



City Council Policy: CP345 School Crossing Guards

Effective Date: June 19, 2006

Amends:

Approved By: Governing Body

I. SCOPE

Governs the placement of new Adult School Crossing Guards at locations within the City of Prairie Village.

II. PURPOSE

To provide pedestrian safety for students walking to and from school by establishing Adult School Crossing Guards at intersections that meet criteria contained in the policy.

III. RESPONSIBILITY

Chief of Police

IV. DEFINITIONS

V. POLICY

- A.** The responsibility for the safe passage of students to and from school is a shared responsibility between student's parents, the school district and the City of Prairie Village. It is the policy of the City that its responsibility in this endeavor be focused at the locations that includes maximum student traffic. These locations are streets directly adjoining a school building that is a major ingress and egress route for students.
- B.** The City of Prairie Village will utilize specific criteria to determine the need to place an Adult School Crossing Guard at a specific location to increase pedestrian safety for students walking to and from school.
- C.** The Chief of Police will be responsible for reviewing requests for Adult School Crossing Guards and making a determination that a need exists by utilizing the established criteria.
- D.** Locations with established Adult School Crossing Guards will remain, but may require periodic re-evaluation. The continued existence of an existing site will be determined by comparing the requirements of this policy, the expectations of parents and students using the route and specifically identified safety issues that may require City intervention.

- E. The City recognizes the parental responsibility of ensuring children walk to and from school in a safe environment and the City's obligation to aid this process. Thus, at locations that do not meet the City's criteria for an Adult School Crossing Guard, the City will offer training, equipment and supervision for parents or school sponsored organizations to provide such service.

VI. **PROCEDURES**

- A. The City of Prairie Village will accept requests to establish Adult School Crossing Guards at specified locations that impact students walking to school.
 - 1. The request will be submitted to the Chief of Police in writing listing the proposed location of the Adult Crossing Guard and the names of the parents whose children use the location.
 - 2. Requests will only be considered for intersections where elementary students cross or locations specific to elementary school pedestrian traffic.
 - 3. The minimum number of students present at the identified location during school crossing periods must be an average of 15 students per crossing period at a time established by the City that will be indicative of student pedestrians.
 - 4. Based on the traffic control device present or lack thereof at the identified location, the City will commission the appropriate traffic engineering study. The attached flow chart will be used to address criteria in the decision making process.
 - 5. The City will consider alternatives to existing traffic control devices that can be implemented to increase gap times to allow for safe crossing.
- B. The Chief of Police in his/her discretion will approve or disapprove the written request for an Adult School Crossing Guard.

School Crossing Guard Criteria

1. Written request for a School Crossing Guard received by the Chief of Police that includes the names of parents whose children use the requested location.
2. Intersections must be where elementary school children cross or locations specific to elementary schools.
3. A minimum number of children present at the identified location during school crossing periods must be an average of 15 students.
4. Traffic engineering study to determine pedestrian group size, vehicle gap time, and vehicle volume at identified location.
 - a. Pedestrian group size study to determine the adequate gap time required for the 85th percentile group size for students to cross the street at a specified width at a given time.
 - b. Vehicle gap study to determine the percentage of time during the school crossing periods when adequate gaps for safe crossing exist.
 - c. Measure the volume of vehicle traffic to determine if there are more than 125 vehicles in a 15-minute period or an average of eight vehicles per minute.
 - d. Review of traffic control devices at the identified location.
5. Are there alternatives to existing traffic control devices that can be implemented to increase gap times to allow for safe crossing.

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