

**City of Lawrence
Traffic Safety Commission Agenda
June 2, 2008-7:00 PM
City Commission Room, City Hall**

ITEM NO. 7: Consider request for a SCHOOL REDUCED SPEED ZONE on 9th Street adjacent to Sunset Hill Elementary School.

Facts:

1. The *School Crossing Control Policy* requires that a REDUCED SPEED ZONE be removed if an Adult Guard is established at the crossing.
2. The same requirement used to be in place for a REDUCED SPEED ZONE WITH FLASHING BEACON. That requirement was removed; it seems appropriate to also remove it from the REDUCED SPEED ZONE criteria.

ACTION: Provide recommendation to the City Commission.

**City of Lawrence
Traffic Safety Commission
June 2, 2008 Minutes**

ITEM NO. 7:

Consider request for a SCHOOL REDUCED SPEED ZONE on 9th Street adjacent to Sunset Hill Elementary School.

Woosley presented the information provided in the staff report.

Public comment:

Molly Ozonoff, 3038 W. 8th Street: I have a son at Sunset and a daughter at West; there is a lot of traffic, it is a 30mph speed zone; it seems unsafe to me since there are so many cars; another issue is that the crossing guard leaves before 8:00 even though school starts at 8:00 and at West it starts at 8:09; when there's not a crossing guard there, the cars do not stop for children even if they're waiting at the crosswalk; I fear for their safety.

Ruthie Ozonoff, 3038 W. 8th Street: Since I'm an actual student at West Junior High, I have the most experience trying to cross; I've had experience with my friends almost getting hit by cars, and one actually got hit; some cars actually honk and yell at us to hurry-up when we're crossing.

Commissioner Hagen: This is a very troublesome street and has been up before this commission on several occasions.

Commissioner Harden: A crossing guard is a much more effective way of protecting children.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER ZIEGELMEYER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HECKLER, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE SCHOOL CROSSING CONTROL POLICY BE AMENDED TO PERMIT REDUCED SPEED SIGNS IN CONJUNCTION WITH ADULT CROSSING GUARDS AND THAT REDUCED SPEED SIGNS BE INSTALLED ON 9TH STREET ADJACENT TO THE SCHOOL CROSSING AT SCHWARZ ROAD; THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.

David Woosley

From: Molly Ozonoff [mozonoff@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2008 10:25 AM
To: David Woosley
Subject: 20mph School Zone at Sunset Hill Elementary

Hello David,

I am a concerned parent of a child at Sunset Hill Elementary School. I am wondering if we could get a 20 mph School Zone to the north of Sunset Hill on 9th Street. It is currently 30 mph all day with a crossing guard in the morning and afternoon. It is a very busy street and I am concerned about the safety of the children especially the children who cross 9th Street. My children (I also have a daughter at West Jr. High) walk to school and I worry about them because the crossing guard leaves before 8:00AM and does not stay late after school if they straggle home. School at Sunset Hill starts at 8:00AM and I am very concerned that the crossing guard leaves before 8AM. I was informed by the principal that the crossing guard is not responsible for the Jr. High students and that may be the reason why she doesn't get out of her car when she sees my Jr. High student with my 4th grade student. However, the majority of the time she is not there at five minutes before 8:00. Also sitting in her car does not give traffic the signal to slow down for the school children. My children have also informed me that when the crossing guard is not there, the traffic does not stop for them or they have to wait awhile until it does. Is there anything that can be done? It just doesn't seem right that running along the street next to an elementary school there isn't a 20 mph school zone.

Thank you so much,
Molly Ozonoff



CITY OF LAWRENCE, KANSAS SCHOOL CROSSING CONTROL POLICY

Resolution No. 5777, March 19, 1996

Resolution No. 6604, August 16, 2005

Resolution No. 6748, January 22, 2008

- Premises:
1. Traffic control signs, markings, and signals (other than School Advance and School Crossing signs, and Marked Crosswalks) will be provided for elementary students only. Junior and senior high students are capable of walking to-and-from school without special assistance from adults or traffic control devices.
 2. In order to consider an adult guard or other traffic control device, the number of children using a crossing during the crossing period must average at least 10 during either the morning or afternoon crossing period. The crossing periods to be studied shall be the 45 minutes prior to the beginning of school and the 30 minutes after school dismissal, in 5-minute increments. A minimum of 3 morning and/or 3 afternoon studies will be conducted to determine the average number of children.

SCHOOL ADVANCE SIGN

A School Advance Sign may be provided on each approach of each street adjacent to a school and in advance of every marked school crosswalk that is not adjacent to a school.

MARKED CROSSWALKS

A marked crosswalk may be provided at crossings adjacent to school property, and at other locations where the following minimum requirements are met: vehicles enter the crosswalk (without being required to stop) at a rate exceeding 150 vehicles per hour during any 5-minute increment of the morning or afternoon crossing period. Marked crosswalks shall be limited to one per street per school when practical. Unprotected crosswalks (absence of stop sign, traffic signal or adult crossing guard) may be marked if required by a school route plan or, if a school route plan does not exist, it is not practical for children to use a protected crosswalk.

REDUCED SPEED ZONE (20 MPH)

A reduced speed zone may be provided for each marked school crosswalk that is not protected by a stop sign, traffic signal or adult crossing guard. The reduced speed zone shall begin approximately 150-200 feet in advance of the crosswalk and shall end approximately 50-100 feet beyond the crosswalk. The reduced speed zone shall be in effect at times provided in the *Code of the City of Lawrence*. Any signs installed under this provision will be removed upon installation of a stop sign, traffic signal or adult crossing guard under other provisions of this policy.

REDUCED SPEED ZONE (20 MPH) WITH FLASHING BEACON

A reduced speed zone with flashing beacon may be provided for each marked school crosswalk that is not protected by a stop sign or traffic signal, if the following minimum requirements are met: the average number of students exceeds 40 and the available safe gaps in the traffic is greater than 1.5 per minute; or if the average number of students is 10 or greater and the available safe gaps in the traffic is 1.0-1.5 per minute. The reduced speed zone shall begin approximately 150-200 feet in advance of the crosswalk and shall end approximately 50-100 feet beyond the crosswalk. The reduced speed zone shall be in effect for 45 minutes prior to the beginning of school and for 30 minutes after the end of school. Any beacons installed under this provision will be removed upon installation of a stop sign or traffic signal under other provisions of this policy.

STOP SIGN AND TRAFFIC SIGNAL

A Stop Sign or Traffic Signal will only be provided in accordance with criteria established in the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*, as published by the Federal Highway Administration, and adopted by the State of Kansas and the City of Lawrence.

ADULT CROSSING GUARD

An Adult Crossing Guard may be provided if any of the following minimum conditions are met:

1. At an unprotected crosswalk if:
 - (a) the average number of students exceeds 40 and the available safe gaps in the traffic is 1.0-1.5 per minute; or
 - (b) if the average number of students is 10 or greater and
 - (1) the speed limit on the street is over 35mph, or
 - (2) the street is marked for more than 3 lanes of traffic, or
 - (3) the product of the crossing time (in seconds) and the speed limit for approaching traffic (in feet per second) is equal to or larger than the measured sight distance, or
 - (4) the available safe gaps in the traffic is less than 1.0 per minute.
2. At a crosswalk protected by a Stop Sign (not an all-way stop) or a Traffic Signal, if the average number of students is 30 or greater; and
 - (a) the street is marked for 4 lanes or more lanes of traffic and vehicles enter the crosswalk without being required to stop at a rate exceeding 150 vehicles per hour during any 5-minute increment of the morning or afternoon crossing period; or
 - (b) the street is marked for less than 4 lanes of traffic and vehicles enter the crosswalk without being required to stop at a rate exceeding 300 vehicles per hour during any 5-minute increment of the morning or afternoon crossing period.
3. At a crosswalk at an All-Way Stop if the average number of students is 10 or greater and the all-way stop is warranted during the crossing period.

