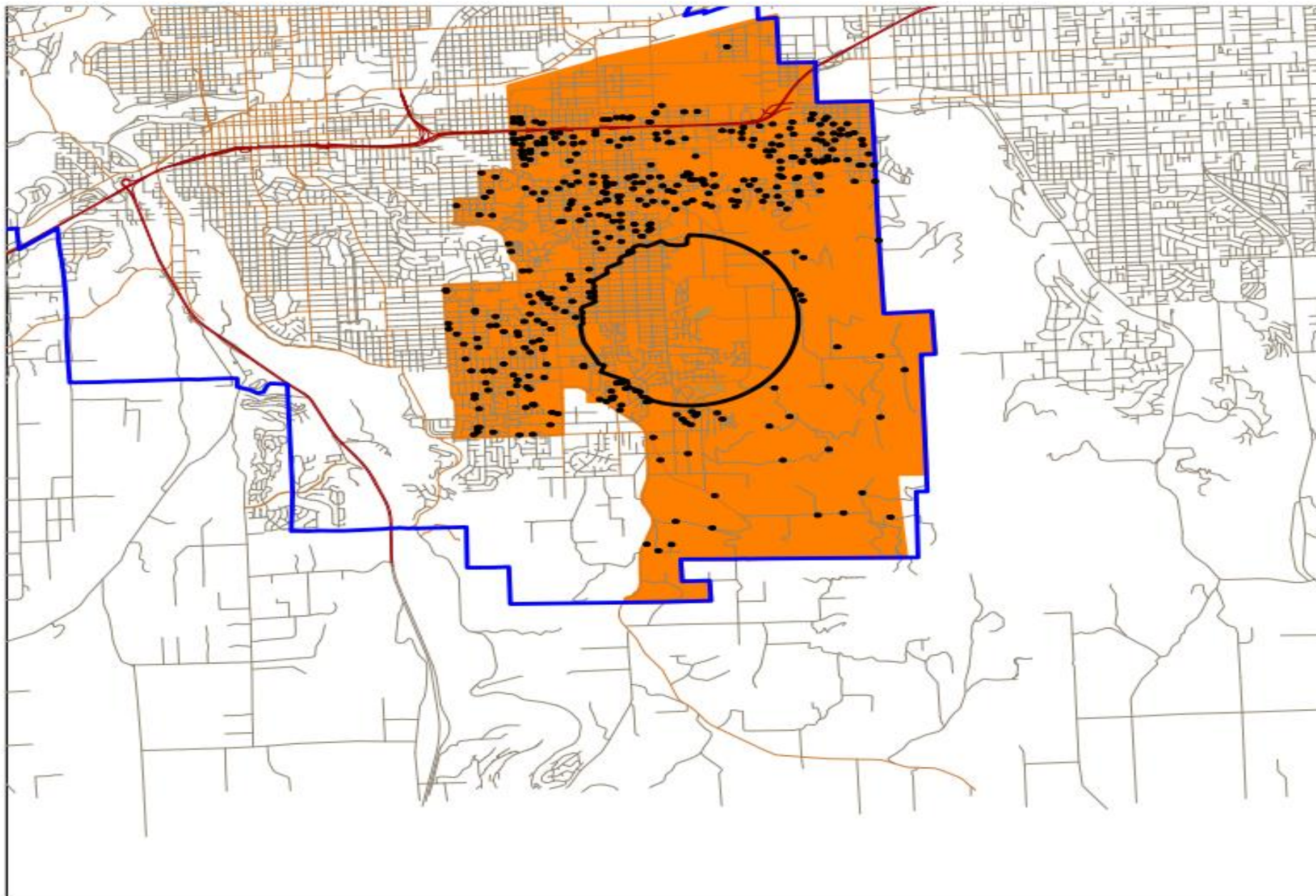
Shadle 1.5 Walk Boundary
1037 Eligible - 23 Routes

Example



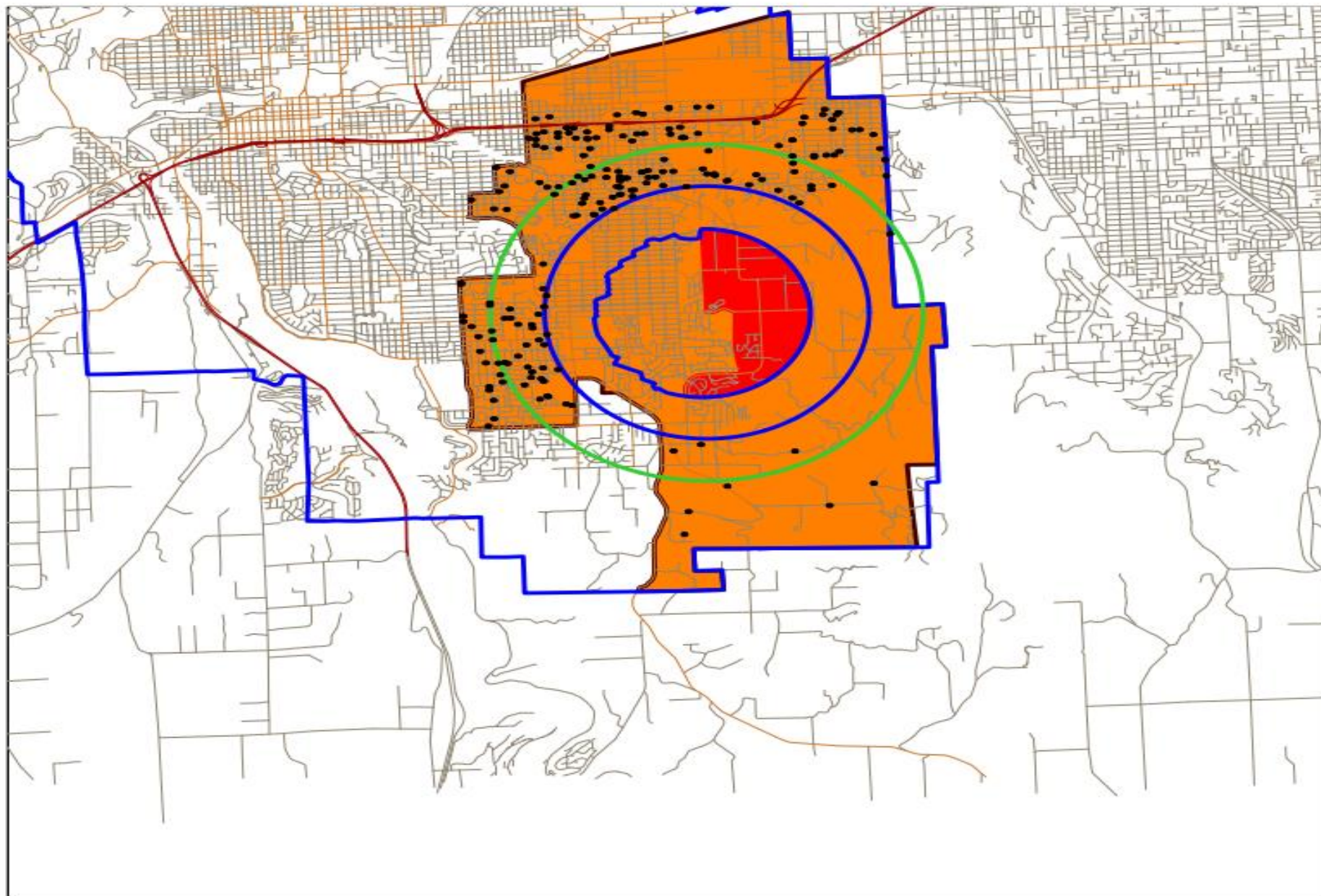
**Chase 1.0 Walk Boundary - 488 Eligible
11 Routes**

Example



**Chase 1.5 Walk Boundary - 208 Eligible
7 Routes**

Example



1.5-Mile Walk Boundary GenEd Busing Impacts

	Current		1.5 mile change	
Middle School	# of GenEd Routes	Eligible Students	# of GenEd Routes	Eligible Students
Chase	11	488	7+	208
Flett	N/A	N/A	2	86
Garry	3	109	1	27
Glover	5	225	3	138
Sacajawea	14	629	11	481
Salk	7	289	6	258
Shaw	7	306	2+	49
Yasuhara	N/A	N/A	2	50
Total	47	2046	25+	1297
High School	# of GenEd Routes	Eligible Students	# of GenEd Routes	Eligible Students
Ferris	26	1189	16	729
Lewis & Clark	22	999	15	665
North Central	22	1005	13	600
Rogers	13	619	7	331
Shadle Park	29	1301	23	1037
Total	112	5113	74	3362



Strategy 4: Partnership with STA




Provide as many eligible high school student riders with an STA bus pass for their transportation.






Benefits:





- **Every High School is currently served by 1 or more STA routes.**
- **More consistent transportation for many students.**
- **Can be used during non-school days and hours.**

Considerations:

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- **Some neighborhoods do not have easy access to existing STA stops or service.**
 - **Would reduce ridership for High Schools only.**
 - **Parameters for student tracking, safety, and ridership rules would need to be established with STA.**
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Strategy 5: Explore alternative transportation service options for special programs and option programs.

- **Choice Programs** – To include Libby, Montessori, Tessera, IST, Pratt Academy, Apple. Currently using hub stops, servicing the entire district.
 - **Excelsior** – Extended ride times due to students coming from across the entire district. Location is not centrally located.
 - **Express** – Shuttled between elementary schools.
 - **Early Learning/CAPE** – Only attends 4 days per week, calendars don't always match district calendar.
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Short-term Strategy Recommendations Recap

- 1) Increase efficiencies of routes.**
 - 2) Change bus arrival times before & after school to provide more time between tiers.*** THE DISTRICT IS HOLDING ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS STRATEGY
 - 3) Expand walk-zone radius from 1.0 mile to 1.5 mile for MS & HS.***
 - 4) Increase high school student ridership with STA through partnership.**
 - 5) Explore alternative transportation service options for special programs and option programs.*
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Long-term Recommendations

1. Evaluation of contractor proposals and contract models.
 - 2022-2023 final year of the current transportation contract.
 2. More extensive partnership with STA (Changes in legislation for 2023).
 3. Full or Partial In-house Transportation.
 - Co-op model with surrounding districts if partial or full in-house.
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The slide features a light blue background with a green hill at the bottom. Several stylized autumn leaves in shades of green, orange, and yellow are scattered around the edges. The word "Questions?" is centered in a large, bold, black serif font.

Questions?