

From: [Vanessa A Cruz](#)
To: [Transportation Commission](#)
Subject: In opposition of Agenda Item 93384 - Crossing Guard Discontinuance at Orchard Ridge Elementary School
Date: Wednesday, June 3, 2026 2:42:28 PM

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Dear Members of the Transportation Commission,

I am writing to express my opposition to the recommendation to discontinue the Adult School Crossing Guard at the intersection of **Raymond Road and Gilbert Road** serving **Orchard Ridge Elementary School**.

As the Assistant Director of Transportation and Logistics for Madison Metropolitan School District, I have heard from some Orchard Ridge families who have expressed concerns about the potential removal of this crossing guard. Families have shared that this location serves as an important crossing point for students walking to and from school and that the crossing guard provides an added level of safety and reassurance, particularly for younger students and their caregivers.

While I understand that the recommendation is based on current crossing counts and recent roadway improvements, **I do not believe this is the appropriate time to make a permanent change to crossing guard staffing at this location.**

Orchard Ridge Elementary is currently undergoing a significant reconstruction and redesign project. Once completed, traffic patterns around the school are expected to change, potentially affecting how students and families access the building and utilize nearby crossings. In addition, Madison Metropolitan School District is in the process of reviewing attendance area boundaries, and future boundary adjustments may alter student walking patterns and increase use of this crossing location.

Given these pending changes, any evaluation based solely on current crossing volumes may not accurately reflect future conditions. Discontinuing the crossing guard now could result in the removal of an important safety resource just before substantial changes occur in the surrounding transportation environment.

I respectfully request that the Transportation Commission defer consideration of this discontinuance until the Orchard Ridge reconstruction project is complete and any related attendance boundary adjustments have been implemented. Allowing time for these changes to occur would provide a more accurate assessment of long-term crossing needs and help ensure that student safety remains the primary consideration.

Thank you for your consideration and your continued commitment to student safety.

Kindly,

Vanessa Cruz

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS
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