

From: [Orchard Ridge Elementary PTO](#)
To: [Transportation Commission](#)
Cc: [Figueroa Cole, Yannette](#)
Subject: Crossing Guard at Raymond and Gilbert Rd
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Dear Transportation Commission,

I am writing on behalf of the Orchard Ridge Elementary PTO regarding the proposed removal of the crossing guard stationed at the intersection of Raymond Road and Gilbert Road near our school.

After speaking with many families in our community, we would like to express our strong opposition to this proposal and our deep concern for the safety of our students. We believe eliminating this crossing guard position would create an unnecessary and significant risk for children traveling to and from our school.

The intersection at Raymond and Gilbert presents serious safety challenges. Raymond Road consists of four traffic lanes, a center turn lane, and parking lanes on both sides—effectively creating a crossing width equivalent to seven lanes of traffic. It is a heavily traveled roadway, particularly during morning arrival hours, and vehicles frequently exceed the 30 mph speed limit.

In addition, Orchard Ridge Elementary does not provide bus service. As a result, many students rely on walking or biking to school each day, and crossing Raymond Road is unavoidable for numerous families. The presence of a crossing guard allows older students to travel independently and safely, while also giving parents confidence that their children can cross this busy intersection. Removing this safeguard would create significant hardships for families and could force many parents to alter work schedules or transportation arrangements in order to ensure their children's safety.

While we understand the need to evaluate costs and resources, we believe the modest savings associated with eliminating this position are far outweighed by the potential risks to student safety.

We respectfully urge the Commission to maintain the crossing guard at Raymond Road and Gilbert Road and to continue prioritizing the safety and well-being of the students and families who depend on this crossing.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Clara Bennett

Co-President

Orchard Ridge Elementary PTO