

From: [Courtney Muehl](#)
To: [Transportation Commission](#)
Subject: Crossing Guard at Raymond Rd & Gilbert Rd
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Dear Transportation Commission,

I am writing as a concerned parent & community member regarding the proposed removal of the crossing guard stationed at the intersection of Raymond Road and Gilbert Road near my children's school, Orchard Ridge Elementary.

I would like to express my very strong opposition to this proposal and my deep concern for the safety of not only my children, but the many other children who use this crossing daily. I believe eliminating this crossing guard position would create an unnecessary and significant risk for children traveling to and from the 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. Vehicles very frequently exceed the 30 mph speed limit. I would never feel comfortable letting my children cross the road there without a crossing guard.

Orchard Ridge Elementary does not provide bus service to its students. As a result, many students rely on walking or biking to school each day. 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 I understand the need to evaluate costs and resources, I believe the modest savings associated with eliminating this position are far outweighed by the potential risks to student safety.

I would also like to remind the Commission that there have been two fatal car accidents on Raymond Road within the last five years. One of them being less than a block away from the intersection of Raymond Road and Gilbert Road. Simply put, drivers cannot be trusted with the safety of our children and removing the crossing guard at this intersection will (not could) pose serious safety risks.

I 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,

Courtney Muehl

Concerned parent of 2 Orchard Ridge Elementary students

VP of the Orchard Ridge Elementary PTO