UTC Project Information	
Project Title	Washington State School Walk Score
University	University of Washington
Principal Investigator	Anne Vernez Moudon
PI Contact Information	moudon@uw.edu
Funding Source(s) and Amounts Provided (by each agency or organization)	University of Washington PacTrans $40,000 Washington State Department of Transportation $40,000
Total Project Cost	$80,000
Agency ID or Contract Number	69A3551747110
Start and End Dates	August 16, 2017 – July 12, 2020
Brief Description of Research Project	This project's main aim is to develop and validate a Walk Score for K-8 schools in the State of Washington. The project principal product, called the Washington State School Walk Score (WSWS or WS*2), will support Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) staff in assessing and prioritizing those schools that would most effectively benefit from Safe Route to School (SRTS) program funds.
Describe Implementation of Research Outcomes (or why not implemented) Place Any Photos Here	Unique data from the 2016 Washington State Student Travel Survey combined with built environment data served to first confirm the factors shown to influence children walking to and from school in previous literature. Walkability scores were then estimated for K-8 Washington state schools under different data availability scenarios. First, models were developed using the 66 schools in King County with both student travel data and extensive built environment data that could serve as "best case" scenarios for calculating walkability indices. The models were run for three additional scenarios that reflected the limited data available in the state outside of King County. Second, models with limited data were run for the 159 remaining schools in Washington state that had student travel data. A Walkability Score applied to all K-8 schools was based on two built environment characteristics: street connectivity (route directness) and vehicular traffic exposure (ratio of major/minor streets); as well as school total enrollment as a control variable. A Walking Potential Score estimating the percentage of children likely to walk at each school was calculated by adding the percentage of children in the school lunch

	program and the number of children riding the school bus to the variables used in the Walkability Score. The average Walking Potential Score was 21.5 percent (SD 16.1 percent) of the students in a school walking to or from school. An appendix provides a tally of Walkability and Walking Potential Scores for K-8 schools in Washington state by county and by school district.
Impacts/Benefits of Implementation (actual, or anticipated)	Washington is the first state to score its schools for walkability. The scores can guide the future allocation of funds to support and promote walking to school in two ways: they can help rank schools according to the need for increasing their rate of walking; and they can identify those components/indicators of the school neighborhood environment that could be changed to most effectively increase the likelihood of children walking to school.
Web Links • Reports • Project Website	