

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER  
DES MOINES, IOWA

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION 96-413  
SEPTEMBER 23, 1996 AGENDA

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
REMOVAL OF CROSSING GUARDS— NOON CROSSING PERIOD	◆ RESOLUTION ORDINANCE RECEIVE/FILE	JAMES THOMPSON TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR

**SYNOPSIS —**

Each year a survey is taken over a two-week period of noontime crossings at intersections supervised by school crossing guards. This year 15 of the 31 crossing guard locations had an average of less than one child crossing, and the noontime guards at these locations are recommended to be removed.

**FISCAL IMPACT —**

Funding for Adult School Crossing Guard salaries is provided for in the approved operating budget. The City is reimbursed one-half of the salary costs by Des Moines Independent School District. Removal of the guard during the noon crossing period for the remainder of the school year at 15 locations is expected to save approximately \$20,000 in direct salary.

**RECOMMENDATION —**

Approval.

**BACKGROUND —**

In 1989, after extensive discussions with the elementary school principals and the Citywide PTA, the attached Policy for Adult School Crossing Guards - Noon Crossing Period was approved by the Citywide PTA Council, the Traffic Safety Committee, the City Council, and the Des Moines School Board. Based on the established policy, there were 12 locations in 1991-92, 15 locations in 1992-93, 17 locations in 1993-94, 13 locations in 1994-95, and 11 locations in the 1995-96 school year.

With the beginning of the 1996-97 school year, we have conducted daily counts of the number of students crossing during the noon period. The results of these counts are shown in the attached tabulation. In accordance with the adopted policy, the guards would be removed during the noon period at these 15 locations:

<u>School</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Location</u>
Greenwood	35th and Ingersoll	Hanawalt	56th and Grand
Hillis	Merle Hay Road	Hubbell	42nd and Center
Jackson	SE 14th and Watrous	Longfellow	Penn and Fremont
Lucas	East 15th and Grand	Monroe	30th and Hickman
Moore	51st and Douglas	Moulton	6th and College
Oak Park	6th and Euclid	Willard	East 30th and Dean
Windsor	63rd and University	Windsor	Merle Hay and University
Woodlawn	Lower Beaver and Douglas		

At their September 17, 1996 meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee approved the removal of the adult school crossing guard at these locations effective Monday, September 30, 1996. As has been done in each of the past several years, letters will be sent to each of the 15 schools, notifying the Principal that the crossing guard would be removed during the noon period, effective September 30, and requesting that they contact the Traffic and Transportation Department if they have any additional information or concerns about the removal of the guard for the noon period.

**Attachments**

POLICY FOR  
ADULT SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS  
NOON CROSSING PERIOD

CITY OF DES MOINES  
TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT  
SEPTEMBER 1989

At the beginning of each school year, the following procedure is proposed for each location where an adult school crossing guard is assigned to determine whether the guard will cover all three crossing periods, or only the morning and afternoon periods.

1. *First Week of School:* Let crossing activity normalize.
2. *Second - Third Weeks:* Daily count of number of students crossing at noon period (by crossing guard, with verification by Traffic and Transportation and/or school).
3. *Fourth Week:* Make decision on noon crossing period with each school Principal.\*
4. *Beginning of Fifth Week:* Crossing guard removed for noon period only as determined above.
5. *After Fifth Week:* School Principal will notify Traffic and Transportation Department of any changes in enrollment that will affect the noon crossing activity. Traffic and Transportation will reevaluate the location and make decision on the noon crossing period with the school Principal.\*

\* Based on an average of ONE or more children crossing unattended during noon crossing period, guard will be assigned to the noon period. If less than average of ONE, guard will not be assigned for noon period, but will remain for morning and afternoon crossing periods.

CITY OF DES MOINES  
 TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION  
 ADULT SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD LOCATIONS  
 Noon Crossing Periods  
 September 1996

School	Location	08/26	08/27	08/28	08/29	08/30	09/03	09/04	09/05	09/06	09/09	09/10	09/11	Total	Average	REMOVE	KEEP
Adams	E. 29th & Euclid	2	2	3	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	20	1.82		X
Cattell	E. 14th & E. Hull	1	1	3	2	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	17	1.55		X
Douglas	E. 38th & Hubbell	12	11	12	15	15	12	12	14	11	12	14	15	140	12.73		X
	3800 Blk. E. Douglas	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	19	1.73		X
Edmunds	19th & Crocker	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	0	2	2	1	1	14	1.27		X
Findley	2nd & Hull	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00		X
Greenwood	37th & Grand	0	1	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0.55		X
	35th & Ingersoll	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	X	
Hanawalt	56th & Grand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	X	
Hillis	Merle Hay Road	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	X	
	Hickman Road	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	8	0.73		X
Hubbell	42nd & Center	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	X	
Jackson	SE 14th & Watrous	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	X	
King	19th & Clark	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	3	3	3	3	21	1.91		X
	ML King & Clark	1	2	2	1	2	0	1	1	1	2	1	2	14	1.27		X
Longfellow	Penn & Fremont	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	X	
Lucas	E. 15th & Grand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	X	
Monroe	30th & Hickman	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	X	
Moore	51st & Douglas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	X	
Moulton	6th & College	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	X	
Oak Park	6th & Euclid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	X	
	School has large daycare, both ways.																
Park Avenue	SW 9th & Park	10	9	9	8	12	9	8	8	6	8	8	8	95	8.64		X
Phillips	Hubbell & Easton	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	2	3	2	30	2.73		X
Rice	Beaver & Adams	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	19	1.73		X
	Beaver & Urbandale	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	2	0	0	0	2	13	1.18		X
Wallace	E. 14th & Cleveland	2	3	4	3	2	3	2	2	1	3	2	2	27	2.45		X
Watrous	SW 14th/Army Post	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	3	2	2	24	2.18		X
Willard	E. 30th & Dean	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	X	
Windsor	63rd & University	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	X	
	Merle Hay & Univ.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	X	
Woodlawn	L. Beaver & Douglas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	X	