

Welcome!

EPA Smart School Siting Tool – Part 1 - Webinar

For those interested in a Certificate of Participation for this webinar:

If you are interested in receiving AIA CEU credits or certificate of participation for your attendance at an OFCC webinar, you will need to individually register and then individually login / logout for the webinar. GoToWebinar provides us with a login and logout time for each attendee which acts as the digital documentation of your attendance for certification and auditing purposes. In order to receive a certificate of participation, attendees must attend the entire webinar. *Please wait for the last slide to appear that indicates webinar has ended.*

Credit is not offered to attendees who watch an OFCC webinar in a group environment.

This process has been approved by the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission and the Ohio Architects Board / Ohio Landscape Architects Board.



AIA CES

Request a certificate of attendance – via email. Wait for the last slide before sending request for certificate.

Certificate will be emailed to attendee after webinar.

AIA CES

Provider Name:

Ohio Facilities Construction Commission

Provider Number: G442

Course Title: EPA Smart School Siting Tool

Course Numbers: Web21

Credits: 1.0 LU/HSW

Speakers: Various

Dates: April 20, 2016



AIA CES

This course is registered with AIA CES for continuing professional education. As such, it does not include content that may be deemed or construed to be an approval or endorsement by the AIA of any material of construction or any method or manner of handling, using, distributing, or dealing in any material or product.

Credit(s) earned on completion of this course will be reported to AIA CES for AIA members. Certificates of Completion for both AIA members and non-AIA members are available upon request.

Questions related to specific materials, methods, and services will be addressed at the conclusion of this presentation.



Course Description

Participants will learn about the background and purpose of the EPA Smart School Siting Tool and how it can be used to support holistic school siting decisions. Through a series of case studies, participants will learn how the tool has been used in different types of communities to meet different school siting needs, from expansion to consolidation. Participants will learn how the tool helped communities balance factors such as consistency with the community's growth and development plans, contributions to neighborhood vitality, shared use, pedestrian and bike accessibility, and cost. The webinar will use one of the case studies to provide practical information on how to navigate the tool, answer questions in the tool, and use summaries produced by the tool to support school siting decision-making.

Learning Objectives

- Be familiar with the purpose of the EPA Smart School Siting Tool and how to navigate and complete the tool workbook
- Understand how school siting decisions can support community development that promotes a healthy environment and social well-being

Learning Objectives

- Know how school siting decisions can support safe and active modes of transportation to school and promote physical well-being
- Understand how the EPA Smart School Siting Tool helps communities produce objective information to compare school siting options based on site characteristics that affect community well-being

Will the Webinar be Recorded?

Yes – the webinar is being recorded and you will find the recording and the PPT in the OFCC Webinar Archive within five business days of the webinar.

Webinar Archive:

<http://ofcc.ohio.gov/NewsEvents/Webinars/WebinarArchive.aspx>



Have a Question?

Please use the Question feature on the right side of your screen at any time during the webinar.

Responses will be provided at the end of the webinar.

Today's Presenters

Regina Langton, US EPA: Office of Sustainable Communities

Bill Michaud, CSRA

Nick Salmon, Collaborative Learning Network



EPA Smart School Siting Tool

A new tool to help communities site schools that promote healthy learning and community well-being

Introduction to The Smart School Siting Tool

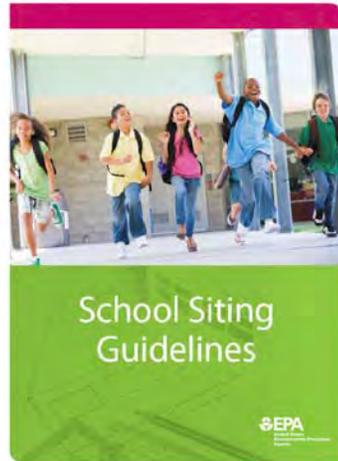
Site Comparison Workbook

Webinar: April 20, 2016

Agenda

- 1) Overview of Smart School Siting Tool
- 2) Site Comparison Workbook – Case Studies
- 3) Questions & Answers

Background Guidelines and Training



School Siting Guidelines

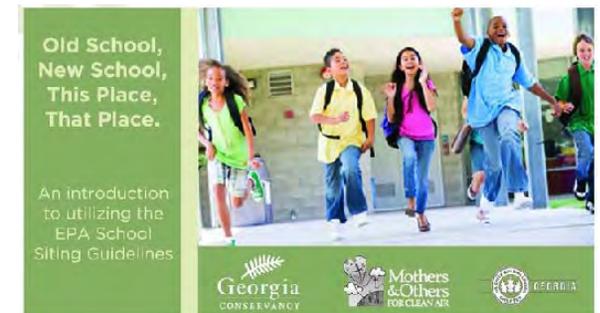
- Meaningful community involvement
- Health, safety and environmental evaluation
- Opportunities to promote environmental justice
- Renovation, upgrade, adaptation and expansion
- Possible sites in overburdened communities
- Multi-modal, active transportation options
- Schools as community hubs
- Comprehensive assessment of costs

www.epa.gov/schools/school-siting-guidelines

Training Modules

- 1-hour and 3-hour professional training modules
- Parent/community modules

georgiaconservancy.org/schoolsiting



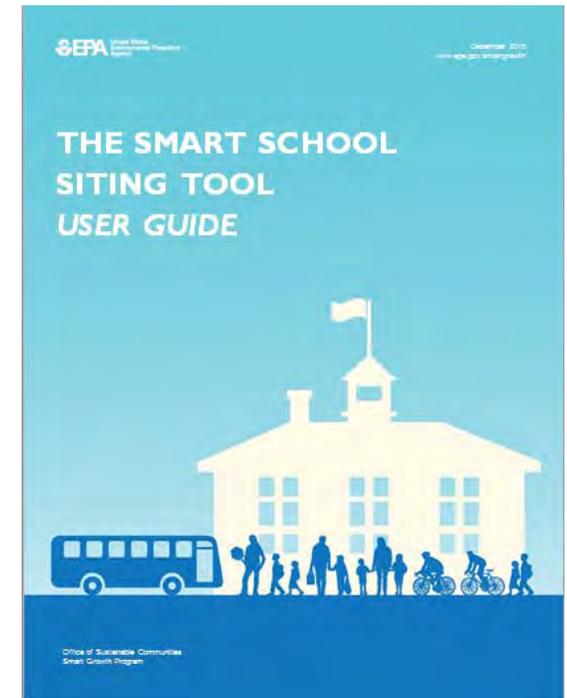
Smart School Siting Tool Key Objectives

The tool is designed to...

- Engage a more diverse group of stakeholders
- Encourage more holistic analysis of siting decision implications
- Foster and facilitate collaboration
- Support (not supplant) community decision-making

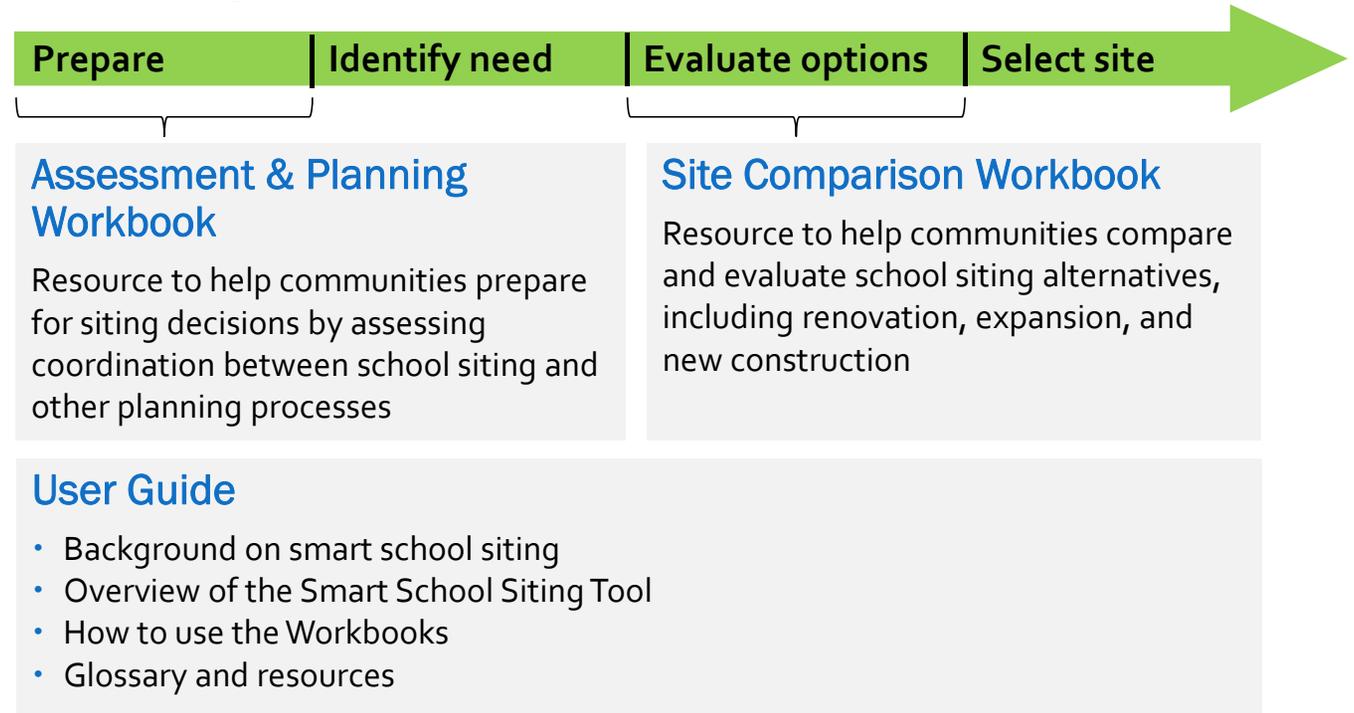
Available at:

<http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/smart-school-siting-tool>



Smart School Siting Tool Overview

School Siting Timeline



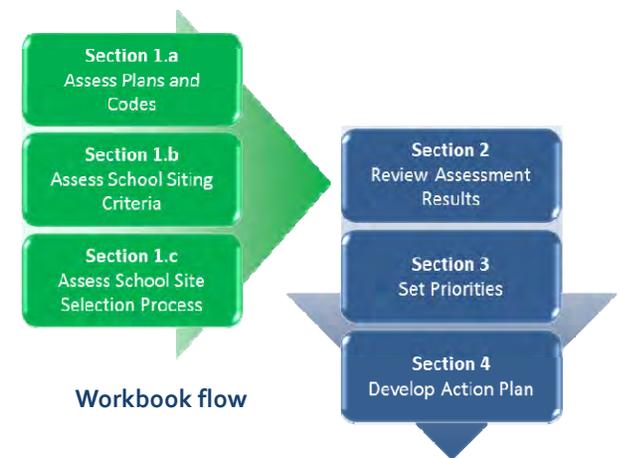
Smart School Siting Tool Assessment & Planning Workbook

Design:

- User-friendly downloadable Excel file
- Three assessment sections with ~200 closed (“select one”) questions, with space for comments
- Summary, priority-setting, and action planning worksheets

Yes	To some extent	Unclear	No	Not Applicable	Answer Later
<input type="radio"/>					

Answer choices



Assessment areas:

- Coordination between school and community plans and codes
- Alignment of school siting criteria and community planning priorities
- Coordination between school siting and community planning processes

Site Comparison Workbook

Overview and Case Studies

- 1) Overview of Site Comparison Workbook
- 2) Case Studies

Site Comparison Workbook Design and Process

Design:

- User-friendly downloadable Excel file
- Site summary sheet, 5 worksheets with 25 multiple choice questions, and two cost calculators
- High-level and detailed summary sheets



Workbook navigation aid

Select the scenario that most closely represents the school site:

One street, dead-ending at the school site.

One street, adjacent to the school site.

Two or more streets, adjacent to the school site.

Score

Typical question format

Using the workbook:

- Get prepared – establish siting committee, gather information
- Complete one workbook for each site alternative
- Compare sites based on summary profiles and community priorities

(Please participate in Webinar #2 on April 27, 2016 for more information)

Site Comparison Workbook

Site Comparison Factors

Comparison Factors		Community Implications			
Criteria Category	Example Considerations	Healthy environment	Social well-being	Active, healthy lifestyles	Cost efficient
Proximity to students and population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Near existing students Near dense residential areas Near future planned density 	✓	Less vehicular travel results in reduced air emissions	✓	✓
Availability/adequacy of infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water/sewer infrastructure Road/drainage infrastructure Consistency with capital plan 	✓	Using existing water, sewer, and roads means lower capital and O&M costs	✓	✓
Neighborhood schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renovation Environmental improvement Serve underserved population Right-sized, shared use 	✓	✓	Easier access for those without cars (e.g., for teacher conferences, school events); improved neighborhood quality; neighborhood anchors	
Street connectivity and site access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Street grid/accessibility Travel lanes and traffic Physical barriers 	✓		✓	
Pedestrian and bike facilities and safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sidewalks/bike path facilities and connectivity Intersection safety 		Promote active, healthy walking and biking	✓	

Case Studies

Site Comparison Workbook

Case Studies

- Franklin – Wrong School/Right Location
- Cold Springs – Build Where?
- Anaconda – School Consolidation

Franklin Case Study Right Location/ Wrong School



Franklin Case Study Result

Rebuild New Elementary on Existing Site

- Neighborhood is well defined by 4 major streets, resulting in less than ½ mile walk to school
- Proximity to city bus service
- Reinvestment in low SES neighborhood
- Two story school uses 0.5 acre, remaining 1.5 acres of open space
- Cost savings associated with existing utilities
- Utilize existing streets for pick-up/drop-off, parking
- Community-based team advocated for alternative that reflected their values

Cold Springs Case Study

Build Where?



Criteria

- Site size/slope/site access
- Proximity to existing schools/homes
- Neighborhood amenities (trails, parks, crosswalks, etc.)
- Urban growth boundary/site utilities
- Orientation
- Hazards
- Timing

Cold Springs Case Study

Build Where?

Lower Miller Creek

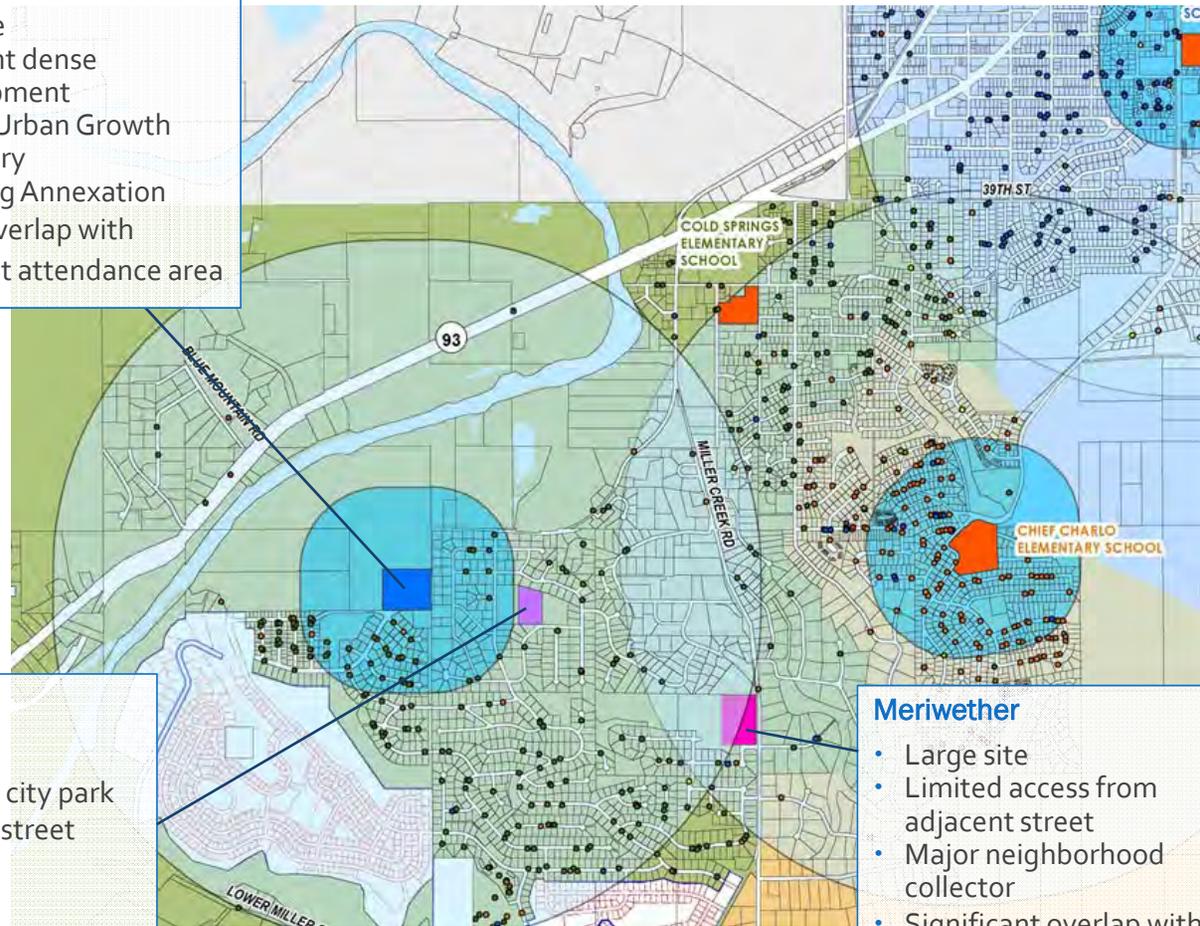
- Flat Site
- Adjacent dense development
- Within Urban Growth Boundary
- Awaiting Annexation
- Least overlap with adjacent attendance area

Marilyn Park

- Sloping site with no access
- Required swap with developed city park
- Single neighborhood collector street adjacent
- Parking challenges
- Overlap with adjacent attendance area

Meriwether

- Large site
- Limited access from adjacent street
- Major neighborhood collector
- Significant overlap with adjacent attendance area



**Cold Springs Case
Study
Result**

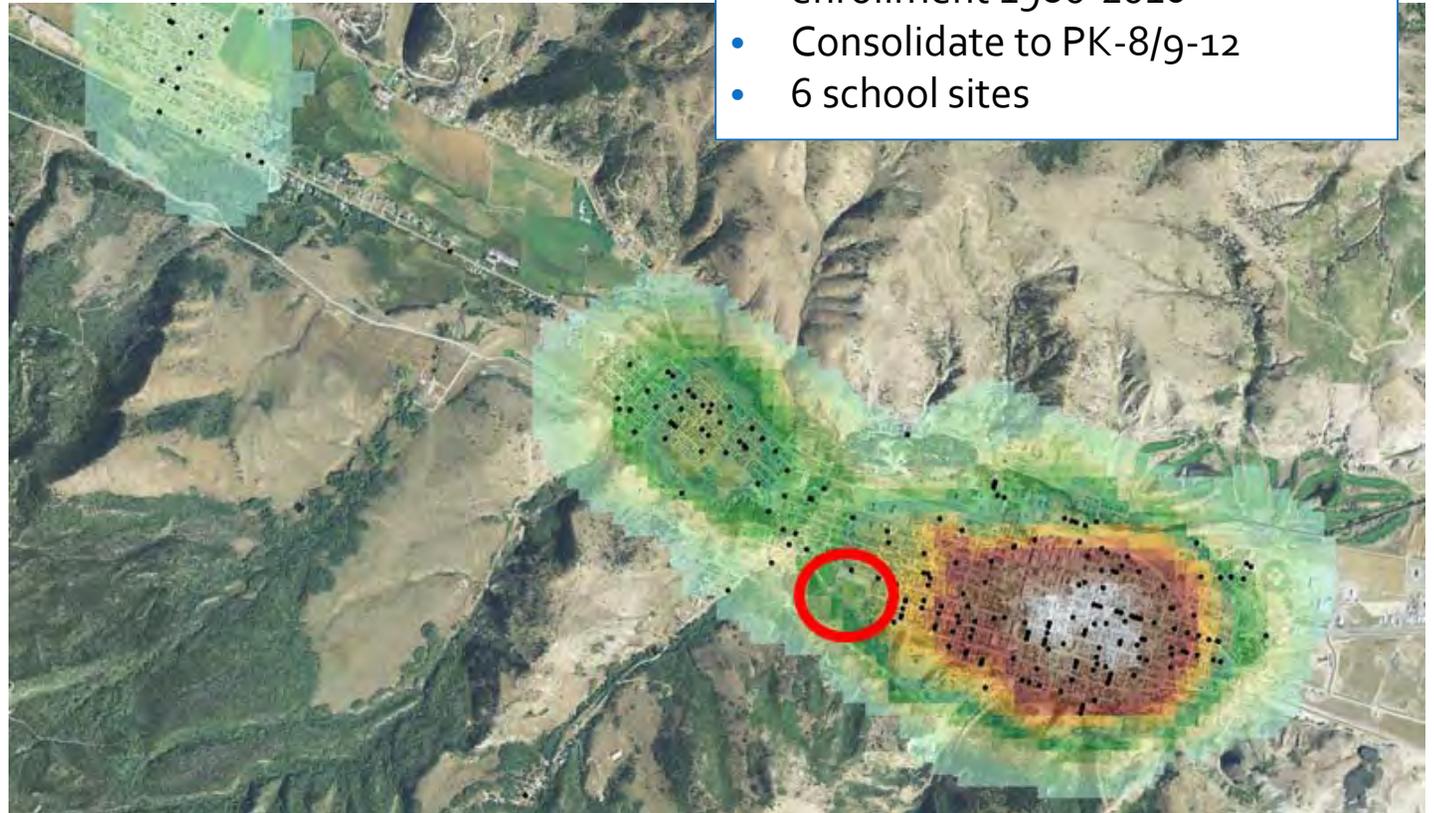
Rebuild New Elementary on New Site (Lower Miller Creek)

- Within Urban Growth Boundary
- Adjacent fire station, future neighborhood commercial
- Adjacent to two established neighborhoods with trails & parks
- Accessible Site
- City master plan anticipates high density when annexed
- Reinforced need for community engagement

Anaconda Case Study

School Consolidation

- 2,000 student decline (60%) in enrollment 1980-2016
- Consolidate to PK-8/9-12
- 6 school sites



Anaconda Case Study Options Overview

Busy Highway

SUMMARY REPORT	
Project Name:	Building & Grounds Planning
School District:	Anaconda School District #10
Site Name:	District Administration/PK/VOED
Site Location:	1410 Park Avenue West
Construction Type:	New school construction

Site Scores (should be compared against the site scores generated for other candidate sites)

Worksheet	Overall Score	Score Profile
2 Proximity to Students and Population Centers	30	
3 Location in the Community	96	
4 Beneficial Site Characteristics	18	
5 Connectivity with the Neighborhood	4	
6 Bike and Pedestrian Accessibility	40	

* Incomplete: not all factors scored

Proximity

SUMMARY REPORT	
Project Name:	Building & Grounds Planning
School District:	Anaconda School District #10
Site Name:	Lincoln Elementary School
Site Location:	506 Chestnut
Construction Type:	School renovation or expansion

Site Scores (should be compared against the site scores generated for other candidate sites)

Worksheet	Overall Score	Score Profile
2 Proximity to Students and Population Centers	96	
3 Location in the Community	84	
4 Beneficial Site Characteristics	75	
5 Connectivity with the Neighborhood	66	
6 Bike and Pedestrian Accessibility	46	

* Incomplete: not all factors scored

Re-use of former school site

SUMMARY REPORT	
Project Name:	Building & Grounds Planning
School District:	Anaconda School District #10
Site Name:	Mitchell Stadium
Site Location:	West Fifth Street
Construction Type:	New school construction

Site Scores (should be compared against the site scores generated for other candidate sites)

Worksheet	Overall Score	Score Profile
2 Proximity to Students and Population Centers	42	
3 Location in the Community	60	
4 Beneficial Site Characteristics	36	
5 Connectivity with the Neighborhood	35	
6 Bike and Pedestrian Accessibility	40	

* Incomplete: not all factors scored

Anaconda Case Study

District Admin Option

(Busy Highway)

Smart Growth PROGRAM *Smart School Siting Tool: Site Comparison Workbook*

SUMMARY

Building & Grounds Planning, Anaconda School District #10

District Administration/PK/VOED
 New school construction
 1410 Park Avenue West

Description	Key Characteristics
Grades to be served: PK-5	• Existing School Site
Planned enrollment: 532	• Access to Highway 1
	• Potential re-use for residential/commercial development
	•
	•

Site Scores *(should be compared against the site scores generated for other candidate sites)*

Worksheet	Overall Score	Score Profile
2 Proximity to Students and Population Centers	30	
3 Location in the Community	96	
4 Site Characteristics	18	
5 Connectivity with the Neighborhood	4	
6 Bike and Pedestrian Accessibility	40	

* Incomplete: not all factors scored

Assessment

- Highway isolates school from most neighborhoods
- Could sell property (location better for commercial use)

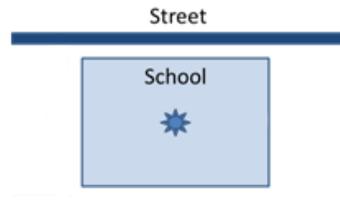
Anaconda Case Study

District Admin Option - Demo (Busy Highway)

20. How many travel lanes do the streets accessing the school site have?

Streets that are wide, have high posted speed limits, or support heavy traffic can prevent children from walking or bicycling to school. Multi-lane streets can put walkers and bikers at more risk of injury since these streets tend to have more traffic and can take longer to cross.

How many travel lanes do the streets accessing the school site have (e.g., a two-way street with one lane of traffic in each direction would be counted as having two lanes)?



Street 1		} 1-2 lanes 3-4 lanes 5+ lanes
Street 2		
Street 3		
Street 4		
Score (Question 20):		

Worksheet	Overall Score	Score Profile
2 Proximity to Students and Population	30	
3 Location in the Community	96	
4 Site Characteristics	18	
5 Connectivity with the Neighborhood	20	
6 Bike and Pedestrian Accessibility	40	
* Incomplete: not all factors scored		

Anaconda Case Study

Lincoln Elementary Option

(Proximity to students)

Smart Growth PROGRAM *Smart School Siting Tool: Site Comparison Workbook*

SUMMARY

Building & Grounds Planning, Anaconda School District #10

Lincoln Elementary School
 School renovation or expansion
 506 Chestnut

Description	Key Characteristics
Grades to be served: 3-5	• Existing School Site
Planned enrollment: 254	• Access on four adjacent streets
	• Utilities bisect site
	•
	•

Site Scores *(should be compared against the site scores generated for other candidate sites)*

Worksheet	Overall Score	Score Profile
2 Proximity to Students and Population Centers	96	
3 Location in the Community	84	
4 Site Characteristics	75	
5 Connectivity with the Neighborhood	66	
6 Bike and Pedestrian Accessibility	46	
* Incomplete: not all factors scored		

Assessment

- Strong proximity, *but...*
- Small site with no open space
- Bisected by utilities
- Pick-up/drop-off challenges
- Parking challenges

Anaconda Case Study

Lincoln Elem. Option - Demo (Proximity to Students)

1. Are students currently located close to the candidate school site?

Locating a school close to its students can shorten the distance people travel to the school. In addition to reducing the time it takes to travel to the school, schools that are sited close to existing students may result in:

- Shorter or fewer school bus routes, which can reduce costs of busing students.
- More students, teachers, and staff that walk, bike or take transit to school.
- Shorter and more direct commutes for parents and others who drop off students, teachers, and staff.
- Support for existing neighborhoods.

How many students are currently located within 1/2 mile of the school site?	463
Projected enrollment (from Worksheet 1):	254
Calculated percent enrollment within 1/2 mile of the site:	182.3%
Score (Question 1):	48

Comments/Notes: Data from GIS review by Copper Environmental

Current student population within 1/2-mile = 463

Worksheet	Overall Score	Score Profile
2 Proximity to Students and Population	96	
3 Location in the Community	84	
4 Site Characteristics	75	
5 Connectivity with the Neighborhood	66	
6 Bike and Pedestrian Accessibility	46	
* Incomplete: not all factors scored		

Anaconda Case Study

Mitchell Stadium Option

(Reuse of former school site)

Smart Growth PROGRAM *Smart School Siting Tool: Site Comparison Workbook*

SUMMARY

Building & Grounds Planning, Anaconda School District #10

Mitchell Stadium
New school construction
West Fifth Street

Description
Grades to be served: PK-5
Planned enrollment: 600

Key Characteristics

- Largest school site
- Access on two adjacent streets
- former site of Washington School
- Large shared parking area
-

Site Scores *(should be compared against the site scores generated for other candidate sites)*

Worksheet	Overall Score	Score Profile
2 Proximity to Students and Population Centers	42	
3 Location in the Community	60	
4 Site Characteristics	36	
5 Connectivity with the Neighborhood	35	
6 Bike and Pedestrian Accessibility	40	
* Incomplete: not all factors scored		

Assessment

- Re-use of brownfield site
- Re-develop former school site
- Shared use between School/City
- Large site with PK-12 opportunities
- Average scores throughout

Anaconda Case Study

Mitchell Stadium Option - Demo

(Reuse of former school site)

14. How large is the school site?

Some states have acreage minimums that might require a larger site for a school than it truly needs. This can inadvertently push local school agencies to site schools in less-developed areas where they can acquire larger parcels for less money. Where they are allowed, smaller school sites are often a better choice. Approaches such as designing schools with multiple levels; sharing community facilities such as parking lots, parks, pools, and community centers (referred to as joint uses); and connecting to existing water and sewer systems (rather than constructing on-site systems) can significantly reduce the amount of land needed for a school.

On the other hand, a larger site might be advantageous if the long-term plan is for the site to accommodate future expansion or the construction of a second school.

a. How large is the Elementary School site (in acres), including all play and athletic fields?

20

Site size = 20 acres

Score (Question 14a):

-12

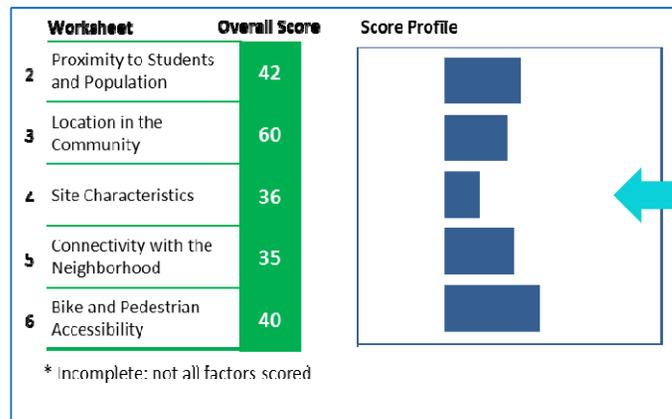
b. Does the site provide opportunity for future school expansion or siting of a second school?

Yes

Yes
No

Score (Question 14b):

8



Anaconda Case Study Result

Rebuild New Elementary on Former School Site

- Community dialogue regarding values and worksheet results
- Middle of community (less than 1 mile walk)
- Two adjacent streets for access
- Share parking with football/soccer/softball/track & field
- Re-developed brownfield
- Water, sewer, power & data on site
- Sell Administration site for commercial development
- Sell Dwyer to city to expand park
- Sell Lincoln to Head Start/Boys & Girls, retain use of gym
- Revitalize downtown high school facility

Conclusion

Why Use the Smart School Siting Tool?

The tool...

- Identifies opportunities and reasons to collaborate
- Includes questions of interest to different stakeholders
- Helps organize and synthesize information
- Helps focus dialogue and facilitate collaboration

To...

- Engage a more diverse group of stakeholders
- Encourage more holistic analysis of opportunities and impacts
- Foster and facilitate collaboration
- Support (not supplant) community decision-making

A reminder ...

If you are interested in a *certificate of participation* for your attendance at this OFCC webinar, you will need to individually register and then individually login / logout for the webinar. GoToWebinar provides us with a login and logout time for each attendee which acts as the digital documentation of your attendance for certification and auditing purposes. In order to receive a certificate of participation, attendees must attend the entire webinar. *Please wait for the last slide to appear that indicates webinar has ended.*

Credit is not offered to attendees who watch an OFCC webinar in a group environment.

This process has been approved by the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission and the Ohio Architects Board / Ohio Landscape Architects Board.



To Receive CEUs/Certificate:

Email sue.meyer@ofcc.ohio.gov indicating your interest:

- AIA CEUs or certificate for self-reporting to your professional organization or employer.
- Remember, we are unable to offer individual credit when watching in a group environment.

What's Coming Up?

Using the Tool:

Smart School Siting Workshop – Part 2

April 27, 2016 - 2 p.m. EST

<http://ofcc.ohio.gov/NewsEvents/Webinars.aspx>

1.0 LU/HSW credits approved



Questions and Answers



For More Information

The Smart School Siting Tool is available at:

<http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/smart-school-siting-tool>

For more information, please contact:

Regina Langton

EPA Office of Sustainable Communities

Washington, DC

(202) 566-2178

langton.regina@epa.gov

This concludes The American Institute of Architects Continuing Education Systems Course

Provider Name: Ohio Facilities Construction Commission

Provider #: G442

Contact: sue.meyer@ofcc.ohio.gov

