

STARS Project description

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City/University: Athens, University of Piraeus
Project name (if any): Tzavella Street Safety Measures

Question 1: Have you identified a specific site where you want to implement your project?

Site: an arterial road named *Tzavella street* in Piraeus



Context - Issue:

- three lanes of the same direction (in some parts of the road one or maybe two of the lanes are used for unlawful parking)



- three traffic lights in a small distance of 117 meters, the one from the other. Therefore, drivers overpass the 40 km/h speed limit to pass the three traffic lights with green.
- **the vertical signing:**
 - The signs (speed limit signs etc) are not visible to the drivers because they are located near pillars and their direction is toward the buildings and not the road. Some of them have stickers on them or graffiti and others have bent supporting tubes.



Context

Identified site

- **The horizontal signing:**
 - The pedestrian crossings and in general the road markings have faded out.



- 10 schools are located there; from which two are nursery schools, six elementary schools and two high schools. The total number of students is **1279!!!**

SCHOOL NAME	ADDRESS	NUMBER OF STUDENTS	Source
35th (nursery school)	Al. Tzavella str	42	http://www.pireasnet.gr/Default.aspx?tabid=1073
36th (nursery school)	Al. Tzavella str	51	http://www.pireasnet.gr/Default.aspx?tabid=1073
35th (elementary school)	Alexandrou & Tzavella str	134	http://www.pireasnet.gr/Default.aspx?tabid=1078
36th (elementary school)	Alexandrou & Tzavella str	184	http://www.pireasnet.gr/Default.aspx?tabid=1078
1st Rallios elementary school	Al. Tzavella str	149	http://www.pireasnet.gr/Default.aspx?tabid=1078
2nd Rallios elementary school	Al. Tzavella str	148	http://www.pireasnet.gr/Default.aspx?tabid=1078
Rallios elementary school	Al. Tzavella str	60	http://www.pireasnet.gr/Default.aspx?tabid=1078
Rallios elementary school	Al. Tzavella str	16	http://www.pireasnet.gr/Default.aspx?tabid=1078
2nd (high school)	Pithagora & Tzavella str	193	http://www.pireasnet.gr/Default.aspx?tabid=1083
2nd (lycee)	Pithagora & Tzavella str	302	http://www.pireasnet.gr/Default.aspx?tabid=1088
		TOTAL : 1279	

Question 2: What do you know about this site: recent collisions? Data collected?

We have **contacted**:

- the *traffic police*
- the *department of road marking and traffic* of the municipality of Piraeus

Current situation:

- waiting for their response so we can have access to the *road accident data*

Question 3: What people think about this site (public perception, knowledge of people on speed/road safety...)

Public perception: the specific road is **DANGEROUS*** :

- for drivers
- for pedestrians

Current situation:

- next weekend we are planning to give our *questionnaire*

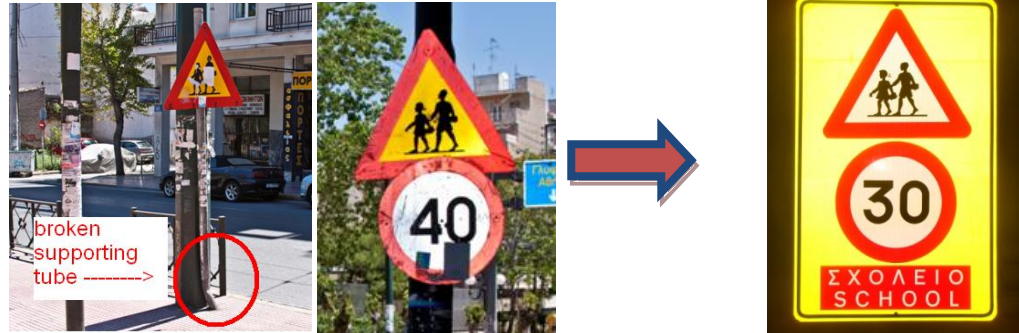
*(refer to question 1 for explanation)

Question 4: What is your idea? Measures? Explain why you think it is relevant

Infrastructure measures proposed:

- 1) Replace two signs with a bigger one which will include the “children crossing” sign, the speed limit sign and a box in which “caution school” will have been written in it.

BECAUSE, signs are an indispensable tool to inform the drivers about the speed limit in force and to influence their choice.



- 2) Improve the existing pedestrian crossing which is faded out and place a new pedestrian crossing sign which never existed.
- 3) Reduce the cycle of the “Green Wave”*.

BECAUSE, any vehicle travelling along with the “Green Wave” (at an approximate speed decided upon by the traffic engineers) will see a progressive cascade of green lights, and won’t have to stop at intersections. Therefore:

- this allows higher traffic loads
- reduces noise and energy use as less acceleration and braking is needed
- reduces drivers’ speed and red crossing

- 4) Placement of footstep stickers on the pavement from the school entrance and exit until the pedestrian crossing.

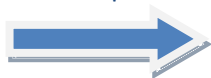
*A “green wave” is an intentionally induced phenomenon in which a series of traffic lights (usually three or more) are coordinated to allow continuous traffic flow over several intersections in one main direction.

Communication measures proposed:

- 1) Organisation of seminars, internet campaigns, campaigns through the most famous social networks (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube etc).

BECAUSE THEY inform the students about road safety and enrich their knowledge on speeding.

- 2) Contact and ask the contribution of the local press, TV and radio networks.
- 3) Include into our project, the difficult target group of young children by creating a game which will help them understand the basic road behaviour and the awkward for them term of ‘Safe Driving’.



We think that all these measures are related to the reduction of speed and the increase of drivers’ awareness.

Question 5: What are your objectives (short term? Long term?)

Short term objective:

- to reduce speed and prove that our measures are effective at this specific location

Long term objectives:

- to raise the awareness and influence the future drivers on the subject of speeding and

	<p>consequently driving</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to persuade the local authorities to continue this kind of actions <p>Question 6: Expected results?</p> <p>The result that we expect is an acceptable reduction of speed that will have an impact in society.</p>
<p>Strategy</p> <p>-</p> <p>Partners</p>	<p>Question 7: How will you implement your project?</p> <p><u>Infrastructure plan:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Get the approval from the municipality of Piraeus and the Prefecture who are responsible for any kind of actions that will be implemented at the specific site. 2) Preparation of two letters with the description of our project that will be sent to two different departments of the municipality of Piraeus. The first one will be for the road markings and the signs and the second one for the “Green Wave”. 3) Contact the traffic police and have access to the road accidents data so we can have an idea of what exactly is going on in this road. 4) Take pictures before and after the implementation of our project. 5) Make speed measurements and measurements of the traffic volume before and after the implementation of our project. 6) Prepare a questionnaire for the public (students, passengers, etc) which will be given also after the implementation to see the difference. 7) Contact “Safe Drive” company which will supply us with all the needed material (signs, retro reflectivity paint etc). 8) Find sponsors to fund our project by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sending e-mails • Communicating with all the greek companies which are already members with the European Road Safety Charter and especially those that haven’t renewed their commitment. <p><u>Communication plan:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Create a Facebook page. 2) Contact the parent councils of the schools to get their support and if there are many difficulties for the implementation of our measures persuade them to get signatures. 3) Communicate with the directors of the schools to organise a seminar for the students about road safety and speeding and introduce to the children our game. We have to get in touch with people who are going to speak at our seminar. 4) Contact and ask the contribution of the local press, TV and radio networks. We also want to interview the people helped at the construction of the pedestrian bridge and inform them about our project in order to give us their opinion. <p>Question 8: Which material will/do you need?</p> <p><u>Materials:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • retro reflectivity white paint for the road surface markings • one sign that will include the “children crossing” sign, the speed limit sign and a box in which “caution school” will have been written in it and its supporting pole • one pedestrian crossing sign and its supporting pole • a speedometer for our measurements.

Question 9: Which partners (University, companies, local authorities...)?

Partners:

- **Moral support:** University of Piraeus, ETSC, Panos Mylonas Institute, local associations (traffic police, municipality of Piraeus), the schools, the parent councils, SAKA (Alumni Association of the Athens College Hellenic American Educational Foundation).
- **Financial support:** municipality of Piraeus and companies that are members to the European Road Safety Charter that will be contacted.
- **Technical support:** traffic police, the municipality of Piraeus and the “Safe Drive” company.

Question 10: Do you have already contacted some, any feedback?

Already contacted:

- University of Piraeus
 - we meet with our professors **Mr. Koliouis** and **Mr. Papadimitriou** regularly and have their support
- Traffic police:
 - waiting their response to have access to the road accident data
- Local authorities:
 - Visited twice the municipality of Piraeus where we spoke with **Mr. Chondrokoukis** and his assistant **Mr. Kapatos** for the approval of our measures.
 - We gave them our traffic volume measurements and showed them the pictures of the site
 - We have also arranged a meeting this week where we are planning to give them the first letter with the description of our project
- Parent councils and the directors of the schools
 - where they suggested to us to attend one of their meetings and present them our project
- Alumni Association of Athens College Hellenic American Educational Foundation
 - When we interview the people who helped the construction of the pedestrian bridge the interview will posted at their magazine and also at our University page.
- Safe Drive
 - We have met with the director of Safe Drive which came with us to see the specific area in Piraeus, made with us the cost analysis of our project and will supply us with the materials needed.

Question 11: What and where ETSC could help you?

ETSC could help us by promoting the importance of speed management and send us a recommendation letter which we will give to the municipality of Piraeus, the traffic police and the sponsors that we are going to contact in order to accelerate the reactions of the local authorities and the issue of authorisations.

It would also be helpful if you visited our country and see the progress we have made and give us some advice. We also believe that your presence would significantly facilitate the implementation of the project.

Question 12: What did you do so far?

Refer to question 10

Communications

Question 13: Will/Do you develop any communication tools to promote your activities (for infrastructure projects)?

Refer to question 4 “Communication measures proposed”

Refer to question 7 “Communication plan”

	<p><u>Question 14:</u> Will you contact local press? Any communication activities done so far?</p> <p>Yes, we will contact the local press, TV and radio networks. We haven't contacted them yet. We are in the process of interviewing the people who helped the construction of the pedestrian bridge which will be posted to our University site and the Alumni Association of Athens College Hellenic American Educational Foundation magazine named "Hermes".</p>
<p>Evaluation</p>	<p><u>Question 15:</u> Have you/Will you conduct a pre evaluation before you start any actions?</p> <p>Yes, we have already performed the traffic volume measurements. However, we are willing to get the approval of the traffic police for speed measurements because we need the speedometer. Moreover, we are about to print and distribute the questionnaire in the form of a small leaflet to the public (students, parents, passengers, etc) in order to give us their personal opinion about the current road.</p> <p><u>Question 16:</u> How will you assess the effectiveness of your measures? (very important)</p> <p>If we have all the required data available from the traffic police it would be really helpful. However, we will perform exactly the same measurements after the implementation of our infrastructure part. Then we will be able to compare our data about the vehicle velocity and see whether our measurements were effective or not. Also for the road markings the questionnaire will be the tool that will help us measure the results.</p>
<p>Observations</p>	<p><u>Question 17:</u> Any comments? Difficulties (so that we can do our best to help you)</p> <p>The difficulties are that we are young students in front of experienced professionals and we are trying to convince them to implement our project. Also, we suggested to the municipality of Piraeus other measures such as speed humps and rumble tapes which they excluded. The municipality of Piraeus is also negative with the sign that we want to put because they say that probably the neighbours will be annoyed by it because of its size. Finally, we believe it is difficult to get the authorisations.</p> <p>Moreover, when we get the approval for our measures we want to contact the sponsors but we are afraid maybe it will be too late.</p> <p><u>Question 18:</u> Approximate timing</p> <p>We would like the infrastructure part to have been completed until July and the communication part to have started when schools open and to have finished till the end of October.</p>