

**CITY COUNCIL  
COMMUNICATION:**

**ITEM \_\_\_\_\_**

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

**99-436**

**SYNOPSIS -**

**AGENDA:**  
SEPTEMBER 27, 1999

Each year a survey is taken over a two-week period of noontime crossings at intersections supervised by school crossing guards. This year 22 of the 30 crossing guard locations had no crossing activity. It is recommended to remove the noontime guards at these locations. The guards would remain at these locations for the morning and afternoon crossing periods.

**SUBJECT:**  
REMOVAL OF  
SCHOOL CROSSING  
GUARDS AT  
VARIOUS  
LOCATIONS  
DURING THE NOON  
CROSSING PERIOD

**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. The removal of the guards at these 22 locations during the noon crossing period for the remainder of the school year is expected to save approximately \$27,500 in direct salary.

**TYPE:**

**RECOMMENDATION -**

**RESOLUTION**  
ORDINANCE  
RECEIVE/FILE

**Approval.**

**SUBMITTED BY:**

**BACKGROUND -**

FLOYD BENTZ, P.E.  
CITY ENGINEER

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 13 locations in 1994-95, 11 locations in 1995-96, 15 locations in 1996-97, 19 locations in the 1997-98 school year, and 20 locations in 1998-99 where the noon crossing guard was removed.

With the beginning of the 1999-2000 school year, daily counts of the number of students crossing during the noon period have been taken. 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 the following 22 locations:

School	Location
Cattell	E. 14th and E. Hull
Douglas	E. 38th and Hubbell
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
Monroe	30th and Hickman
Moulton	6th and College
Oak Park	6th and Euclid
Wallace	E. 14th and Cleveland
Watrous	SW 14th and Army Post
Willard	E. 30th and Dean
Windsor	63rd and University Merle Hay and University
Woodlawn	Lower Beaver and Douglas

At their September 21, 1999, meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee approved the removal of the adult school crossing guard at these locations, effective Monday, October 4, 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

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