

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA**

98-442

SYNOPSIS —

AGENDA:

SEPTEMBER 28, 1998

Each year a survey is taken over a two-week period of noontime crossings at intersections supervised by school crossing guards. This year 20 of the 33 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.

SUBJECT:

REMOVAL OF CROSSING
GUARDS—NOON
CROSSING PERIOD

FISCAL IMPACT —

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

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 20 locations is expected to save approximately \$25,000 in direct salary.

SUBMITTED BY:

HAROLD SMITH
CITY ENGINEER

RECOMMENDATION —

Approval.

BACKGROUND —

In 1989, after extensive discussions with the elementary school principals and the Citywide Parent Teacher Association (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 17 locations in 1993-94, 13 locations in 1994-95, 11 locations in 1995-96, 15 locations in 1996-97, and

19 locations in the 1997-98 school year, where the noon crossing guard was removed.

With the beginning of the 1998-99 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 20 locations:

School	Location
Granger	SE 1st and Leach
Greenwood	37th and Grand 35th and Ingersoll
Hanawalt	56th and Grand
Hillis	Merle Hay Road
Hubbell	42nd and Center
Jackson	SE 14th and Watrous
King	19th and Clark M. L. King and Clark 19th and Forest
Longfellow	Penn and Fremont
Lucas	East 15th and Grand
Monroe	30th and Hickman
Moulton	6th and College
Oak Park	6th and Euclid
Rice	Beaver and Urbandale
Watrous	SW 14th and Army Post
Windsor	63rd and University Merle Hay and University
Woodlawn	Lower Beaver and Douglas

At their September 15, 1998 meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee approved the removal of the adult school crossing guard at these locations, pending Council approval. Each school has been contacted in writing by the Traffic and Transportation Division and also by the

police officer who supervises the adult crossing guards, advising of the proposed removal of the guard. It has been requested of each principal 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 (2)