

From: [jonathan hunter](#)
To: [Transportation Commission](#)
Subject: Crossing Guard at O'Keefe
Date: Wednesday, November 8, 2023 8:05:54 AM

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I am writing to express my concern about the recent change in school times, which has created a number of problems for parents and kids affected by this change. As a concerned parent of a middle schooler at O'Keefe, I believe that the loss of the crossing guard at Willy and Thornton has created a dangerous situation for our kids.

Prior to the change in school times, the crossing guard at Willy and Thornton was essential in ensuring the safety of our children as they crossed the street. The intersection at Willy and Thornton is particularly dangerous, and the presence of the crossing guard provided a sense of security for parents and students alike.

Since the loss of the crossing guard, I have been communicating with families and kids to encourage them to cross at Riverside instead of Thornton as a safer way to get to school. While this is a little out of the way, it is a much safer route for kids. The school has been working with the students to have them cross the bridge over to Riverside and cross Willy at the signal after they get out of school.

I believe that this is a better system in the long term, as middle schoolers should learn safe routes and crossing at Thornton is dangerous and should be avoided. However, I do believe that there could be some efforts put in to help kids navigate the safer route.

Specifically, I Think the following would be helpful.

- A crossing guard for the next couple of weeks to help direct students to the riverside. (before and after school)
- Increased signage and crosswalks along the Riverside route to make it more visible and pedestrian-friendly.
- A safety education program for middle schoolers on how to safely navigate the Riverside route and other safe routes to school.

I believe that these measures would help to ensure that our kids are safe as they walk to and from school.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jonny Hunter
Former TLNA President and Transportation Chair

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Jonny Hunter

MPA University of Wisconsin 2010