

CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

R-26

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August 16, 2016

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt the findings of the Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee relating to updating crossing guard locations at intersections throughout the City based on qualification criteria; and,

Receive and file the Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee report on Crossing Guard Deployment Plan for the 2016-2017 School Year and concur with its recommendations. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

The need for school crossing guards has evolved over time due to neighborhood changes, new school construction, population redistribution, school schedule changes, and traffic control signalization upgrades. In 1978, Long Beach voters, through a City ballot initiative, established the Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) to advise the City Council on crossing guard assignments throughout the City and ensure that crossing guards were appropriately deployed. PSAC is charged with determining whether an intersection utilized by school children requires the installation of an adult crossing guard, and advising the City Council of its findings and recommendations.

On May 10, 2005, recommendations to the Mayor and the City Council included developing a Crossing Guard Deployment Plan to review existing crossing guard locations to affirm continued need. Staff recommended an evaluation of 15 percent of approved crossing guard locations every year to ensure appropriate allocation of resources. This evaluation enables the reassignment or elimination of crossing guard locations that no longer meet the Long Beach Municipal Code (LBMC) criteria. City staff also recommended that additional locations be brought annually to the City Council for consideration.

Beginning in 2008, PSAC had difficulties securing volunteers to serve as members and PSAC activity was put on hold. In 2013, the City Manager, the Department of Public Works and the Long Beach Police Department worked closely with the City Council to reconstitute PSAC. On August 13, 2015, December 10, 2015 and May 5, 2016, PSAC met and updated the Crossing Guard Deployment Plan for 2016-2017 (Plan). The Plan for the 2016-2017 school year recommends crossing guard placement at three new intersections and crossing guard removal at seven intersections from the City's list of existing assigned crossing guard locations.

At the direction of PSAC, the Traffic Engineering Division conducted an evaluation of school-aged pedestrians and vehicular movements, for the potential placement of adult crossing guards at the following intersections:

- Stevenson Elementary School – Lime Ave./6th St.
- Whittier Elementary School – Gundry Ave./17th St.
- Cesar Chavez Elementary School – Maine Ave./3rd St.

The conditions and numerical criteria set forth in the LBMC (Exhibit A) or other circumstances that resulted in hazardous conditions were satisfied for all three intersections. As a result, PSAC voted unanimously to recommend the assignment of an adult crossing guard at each one of the above intersections.

PSAC also directed the Traffic Engineering Division to evaluate a request from the Long Beach Police Department relating to the status of seven intersections that at an earlier point in time were staffed with crossing guards. Due to neighborhood changes, new school construction, population redistribution, school schedule changes and traffic signalization upgrades, the crossing guards, in coordination with the Long Beach Unified School District, were removed at the following locations:

- Dooley Elementary School – Daisy Ave./Del Amo Blvd.
- Burbank Elementary School – 4th St./Junipero Ave.
- Burcham Elementary School – Bellflower Blvd./Monlaco Rd.
- Cubberley K-8 School – Metz St./Palo Verde Ave.
- Emerson Elementary School – Palo Verde Ave./Willow St.
- Twain Elementary School – Arbor Rd./Clark Ave.
- Lafayette Elementary School – Pacific Ave./Willow St.

These evaluated intersections are currently signal light-controlled, and are part of the “safe walking route to school” maps for elementary schools, which can be found at <http://www.longbeach.gov/pw/resources/general/school-walking-route/>. The removal of these intersections from the recommended list will have minimal impact, as crossing guards are not currently assigned to these locations. The 1978 voter initiative has very specific requirements that must be met to qualify for a crossing guard. PSAC is recommending these intersections be removed from the list of assigned crossing guard locations as they do not meet the qualifying criteria to be considered “hazardous”. After consideration of the evaluation criteria, PSAC voted unanimously to recommend the removal of all seven intersections from the City’s list of existing assigned crossing guard locations.

The School Crossing Guard Program is administered by the Long Beach Police Department. Staffing supports 60 locations, of which 17 are assigned two crossing guards. Currently, due to high turnover, these 17 locations are currently staffed with only one guard. The program is currently staffed with 40 crossing guards to cover all locations. An additional 25 guards are anticipated to be hired in the 2016-2017 school year.

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Amy R. Webber on July 12, 2016 and by Revenue Management Officer Julissa José-Murray on July 14, 2016.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council concurrence is requested on August 16, 2016, prior to the start of the upcoming 2016-2017 school year.

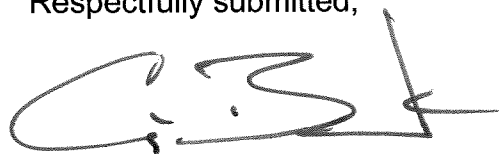
FISCAL IMPACT

The school crossing guard budget for FY17 is \$1,142,850. Staffing assigned to the eliminated intersections will be redeployed as necessary. The City's School Crossing Guard Program is administered by the Police Department (PD) and is budgeted in the department's General Fund (GF).

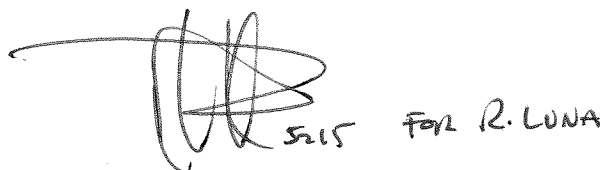
SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

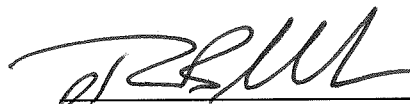


CRAIG A. BECK
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS



ROBERT G. LUNA
CHIEF OF POLICE

APPROVED:



PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER

P:/CLS/CROSSINGGUARD
AC:AW:JC

ATTACHMENTS: EXHIBIT A – MUNICIPAL CODE
EXHIBIT B – CROSSING GUARD DEPLOYMENT
EXHIBIT C – CROSSING GUARD DEPLOYMENT MAP

10.68.010 Initiative ordinance.

**AN INITIATIVE ORDINANCE
REQUIRING ADULT CROSSING
GUARDS AT DANGEROUS
INTERSECTIONS**

THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I. PURPOSE

In recognition of the serious hazard posed to elementary school children in going to and from school, it shall be the policy of the City of Long Beach to maintain adult crossing guards at school crossings designated as hazardous during the hours when school children are required to cross the street.

SECTION II. FUNDING

The School Crossing Guard Program as herein established shall be funded by revenues available to the City of Long Beach from fines and forfeitures under the California Vehicle Code.

SECTION III. DESIGNATION OF INTERSECTIONS AS HAZARDOUS

An intersection utilized by at least twenty (20) children per hour in coming to and from elementary school shall be deemed hazardous for purposes of this Section, if special problems exist and it is deemed necessary to assist children in crossing a street, such as where the intersection is unusually complicated, presents a heavy vehicular turning pattern or high vehicular speed, where the sight distance is less than a reasonable stopping distance from the crosswalk, or where any one (1) of the following conditions exist:

- a) Uncontrolled crossings on the route to school: Where there is no controlled crossing or grade separation within six hundred feet (600') of the location where a request for an adult crossing guard is made and one (1) of the following conditions exist:
 - 1) Where the vehicular traffic volume exceeds the rate of three hundred (300) per hour during the time school children are required to cross while traveling to or from school; or
 - 2) Where the vehicular traffic volume exceeds the rate of two hundred seventy-two (272) per hour and the posted speed limit is thirty-five (35) to and including forty-five (45) miles per hour; or

- 3) Where the vehicular traffic volume exceeds the rate of two hundred fifty (250) per hour and the posted speed limit is fifty (50) miles per hour or more.
- b) Stop Sign-controlled crossings on the route to school: Where the vehicular traffic volume through the crosswalk children must use on an undivided roadway of four (4) or more lanes exceeds the rate of five hundred (500) per hour during any period when children are required to go to or from school.
- c) Signal controlled crossings on the route to school: At traffic signals where potentially conflicting vehicular turning movements through the crosswalk children must use exceed the average rate of ten (10) vehicles per minute of signal green time, taken over a period of at least fifteen (15) minutes of signal green time, during any period when children are required to go to or from school.

SECTION IV. PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A committee shall be established, entitled the PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE, which shall determine whether any intersection utilized by children in coming to and from school poses a special problem of safety requiring the installation of an adult crossing guard, and which shall advise the City Council of its findings and recommendations.

- a) Composition of committee: The PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE shall be composed of one (1) representative from each Council district, who shall be nominated by the respective Councilperson of said district and appointed by the City Manager of the City of Long Beach; one (1) representative from the Long Beach Unified School District, who shall be appointed by the Superintendent of the Long Beach Unified School District; one (1) City Traffic Engineer, who shall be appointed by the City Manager; one (1) representative of the nonpublic schools of the Long Beach area, who shall be appointed by the City Manager; and the President of the Parent Teacher Association of the Long Beach Unified School District or a designee thereof.
- b) Meetings of the committee
 - 1) Special meetings: The committee shall meet within ten (10) days at the request of the City Manager, the chairperson of the committee or any two (2) members of the committee.
 - 2) Regular meetings: Notwithstanding Section IV(b)(1), the committee shall meet regularly not less than twice per school year. Prior to the

commencement of the fall semester, and prior to the commencement of the spring semester.

- c) Committee organization: The committee shall adopt rules for its own organization and conduct and shall select its own chairperson.

SECTION V. ACTION BY CITY COUNCIL

Within twenty (20) days after receiving the findings of the committee recommending the installation of a crossing guard at a designated intersection, the City Council must:

- a) Initiate the installation of an adult crossing guard at the designated intersection; or
- b) Place the committee's recommendation on the agenda of a regular public Council meeting within forty-five (45) days. The Council may, by a majority vote at such regular meeting, reject the committee's recommendation upon its finding that the designated intersection does not present a potential hazard to school children; or
- c) If such finding is not adopted as set forth in Section V(b), the guard shall forthwith be installed pursuant to the recommendations of the PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

(Ord. C-5490, 1978)

School Name/Corner Report - 2016-2017 Year

School Corner # Location/Intersection 2nd Guard Year Round

Adams				
4.8 hrs	01b	Locust at Market	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Barton				
4.8 hrs	02a	Del Amo at Orange	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bixby				
5.2 hrs	04b	Los Covotes at Stearns	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.2 hrs	04d	Rutgers at Stearns	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bryant				
5.1 hrs	05a	Anaheim at Termino	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.1 hrs	05c	Fountain at Termino	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Burbank				
5.0 hrs	07b	7th at Junipero	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5.0 hrs	07d	5th at Junipero	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Burcham				
6.3 hrs	08c	San Angeline at Wardlow	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Burnett				
5.0 hrs	09a	Atlantic at Hill	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5.0 hrs	09b	Hill at Linden	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Butler CIS				
3.3 hrs	10a	20th at Orange	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cesar Chavez				
hrs	51b	3rd at Maine	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cubberly				
6.3 hrs	13b	Monoqram at Wardlow	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6.3 hrs	13c	Rosebay at Studebaker	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dooley				
5.3 hrs	46a	Del Amo at Long Beach Blvd	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Edison				
4.0 hrs	14a	6th at Daisy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.0 hrs	14c	7th at Daisy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fremont				
4.0 hrs	53a	4th at Roswell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grant				
5.0 hrs	18a	64th at Orange	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5.0 hrs	18b	Artesia at Orange	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Harte				
3.7 hrs	19a	Gaviota at South	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.7 hrs	19b	Orange at Phillips	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.7 hrs	19c	Phillips at Walnut	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
International				
5.0 hrs	21a	7th at Locust	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.0 hrs	21b	7th at Long Beach Blvd	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
King				
3.7 hrs	23a	Artesia at Long Beach Blvd	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lafayette				
4.8 hrs	24a	Burnett at Magnolia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.8 hrs	24b	Burnett at Pacific	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lee				
3.5 hrs	25a	17th at Temple	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.5 hrs	25b	15th at Temple	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.5 hrs	25c	17th at Junipero	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lincoln				
6.3 hrs	26a	11th at Orange	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6.3 hrs	26c	11th at Alamitos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

School Corner # Location/Intersection 2nd Guard Year Round

6.3 hrs	26d	Alamitos at Anaheim	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
LongFellow				
4.9 hrs	28a	Bixby at California	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.9 hrs	28b	Bixby at Orange	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lowell				
5.8 hrs	29a	Appian Way at Monrovia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.3 hrs	29b	Broadway at Nieto	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
McKinley				
4.7 hrs	31a	68th at Paramount	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Muir				
5.5 hrs	32a	31st at Easy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Newcombe				
5.8 hrs	33a	Claremore at Wardlow	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Powell				
3.0 hrs	35a	Long Beach Blvd at Victoria	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.0 hrs	35b	Atlantic at Hardina	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prisk				
5.3 hrs	36a	San Vicente at Willow	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Roosevelt				
5.6 hrs	37a	16th at Linden	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5.6 hrs	37b	16th at Long Beach Blvd	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5.6 hrs	37d	16th at Pacific	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
hrs	37e	Atlantic at PCH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Signal Hill Elem				
4.3 hrs	38a	Hill at Orange	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
St. Athanasius				
2.0 hrs	40a	Linden at Market	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Stevenson				
4.2 hrs	45a	5th at Alamitos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.2 hrs	45b	6th at Atlantic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
hrs	45e	6th at Lime	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tincher				
5.8 hrs	47a	Atherton at Studebaker	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Whittier				
5.5 hrs	49a	17th at Walnut	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5.5 hrs	49c	PCH at Walnut	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
hrs	49e	17th at Gundry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Willard				
4.7 hrs	50a	10th at Orizaba	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.7 hrs	50b	11th at Junipero	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Number of Positions = 60

CITY OF LONG BEACH CROSSING GUARD LOCATIONS

SOURCE: LONG BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT

MAP FEATURES

- Crossing Guard
- Elementary School
- Major Streets
- Freeway

