



**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

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

00-435

SYNOPSIS -

AGENDA:

SEPTEMBER 25, 2000

Each year a survey is taken over a two-week period of noontime crossings at intersections supervised by school crossing guards. This year 25 of the 30 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, and would be reinstated for the noon period if there is a change in enrollment that causes children to cross during the noon period.

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 Des Moines Independent School District. The operating budget currently reflects the approximate number of guards that are anticipated to be removed during the noon-time period; therefore, there is no impact to City funding.

SUBMITTED BY:

FLOYD BENTZ, P.E.
CITY ENGINEER

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 11 locations in 1995-96, 15 locations in 1996-97, 19 locations in the 1997-98 school year, 20 locations in 1998-99, and 22 locations in 1999-2000 where the noon crossing guard was removed.

With the beginning of the 2000-2001 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 these 25 locations:

School	Location
Cattell	E. 14th and E Hull
Douglas	E. 38th and Hubbell
Findley	2nd and Hull
Granger	SE 1st and Leach
Greenwood	37th and Grand 35th and Ingersoll
Hanawalt	56th and Grand
Hillis	Merle Hay Road Hickman 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
Moore	51st and Douglas
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 19, 2000 meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee approved the removal of the adult school crossing guard at these locations effective Monday, October 2, 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. In addition, if there is any change in enrollment or other school activity that causes children to cross during the noon period, the crossing guard would be reinstated for the noon crossing period.

Attachments