

## Appendix A: Interview Transcripts

### *Expert Interviews*

Below you will find the transcripts of the interviews conducted with the traffic congestion experts. In order to determine the primary contributing factors to traffic congestion in Thung Khru and possible solutions, we interviewed the Head of the Thung Khru District Office, a Traffic Officer, and Professor Viroat.

#### *Head of the Thung Khru District Office*

1. How do you help out with the traffic?

A: We are assigned to help the traffic jam in the name of Bangkok government. We have duty in front of school during 06.30-8.00 in the morning and 15.00-16.00 in the afternoon. Some of the schools that are under Bangkok government or under the office of the Basic Education Commission are our responsibilities. There are 8 schools in total that we are dealing with. We have to look after the safety of the students who cross the road. Actually, it is not exactly our duty but we are asked to help.

A: We think that the Pracha Uthit Road was made long time ago and there is nothing we can do about it plus with the growing numbers of population in that area at the same time.

2. What are the other factors that cause the congestion?

A: The road users, who do not follow the laws. For instance, there are signboards written that parking at the spot is prohibited.; however, the songthaews always park for a long time after they drop the customers and that cause the following cars to stop and need to jam to the right side.

3. Is there anyone taking actions on those drivers?

A: Yes, police arrest them and they have to pay the fines.

4. Does it work?

A: Yes. But only when police are present. There are some volunteers from the local police station who would help out the traffic congestion during rush hour.

#### *Traffic Officer*

1. In your opinion, where is the most congested area in Thung Khru

A: The intersection leading to the expressway is the most congested area because the road infrastructure is inefficient and cannot support all of the cars at the same time, especially during rush hour.

2. How do you handle the illegally parked cars?

A: If they park for too long then the police officers collect fines

3. Why are there so many illegally parked cars on the road if the police are present?

A: Because the lack of police officers allows for people to break the law frequently. There are only six police officers at this moment. We suggested to increase the number of police officers to 20 in order to rotate and take shifts throughout the day.

4. What about the volunteer police? What do they do?

A: The volunteers do not have the authority like the police officers. What they could do is just help the traffic flow by giving signals. They do not get paid and to be a volunteer they must be consulted with the deputy commander, deputy superintendent and inspector.

5. Who has the power to make a change on the road?

A: Deputy commander

6. Do you think songthaews cause the congestion?

A: No, not during rush hour because the passengers are always available unlike during off-hours when there are less cars and the songthaews could take their time waiting for the customers.

7. What do you think would be the best solution?

A: The laws must be well-known. The best solution would be to educate the people on the rules and regulations. If everybody follows the laws, the police would not be needed anymore. If drivers avoid parking in front of the alley and avoid parking on the yellow stripe, that would make the other cars move easier even though it will be slow but the cars will be moving.

*Professor Viroat*

Question from Jamie: In your opinion, what do you think causes traffic congestion?

Answer from Professor Viroat: Majority of the vehicles that cause the problem is the private. Most people use cars. The average amount of people in one car is less than 1.5. Now, they are carrying the cars not transporting people. Also, there are only two lanes.

Question from Professor Viroat: What do you think?

Answer from Jamie: There are too many cars but we also saw that there are only two lanes and also a lot of people parking on the left lane and it blocks the way and causes bottlenecking. Illegal parking is the problem.

Question from Professor Viroat: Even if you can clear all the cars that stop, there're still the congestion because of too many cars on the road. Do you know the capacity in one lane (limitation of the flow).... can you guess the maximum flow in one hour especially on the highway?

Answer from Professor Viroat: 2200 PCU is passenger car per lane. that's the maximum cars. For the local road is less, it depends on car composition, driver behavior but i guess about 1000

per lane if you have two lanes of the Pracha Uthid Road is 2000 per direction. Without traffic lights (red color), it will flow smoothly. But in the real case, there are too many Sois (roads) and the vehicles have to merge or diverge from that lane and opposite traffic also want to turn right. otherwise the capacity would be much less. As you are engineering, you can find out the information about the condition of traffic from naluang intersection to suksawud road like how many minutes you can travel so people can plan their time before leaving their houses. but from my opinion, we need some scheme like demand management to manage the demand of traffic like how to reduce private car and how about the other modes of transport like public transportation like bus.... how many bus routes? No.75 and 21 but for pc90 only no.21. From the condition of the bus which is not good, we have to look at the level of service as well in order for people to change the mode. Public transport is very important, they need to have the incentive. First of all, we have to improve the level of service.

Question from Professor Viroat: Many measurements of the level of service, can you give an example?

Answer from John: Based on how many people use it at once, how frequently, reliability (Professor Viroat added), pricing is not a problem because they're free bus.

Professor Viroat: Nowadays, I observe that the bus decrease in downtown as i spend very long time to wait for a bus. He started riding since last two months. and he changed to Gapore. but i think biking is the best way. There are cases stated that students in Chainatt bike to school. The behavior has changed. As they use motorcycles to travel to school. 30-40% use motorcycles to school. for high school students use motorcycles by themselves and most of the accidents are from motorcycles. and 11 cases this year goes to motorcyclists and this is the problem. other portion, motorcycle is 30% and 20% for private cars and 30% is school bus. School bus is popular for students in rural area. When I was a student, there were not so many school bus but now it increased a lot because they pay themselves and no subsidies from government. And I heard you guys have school bus for free, that's why I research for the school bus as well. The beginning of last year, i tried 49 days to test students(from the paper i sent to you) to try the school bus line in order to see the attitude and behavior whether the parents want to change to my school bus or still want to drive their children to school. So, I thought the traffic congestion was occurred from another problem as educational problem also. Why the school bus is very popular in rural province... because they have to travel for long distance as they don't have good school outside. we have to change and modify our policy.

Professor Viroat: We need to charge more for parking in Thailand.

Nick: I have to take boat to BTS but it takes two and a half hour to go to University because i need to wait for BTS for 4-5 rounds and each round is 5 mins long to wait for space. That's why people are tired to wait.

Professor Viroat: In transportation field, we call it accessibility. It is how to make people travel smoothly and simplest. we can use my indicator as motorcycle taxi waiting below the BTS station at the stairs and it means that it is low accessibility for people. As you can see there are motorcycle taxi for all the stations unlike other country, it is because they can access to the station. Using motorcycles taxi is not that cheap and it is not safe as well. There are motorcycles taxi for all soi connected from the main road to alley. It is about 200 meters for Thai people to decide to take motorcycle taxi. Also, sidewalk is important if we have a good side walk then people would use to walk. And i tried to convince the government to improve the sidewalk for people who walk and ride bicycles at least 2 meters width as the minimum requirement and it was not so easy to do it.

Professor Viroat: Paying for someone else to reserve a parking space, like how university faculties paying for professors, is an incentive for people to us a car. This practice is the wrong direction. People should have to pay if they want to use their car.

Professor Viroat: I got the parking spot for free because my faculty pay the fee for me and i think it is not good. As we are going to the wrong direction. Public awareness is important and how to develop that. We need a management to help or stakeholders to work together and communicate to each other. everyone should solve together. As i tried with the school bus to that school for the students that come with their parents to school with the budget i got from an organization, but after trying thy have to stand alone so it's very expensive and who get the benefit .. it's the parents and the road users and those people must pay but from the research they would not pay. Parents refused to pay the school bus fee with the tuition fee because if they have to pay then they rather choose to send their children by their own. So, government cooperate is necessary. Moreover, stakeholder must gather together at once to understand the meaning of corporation.and we have to analyze the impact whether who get the benefit actually they all get the benefit from this kind of project but they just haven't realized yet and there is no negative impact but it needs a manager or policy maker to understand the problem. So, you try to educate the students and their parents, they may understand the problem but they just don't know how to react.

Nick: I have seen your implementation on smart taxi.

Professor Viroat: It is another mode to travel and any problem that you observe?

Answer from John: Illegal parking. they stop to pick up passengers and cause bottlenecking.

Professor Viroat: We need to improve and develop the taxi stand. We don't know where to call the taxi. and the location is not clear for people to call the taxi. I think if we can serve within the short time and increase the number of passengers then you can increase the demand of taxis. If we separate zones like small zones and many zones and we have this kind of center (managing the order for each zone) then many people would shift their mode of using their private car to use taxis by sharpening the waiting time and that's my point.

### *Interviews at Na Luang School*

Below you will find transcripts of our interviews with administrators and teachers at the Na Luang School. These interviews helped guide us in determining how to best design our educational approach to alleviate traffic congestion.

#### *Interview with the Head of Education Department at the Na Luang School*

1. Do you teach traffic education in the health subject?

A: Yes we do. We also teach them in social subject. Kids in grade 5 and 6 usually have field trips on traffic education.

2. Is it continuous? Does every grade get to go?

A: No, it depends on each year. Some years we bring grade 4.

3. How long has it been?

A: I think 2 years.

4. Do you think there is any difference after the field trip?

A: In everyday life I think it is the same but kids will learn more about the road signs and regulations. In the field trip kids get to experience using bicycle roads.

5. When do school activities usually take place?

A: It's usually on weekdays, but sometimes also weekends if they tell us in advance.

6. Does it affect the school lessons? Does it affect the school time?

A: No, because it is usually about topics that we can relate to our school subjects. Yes, it affects the school time but teachers usually will have make up classes. Our curriculum depends on the standards not the textbook.

7. When does the make up class take place?

A: It depends sometimes if we can combine 2 lessons together, if not there will be make up classes in the evening.

8. Where did you get the education standards?

A: From the ministry of education (□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□), but the teachers change it according to school style.

9. Do you change it to fit the school more?

A: Yes, sometimes. We change it to fit the other topics or Bangkok's policy "Grow up to not become a cheater", asean, and life skills.

10. Does the ministry of education set up a curriculum for you?

A: No, we get the set of standards from the ministry of education and change it accordingly to fit our styles. However, the standards are still met (e.g. hours of teaching, etc.).

11. Do you think traffic problem is important?

A: Yes, I think it is very important. But the traffic issues today is from the road user's manners.

12. So, do you think the traffic education will be important?

A: Yes, actually we already teach them about traffic education but the problem is on the parents (e.g. parents takes their child to cross the road without using the bridge).

13. Do you mention about this in student-parent meeting?

A: We mention about the traffic in our school (drop off spot and one way road in the school). We cannot force them about the manners outside school.

14. Is it hard to come in and set up an activity at the school?

A: No, KMUTT also comes in often.

15. What do you think about the people who come in to observe?

A: I think it's good, the observers also gain something from their work. But it also depends on their project if it is interesting.

16. In your opinion, which is the best way to solve traffic problems?

A: Firstly, road user's manners.

17. Do you think minimizing the private cars will help?

A: Yes, I think it will help but our road is not safe for bicyclist. Also, public transportation is also not convenient enough for people who do not live next to the trains. Even bicycle lanes are not convenient.

18. Do you have kids who ride bicycles/motorbikes to school?

A: Yes, there are kids who ride motorbikes and bicycles to school but those are high school kids.

19. How do parents come to send their children to school?

A: Mostly motorcycles and some come by gapores.

20. Are gapores safe?

A: Usually kids that are grown take gapores by themselves.

21. Do you tell the students which modes of transportation is safe or not safe?

A: Usually are the parent's responsibility. We cannot tell the kids which mode to take or not to take.

22. What about motorcycles that come with 3 people?

A: We can't help that. Some families have 2 kids and we can't make the parent go back and forth.

23. Do you think traffic problems should be solved quickly? Where do you think has the biggest problem?

A: Yes, I think the traffic problem is very severe. The intersection is the worst, taxis don't even want to come here. I think we have to change our own behaviors (e.g. leave the house earlier).

24. Do you have parents association in school? Do they have any roles to help the school?

A: Yes, we do. They usually give us help when we ask for it (e.g. opinions or money).

25. Do you think it will be helpful if people come educate the kids?

A: Yes, it's good to educate the kids but it depends if the kids will apply what they learnt.

26. I recognized that kids here have really good manners, what are some techniques you use to teach the students?

A: It actually depends on the teachers that how they teach the students. We have to teach them early so they will learn better. But we don't usually hit the students with sticks.

27. If we have an activity for about 1-2 hours on traffic education, do you think it will work? What are the limitations?

A: Firstly, you will have to talk to us about what will you do, when, and tell us the details. Actually every school has life skills class for 2 hours every week. The activity varies in each week, we will decide what is important to the kids life skills. Traffic is also life skills (safety, etc.) so you guys can come at that time.

28. Is there any excellent programs that came here in the past?

A: There are good programs that came here, but I never saw a really good one.

### *Interview with Teachers*

1. What is the general background of the students?

A: Students can be divided into different groups. There are students who live around the school (in Thung Khru district). There are "sport" students (athletes), they come from other areas. They

live at Bang Mod sports center (across the school). There are students who live in Samutprakarn district, located not far from the school.

2. What are some common behaviors of the students?

A: This place has all types of children, including students with disorders and disabilities, and unprivileged students.

3. Do you usually have student-parent meeting?

A: Once per semester.

4. What topics are usually mentioned at the meeting?

A: Usually it's more on the school's policy e.g. improper uniform, improper hairstyles, not allowing parents to pick up their children in the school building.

5. What vehicles do parents usually use to send their children to school?

A: Motorbikes, motorbike taxi, and some personal cars. There is not enough space to park personal cars, but specific drop off spots are provided. If there is a school fair, cars will have to go park at the Bangkok's sports center. There is also a program from the Bangkok government that provides green helmets to both the students and parents that come with motorcycles. There are also field trips to Min Buri for traffic education every year. There will be a school program coming up for both students and parents to distribute helmets and educate them on Bangkok's policy.

6. Do you think educating the students would help?

A: Yes. Students would act and follow what they have seen and learned.

7. What ages do you think are the best at learning?

A: The younger the better because educating them and making them believe is much easier than teenagers. Also, the topic should be taught continuously in each year.

8. Is there a measurement of success from any previous programs done in the school?

A: Only pre and post surveys. No one usually informs us about the results. They only come to do activities and make observations.

9. In your opinion, do you think traffic education would make any difference to the Thung Khru district?

A: Yes, of course. It would make a difference.

10. Do you think informing parents will be a good idea?

A: Yes, with activities not only lecture. Road manners are also taught in health education subject. However, it is not so effective to students because there is no motivation for them to pay attention. Topics should be taught to students continuously from the beginning until they graduate. Actually the problem is caused by the adults especially at the Na Luang intersection. As songthaews often block the flow when the green light is on. Horns will always be needed to chase the songthaews until the flow continues.

11. Do you have a “guidance” subject?

A: We only have homeroom. It is about moral and ethics and the issues inside the school. The issue is usually obvious e.g. improper uniform, hair lice, and friendship problems.

12. Students informing their parents about what’s going on with the school or teachers informing the parents, which way is better?

A: There is a book to parents which would be often distributed to each student to bring it home. There is no permission for the students to talk with their parents personally about the issues in the school. The parents would believe what teachers say or suggest because the teachers are the one who take care of their kids.

13. Who are those people coming for the school program?

A: They are older students from Khajornrojwittaya School who would like to educate the students and parents to wear the helmet while riding motorbikes.

14. From your experience, do the students come and join the activities?

A: Yes, most of them join the activities especially on weekdays.

15. Can you draw their attentions to join the activity by providing extra points?

A: No. There is no F grade in this school and there is nothing you can do to scare them or make them follow you.

16. What is the difference between the students in the past and the current students?

A: The students in the past obey teachers and pay attention to the lecture but the current students follow their friends and play games most of the time because their parents sometimes are not always available. There are too many distractions in today’s world.

17. Are the students allowed to carry mobile phones?

A: Yes, the students are allowed to carry mobile phones with them. It is useful in some subjects like in science they are allowed to search for information. First grade is starting to use mobile phones.

18. Is there a parents association at the school?

A: Yes, there is a parent teacher association. They focus on issues around the school. Mostly, parents help the school conduct activities. There are still no parents offering to do any activity for school improvements so far.

19. Which would be better, creating the activity or including it in the curriculum in a subject?

A: Creating the activity is better because including it in the curriculum can become very difficult.

20. In your opinion, what methods do you think would solve the traffic congestion?

A: The laws should be stricter and people must follow the regulations. Moreover, there was a video about police accepting bribe from a driver and it was published throughout all the media. It actually helps to stop this behavior because people are scared of being embarrassed in the public. However, the behavior only lasts for a year. Also, he mentioned about what's going on to Singapore as the action was taken seriously and it continues to remind the people to behave.

21. Apart from the corruption, what do you think about road users that affect the traffic congestion?

A: I think it is Thai behavior. For example, Thai people like to drive their cars to cross cut somebody's car and they think it's cool. But that creates bad manners on the road which other people follow.

22. Do you think media helps change behavior?

A: Yes, a lot.

23. What types of media do you think it would work for educating the students?

A: Video and activity would make the kids participate and remember the contents better than just lecturing.

24. Do you think trying to influence the kids now, will have a positive impact on the kids, especially after they graduate?

A: Yes, if the kids get bad influence they will grow up in the bad way. When they grow up they will remember only the bad things. For example, if the child comes from a thief family the chance he will grow up to become a thief is high. However, any education you give them you will have to do it continuously. If not, it will not work.

25. If we are going to educate the kids on traffic manners now, what topics do you think should be useful for them to know in the future?

A: Personally, I think you should focus more on the present time, we can't really decide for the future.

26. What education do you give to the fourth and fifth grade students, it doesn't have to be related to traffic?

A: Now, I don't really see anything related to traffic. But there are some subjects where we relate social issues to the main subjects(e.g. we include morals into the mathematics subject).

## **Appendix B : Focus Group Transcripts**

We utilized two focus groups to help us design the traffic awareness program to help alleviate traffic congestion. Below, you will find transcripts from the two focus groups; the first one is the Na Luang PTA focus group, the second one is the Pracha Uthit Soi 43 community focus group.

### *Na Luang PTA Focus Group*

Individuals present:

1. Mr. Suthep Mitryupol
2. Mr. Udom Twasuwan
3. Ms. Naruemon Sodawang
4. Ms. Pasit Jitprawong
5. Ms. Pikul Jumpa
6. Ms. Nurean Sriwanna

Mr. Suthep: Before we start anything, let me introduce some information about Thung Khru district first. Our Thung Khru district is taken care of by two police offices, the first one is the Thung Khru police office, and the second one is the Ratburana police office. Usually when there are any accidents, Ratburana police office will take care of the case. Before the area was under supervision of the village headman, but now the system has changed so the Bangkok government assigned a village president instead.

Some things about traffic that I see is that the problem is caused by: 1. district officers, 2. police officers, 3. traffic itself, and 4. not enough police officers. Within a 5 kilometer distance, there are 95 police officers who are in charge of the area. However, only 6 are in charge of traffic. We also have volunteers in our district where people come sign up to become one. The village president and vice president will have meetings with the district and police officers every month. When there are any problems in our district, we come together and discuss it.

Back to the traffic problem. You can see right now that in front of Pracha Uthit 54 there is heavy traffic. There are motorcycle taxis that volunteer to help conduct the traffic flow because the traffic is really bad and there are not enough police officers.

Mr. Suthep: May I interrupt for a second. I want to talk about the smaller scope, to talk about the alleys. I think we should have curved mirrors and reduce speed signs at every village to reduce accidents. I did ask the Bangkok government for the equipment, but they said that I have to write a letter and give it to them.

Mr. Udom: If you said you were going to do this, I really agree with you guys. Pracha Uthit has around 130 alleys on both right and left side. There are a lot of villages in this area and many songthaew not parking at appropriate stops. I think this problem will have to be solved with the road user's behaviors. The police usually have a program 'Sao-Thong-Haa-Natee' where the police comes to the school in the morning and talks to students about the traffic. However, the police has too much work to do so they did not have enough time to continue this program. I think it will be good that you guys as a group will come work with the kids about road user's behavior. You guys can actually assign the students to be the traffic leader so that the students will feel proud and remind their parents every time they see their parents do wrong. I actually really agree with the program that you guys are working on. I also think that you guys should start from very little kids so they can learn better. The reason I think that having this program will help is because now on the road, we have all the signs that should be there, but no one obeys the sign at all. If there are kids who come and tell the parents that doing something is bad, the parents will feel guilty. You can assign the kids as traffic leaders so they will enjoy being part of the program.

1. How do you usually send your children to school?

Mr. Suthep: Motorcycles.

Ms. Naruemon: Walking.

Ms. Pasit: Motorcycle taxis.

Ms. Pikul: Songthaews or buses.

Mr. Suthep: Where do the parents wait for the songthaews to stop.

Ms. Naruemon: I just wait in front of the alley because there is a bus stop right there. But I usually walk my children to school.

Ms. Pasit: The problem is that the songthaews don't park at the bus stops. I think it's dangerous.

2. When using public transportation, what factors are you most concerned about?

Ms. Pikul: Safety.

3. So do you think songthaews are safe?

Ms. Pikul: I think it is similar to the other public transportations.

4. Are songthaews better than other public transportations?

Ms. Pasit: For buses, they have a lot of problems. I once argued with them too. They like to turn on loud music and they won't hear us ring the bell.

Ms. Nurean: Sometimes they also smoke. Next time I will remember the face of the driver and I won't ride on that bus again.

Ms. Pasit: I once send my children off to school by bicycles.

Ms. Pikul: I think it will also be good if we have bike lanes.

Mr. Udom: I already tried bringing this up, but our road cannot be expanded for bike lanes. But we can have bicycle campaigns where we can encourage the students to use bicycles. One thing about bicycles, most parents will buy motorcycles instead of bicycles for their children because the price for reserving a motorbike is not expensive, which they can continue to pay by installments later on.

5. Are you concerned about your children's safety if they bike to school by themselves?

Ms. Nurean: If there is no bike lanes, I won't allow my child to bike to school by themselves.

Mr. Suthep: I think now the road has less bicycles, however, if there are more bikes on the road, the children will figure out by themselves on how to bike safely on the road.

6. Do you think it will be better if the children wait for the songthaews at appropriate places?

Mr. Suthep: Yes, songthaews park where ever there are customers. If the customers wait at the right places, then the songthaews will park there. That is how you teach the students to practice right behaviors.

Mr. Udom: If we can have traffic leaders, kids will be very happy and would feel like they are a part of something.

7. Do you agree with educating the children with alternative modes of travel?

Mr. Suthep: I think bike lanes are about politics. They only build bike lanes at tourists places not the places where there are schools.

Ms. Nurean: Now there are a lot of motorcycles, they should learn to ride on the road not on the pavements. I always have to give way to them and it's really dangerous.

8. What topics do you think should be included in the program?

Ms. Pasit: I think it depends on the children. I see a lot of kids who don't use the cross over bridge.

Mr. Suthep: We should have escalators for the cross over bridge.

Mr. Udom: One thing is about the road user's manners. We educate the kids but they don't get to see the actual picture of the real thing so it's no use. I think there should be a lot of encouraging signs for the kids on the streets.

9. If we make encouraging signs for the kids, would it be possible to set them up on the streets?

Mr. Suthep: Sure, just come and talk to Mr. Udom he will help you talk to the district officers.

10. Our educational program will include videos, interactive activities, and pamphlets to give to the parents. Can we have any suggestions on our program?

Ms. Pikul: I think it is really good idea.

Ms. Naruemon: Just make sure that you focus more on the behaviors on the road.

11. What do you think about the pamphlets?

Mr. Suthep: I think the picture is not attractive. Why is it showing the back of the bikers? What is the meaning behind this picture?

Ms. Naruemon: As long as the kids bring the pamphlets back home, we will surely get to see it. Suppose if one family has one child, but there are more than one adult so not only one adult will see it.

12. How do you think the parents will realize that their behaviors cause traffic congestion?

Ms. Pasit: I think it's hard to change the people's behaviors.

Ms. Naruemon: Sometimes the child is a child of a songthaew driver, maybe they can tell their parents.

Ms. Nurean: Maybe not make all of them realize all at once, but little by little will do.

13. What do people in Thung Khru need to see to change their behavior that causes traffic congestion?

Ms. Naruemon: I think there should be more encouraging signs.

Ms. Pikul: The police should come out of the resting place to help direct the traffic.

14. What do you think about a walking school bus?

Ms. Nurean: Absolutely no, because I live far away.

Ms. Pikul: No, because safety is a concern. Us Thais don't have discipline like other countries so how can we know that our child will be safe?

Mr. Udom: Also, the child may have to wake up earlier to be able to come to school on time.

15. Do you have any more comments on traffic leaders? Do you think if the people outside the school give importance to these kids, will it get better?

Ms. Naruemon: Maybe you can ask for cooperation from other people like the KMUTT.

Mr. Udom: The most important thing is that you have to do the program continuously. I think this program will work if the kids remind their parents, they might feel shameful when their kids are telling them to do the right thing.

16. What do you think about carpooling?

Ms. Pasit: I wouldn't want to pick up other people's children. I don't want to be responsible if there are any accidents.

Mr. Udom: Also, each family has different schedules. Each parent has different times to go to work and send their child to school so it would be hard for the families to do this.

Name of the parents:

1. Jurairat Somsook (2 kids in Naluang school)
2. Somkuan Phirompaksa (1 kid in Naluang school and 1 in Sarasas school)
3. Jaturong (1 kid at Kajonroj school)

1. What are the ages of your kids?

Mrs. : Grades 5-6.

2. How do the children commute to school?

Mrs. Jurairat: Mostly, the children take motorcycles taxis or we send them by motorcycles.

3. Is that mode of transportation safe?

Mrs. Jurairat: Yes, it's better than allowing our children to walk back from school. Walking is not safe when our children walk alone. There was a time when my niece walked back home and she was almost tricked by a stranger. Therefore, motorcycles are the safest at the moment. But if the kids really have to walk, we will have a safer route for them to walk (way through KMUTT).

4. How much do you think your niece knows about traffic?

Mrs. Jurairat: Not so much because they travel with motorcycle taxi everyday. We never teach them about the traffic. But we always tell them to use the bridge for crossing the road.

5. What age do you allow your children to walk?

Mrs. Jurairat: It's hard to decide because it is not safe nowadays. There are a lot of news where kids get tricked and kidnapped. So we only allow our children to walk with trusted people.

6. Do you have volunteers that can help look after the children?

Mrs. Jurairat: No.

7. Do you think traffic awareness education is important?

Mrs. Somkuan: Yes, if it is taught continuously. Even teaching them to deal with strangers and taking care of themselves.

8. Do you think our program is suitable? What other topics do you think should be included in the program?

Mrs. Somkuan: Yes, the program is good but it also depends on the topics you include in the program. Identifying good or bad people, crossing the road, and modes of transportation should also be taught. We also teach our children to cross the road sometimes (Mrs. Jurairat said she taught her niece to trust herself but not the crossing light).

9. Who usually live in the apartment around here?

Mrs. Somkuan: KMUTT students.

10. In your opinion, what do people in Thung Khru need to see to feel change here.

Mrs. Somkuan & Mrs. Jurairat: Using red flags to cross the road is a good idea. The cars do not stop for the people who are crossing the road even though the green lights are on for the pedestrians.

11. Is there a school bus/van?

Mrs. Jurairat: It needs to be paid for monthly and the van sends the kids late. Therefore, parents think it is better to take a motorcycle or motorcycle taxi because everybody knows each other in the community.

12. Do your children have phones?

Mrs. Somkuan: Yes, so we can contact them when they finish school.

13. Do your children wear helmets when they ride motorcycles to school?

Mrs. Jaturong: No, we don't have helmets. Na Luang School actually gives out helmets but some kids who come later don't get one. Also, the helmets are too small.

14. What do you think about the idea of a walking school bus?

Mrs. Jurairat: It's good, but there is a lack of volunteers who would lead the kids to school. In our community, everyone is busy doing their work. We have a lot of kids who go to Na Luang School. If there is an escort to bring the kids to school, then we think this idea will work.

15. Do your children know traffic signs?

Mrs. Jaturong: I think they learn signs at school.

16. Would you allow your children to bike to school?

Mrs. Jaturong & Mrs. Jurairat: Definitely not. There are too many cars and no bike lanes so it is not safe.

17. What if there are bike lanes? Would you allow them to bike to school?

Mrs. Jaturong: Yes, we would allow them to bike to school.