

TO: Transportation Commission

FROM: John Muir Elementary (Betsy Scholz – Social Worker, Stacey Starke – Principal)

DATE: May 29, 2024

RE: Crossing Guard at Yellowstone Drive and Inner Drive

We are writing this letter in support of a potential crossing guard for our school at the intersection of Yellowstone Drive and Inner Drive. Currently, the closest intersection with a crossing guard is at Tree Lane and Gammon Road. Few, if any, of our students utilize this crosswalk, as the students who reside nearest this intersection are provided bus transportation. More specifically, we have two bus stops serving the Wexford Ridge apartments – one at Tree Lane and Gammon Road and the other at Flower Lane and Gammon Road.

Presently, our concerns revolve around the traffic safety in front of our school at drop-off. As discussed with Renee during a site visit, we often see families crossing mid-street on Inner Drive as well as turning around mid-street in their cars (which further creates unsafe conditions for those attempting to mid-street cross). Our four busses pull up in front of our school on Inner Drive, leaving little room for caregivers to park on the same side as our school, thus leading to the mid-street crossing. Some families also choose to pull into our parking lot to drop their students off, which creates dangerous conditions for staff and students alike. While we do have large signage on Inner Drive indicating bus drop off zones and prohibited entry to the parking lot, we still struggle with compliance. We also have staff outside each morning at drop-off to remind families not to mid-street cross or make U-turns; again, we struggle with adherence to this guidance. Though we do have crosswalks and student Safety Patrols at the Inner/Yellowstone and Inner/Horseshoe Bend intersections, families still choose not to utilize those options when dropping students off.

We feel that a crossing guard at Yellowstone and Inner Drives would increase visibility and importance of the crosswalk as a safe option for families dropping students off, and provide an extra layer of support to our students, staff and families in navigating the limited drop-off space in front of our school.

We thank you for your consideration! We also wanted to acknowledge Renee in her support of our school safety traffic concerns. Please find our contact info below for any follow-up questions.

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