

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER  
DES MOINES, IOWA

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION 97-462  
SEPTEMBER 22, 1997 AGENDA

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
REMOVAL OF CROSSING GUARDS— NOON CROSSING PERIOD	◆ RESOLUTION ORDINANCE RECEIVE/FILE	HAROLD SMITH CITY ENGINEER

**SYNOPSIS —**

Each year a survey is taken over a two-week period of noontime crossings at intersections supervised by school crossing guards. This year, 19 of the 31 crossing guard locations had no crossing activity, and the noontime guards at these locations are recommended to be removed. The guards would remain at these locations for the morning and afternoon crossing periods.

**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 the Des Moines Independent School District. Removal of the guard during the noon crossing period for the remainder of the school year at 19 locations is expected to save approximately \$24,000 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 15 locations in 1992-93, 17 locations in 1993-94, 13 locations in 1994-95, 11 locations in 1995-96, and 15 locations in the 1996-97 school year, where the noon crossing guard was removed.

With the beginning of the 1997-98 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 19 locations:

<u>School</u>	<u>Location</u>
Findley	2nd and Hull
Greenwood	37th and Grand
	35th and Ingersoll
Hanawalt	56th and Grand
Hillis	Merle Hay Road
Hubbell	42nd and Center
Jackson	SE 14th and Watrous

<u>School</u>	<u>Location</u>
King	19th and Clark
Longfellow	M. L. King and Clark
Lucas	Penn and Fremont
Monroe	E 15th and Grand
Moore	30th and Hickman
Moulton	51st and Douglas
Oak Park	6th and College
Willard	6th and Euclid
Windsor	E 30th and Dean
Windsor	63rd and University
Woodlawn	Merle Hay and University
	Lower Beaver and Douglas

At their September 16, 1997 meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee approved the removal of the adult school crossing guards at these locations, pending Council approval. Each school has been contacted by the police officer who supervises the adult crossing guards, advising of the proposed removal of the guard. Following Council action, letters will be sent to each of the affected schools, notifying the school principal that the crossing guard is being removed during the noon period, and requesting that they contact the Traffic and Transportation Division if they have any additional information or concerns about the removal of the guard for the noon period.

Attachments

CITY OF DES MOINES  
TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION  
ADULT SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD LOCATIONS

Noon Crossing Periods

September 1997

School	Location	08/25	08/26	08/27	08/28	08/29	09/02	09/03	09/04	09/05	09/08	09/09	09/10	Total	Average	REMOVE	KEEP
Adams	E. 29th & Euclid	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	23	2.09		X
Cattell	E. 14th & E. Hull	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	15	1.36		X
Douglas	E. 38th & Hubbell	15	11	15	15	15	16	12	12	14	15	15	14	155	14.09		X
	3800 Blk. E. Douglas	2	1	1	2	2	0	2	2	1	2	2	2	17	1.55		X
Edmunds	19th & Crocker	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	20	1.82		X
Findley	2nd & Hull	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	X	
Greenwood	37th & Grand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	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	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	21	1.91		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	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	X	
	ML King & Clark	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	X	
	19th & Forest	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	4	5	4	5	4	5	0.00		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	
Park Avenue*	SW 9th & Park	10	8	8	8	11	12	10	8	8	8	8	8	99	9.00		X
Phillips	Hubbell & Easton	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	17	1.55		X
Rice	Beaver & Adams	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	22	2.00		X
	Beaver & Urbandale	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	22	2.00		X
Wallace	E. 14th & Cleveland	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	21	1.91		X
Watrous	SW 14th/Army Post	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	16	1.45		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	

\* Park Avenue school has large daycare, both ways.

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.