

From: [Derrick Mrozinski](#)
To: [Transportation Commission](#)
Subject: URGENT: Opposition to Discontinuing the Crossing Guard at Raymond Road and Gilbert Road
Date: Wednesday, May 20, 2026 8:11:50 PM

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Dear Members of the Madison Transportation Commission,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the Traffic Engineering Division's recommendation to eliminate the crossing guard position at Raymond Road and Gilbert Road.

For neighborhoods south of Raymond and east of Whitney Way, this specific intersection is the vital link for students walking to Orchard Ridge and neighboring schools. The children relying on this crossing span from four-year-olds in the all-day 4K program up to 8th-grade middle schoolers.

Because the Madison Metropolitan School District designates this as a walking zone, my own children are not eligible for bus transportation. It is contradictory for the city and school district to mandate walking as the primary mode of transit while simultaneously stripping away the essential safety infrastructure that makes walking viable.

The reality of Raymond Road is that traffic moves aggressively, especially on the stretch between Whitney Way and Verona Road. While flashing pedestrian beacons look good on a city blueprint, they do not guarantee driver compliance or safety for young pedestrians. Anyone familiar with this corridor during morning drop-off knows that compliance is inconsistent, speeds are high, and visibility is frequently compromised. I frequently see drivers on Raymond Rd speeding well over the limit.

I challenge the members of this Commission and city staff to stand at Raymond and Gilbert at 8:00 a.m. on a school morning. Ask yourselves honestly if you would trust a flashing light alone to protect a child navigating that traffic independently.

A crossing guard is a critical safety pillar, not a dispensable luxury. Removing this position actively compromises student safety and places an unfair burden of anxiety on families who are simply trying to get their children to school safely.

I urge the Transportation Commission to reject this recommendation and maintain the crossing guard at Raymond Road and Gilbert Road.

Thank you for your time and your commitment to our children's safety.

Sincerely,
Derrick Mrozinski
15 Celia Ct, Madison, WI 53711