Recognition of spaces for children in urban development and physical planning is an emerging concept. At a global level, cities are undertaking different paths to build a safe physical environment for children.

Dehradun the capital of Uttarakhand has long been known as the “School Capital of India”. Rapid urban development, coupled with unprecedented growth in number of registered vehicles and influx of vehicles on city roads from surrounding areas, has contributed to large-scale increase of traffic in the city. This increasing intensity of traffic has resulted in traffic congestion, delays, rise in accidents, pollution levels, etc. which pose potential threat to the safety and security of school students in their commute to and from schools. To tackle these issues, there is a need for a vision which would put children at the centre stage of city planning, design and implementation.

Keeping SDG 11.2 as a background, the foremost goal of this vision is to include child-friendly design aspects to ease mobility considerations, thereby mainstreaming the needs of school students in the urban policy and planning framework of the city. The vision looks at children’s mobility needs in a comprehensive manner across thematic areas of health, safety and security and transportation/mobility.