

ADULT CROSSING GUARDS



WHAT IS THE PROCESS FOR REQUESTING NEW ADULT SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS?

Requests for new adult crossing guards should be directed to the appropriate school district. If the school district feels that the location being requested might be appropriate for a crossing guard the district will request the Public Works Agency Transportation Department (PWATD) collect the necessary data and evaluate the location against the appropriate criteria.

The results of this analysis will be provided to the school district. The

district will budget for and hire a new crossing guard if the criteria are met.

WHAT CRITERIA ARE USED TO DECIDE IF CROSSING GUARDS ARE PROVIDED?

Adult school crossing guards normally are assigned at locations where official supervision of school pedestrians is desirable when they cross a public street indicated on the Suggested Route to School, and at least 40 school pedestrians for each of any two hours (not necessarily consecutive) daily use the crossing while going to or from school. Adult school crossing guards may be used under the following conditions:

1. At uncontrolled crossings where there is no alternative controlled crossing within 600 feet;

- a. In urban areas where the vehicular traffic volume exceeds 350 during each of any two hours (not necessarily consecutive) in which 40 or more school pedestrians cross daily while going to or from school; or
- b. In rural areas where the vehicular traffic volume exceeds 300 during each of any two hours (not necessarily consecutive) in which 30 or more school pedestrians cross daily while going to or from

school. Whenever the critical (85th percentile) approach speed exceeds 40 mph, the guidelines for rural areas should be applied.

2. At stop-sign-controlled crossings:

Where the vehicular traffic volume on undivided highways of four or more lanes exceeds 500 per hour during any period when the school pedestrians are going to or from school.

3. At traffic-signal-controlled crossings:

- a. Where the number of vehicular-turning movements through the school crosswalk exceeds 300 per hour while school pedestrians are going to or from school.
- b. Where justified through analysis of the operations of the intersection.

ARE ADULT SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS TRAINED?

Each school district provides a training program for all new adult crossing guards and monitors the effectiveness of all existing guards on an ongoing basis.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO PROVIDE AN ADULT SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD?

Each adult crossing guard costs a school district approximately \$7,000 per year. Since funding is limited for providing crossing guards, school districts are selective in deciding where and for which hours adult crossing guards can be provided. The County does NOT fund the cost of school district crossing guards.

WHAT CAN BE DONE TO PROMOTE SCHOOL SAFETY?

Studies have shown that school-age pedestrians are the group at greatest risk from traffic. Near most schools in the unincorporated area the County has prepared maps to help educate school children on the safest route to reach school as possible.

These maps, which have been posted by most schools on their website, show the suggested routes to school from the surrounding residential areas. The routes are designed to take advantage of adult crossing guards, stop signs, and traffic signals.

Parents and citizens have the greatest influence by ensuring that children are aware of and use the recommended routes. Also, make

sure that they are taught to “Stop, Look, and Listen” prior to crossing a street, and to be alert yourself for the unexpected presence of school children when you are driving.

REQUESTS AND INQUIRIES

If you have questions, requests or suggestions concerning traffic please call the Transportation Department at: **(805) 654-2049** or by an email through the “Contact Us” link at: <http://www.countyofventura.org>

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