

## Meeting Agendas/Info

**CITY COUNCIL  
COMMUNICATION:**

**01-484**

**AGENDA:**

SEPTEMBER 24, 2001

**SUBJECT:**

REMOVAL OF  
CROSSING  
GUARDS-NOON  
CROSSING PERIOD

**TYPE:**

**RESOLUTION  
ORDINANCE  
RECEIVE/FILE**

**SUBMITTED BY:**

FLOYD BENTZ, P.E.  
CITY ENGINEER

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

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

**SYNOPSIS -**

Each year a survey is taken over a two-week period of noontime crossings at intersections supervised by school crossing guards. This year 30 of the 33 crossing guard locations had no crossing activity; therefore, 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.

**FISCAL IMPACT -**

Funding for Adult School Crossing Guard salaries are 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 noontime period; therefore, there is no additional impact to City funding.

**RECOMMENDATION -**

**Approval.**

**BACKGROUND -**

In 1989, after extensive discussions with the elementary school principals and the Citywide PTA, the Policy for Adult School Crossing Guards - Noon Crossing Period attached to the roll call 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 the 1996-97 school year; 19 locations in the 1997-98 school year; 20 locations in the 1998-99 school year; 22 locations in the 1999-2000 school year; and 25 locations in 2000-01 where the noon crossing guard was

removed. The only student crossing at noon is related to half-day kindergarten. As more schools go to the all-day kindergarten, there are more schools each year where no students cross during the noon time period.

With the beginning of the 2001-2002 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 tabulation attached to the roll call. In accordance with the adopted policy, the guards would be removed during the noon period at these 30 locations:

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