



Measure A Crossing Guard Program 2009 Assessment Report

October 2009

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Executive Summary

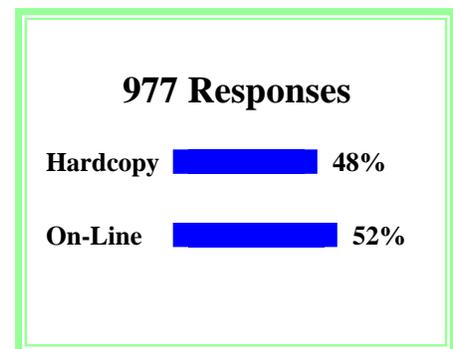
The Marin County Transportation Sales Tax Expenditure Plan, approved by voters in 2004 as Measure A, committed a portion of the sales tax revenues to the Measure A Crossing Guard Program. The Crossing Guard Program is included in the overall Measure A Program under *Strategy 4: School Related Congestion and Safer Access to Schools*.

Measure A included a requirement that the programs included in Strategy 4 be assessed every two years through a public process involving parents, school officials and students throughout Marin County. The Transportation Authority of Marin conducted the required assessment for the Crossing Guard Program at the end of the 2008-2009 regular school year. The Measure A Crossing Guard Program 2009 Assessment Report documents the assessment and the resultant findings.

The assessment consisted primarily of a survey distributed to parents and students at a sampling of eight elementary and two middle schools currently served by the Crossing Guard Program. The survey was distributed in print to seven of the eight elementary schools, and via a link to an on-line survey to the remaining elementary and two middle schools.

Approximately 3,000 surveys were distributed in print to the seven schools and 554 responses were collected at the end of the survey period. Some survey responses contained irregularities. Eighty-four (84) of the 554 responses received were deemed incomplete. The remaining 470 “complete” responses were included in the analysis documented in the Measure A Crossing Guard Program 2009 Assessment Report.

The link was not restricted to the ten schools in the sampling and responses were received from more than ten schools. Surveys from a total of 26 schools were received, including eight schools from which less than five responses were received. A total of 537 responses were received on-line, of which 507 were deemed complete and included in the analysis documented in the Measure A Crossing Guard Program 2009 Assessment Report.



The assessment had four primary objectives:

1. To determine the level of awareness of the Measure A Crossing Guard Program;
2. To determine the typical travel modes to and from school and the frequency at which students cross at a location where a crossing guard is on duty;
3. To determine whether or not the presence of crossing guards influences travel choices for students that walk or ride a bicycle to and from school on most school days; and
4. To determine whether or not the communities served by the Crossing Guard Program consider the expenditure of Measure A funds a good investment.

The responses to the survey indicate the following:

- Almost all of the respondents are aware of the crossing guards but only one in seven knows that Measure A provides funding for crossing guards.
- Approximately one-third of the respondents walk or ride their bicycle on most schools days (almost one-half are driven to school in a car).
- More than six in ten reported that they use a crosswalk where a crossing guard is on duty on most school days.
- A significant majority of the students that walk or ride their bicycle on most school days regularly use a crosswalk where a crossing guard is on duty and feel more comfortable knowing the crossing guards are at certain locations.
- One-third of the students that walk or ride their bicycle on most school days reported they changed from being driven to school in a car to walking or bicycling, in part, due to the presence of the crossing guards.
- An overwhelming majority of respondents indicated they believe the Crossing Guard Program is a valuable investment of Measure A funds.

The Crossing Guard Program is achieving its primary objective of increasing the number of students that walk or ride their bicycle in lieu of being driven to school. The survey results indicate that the communities served by the Crossing Guard Program see the crossing guards as an important and valuable aspect of travel to and from school. In addition to the data from the eleven questions contained in the survey, respondents were afforded the opportunity to provide additional information and/or comments. A majority of the 398 comments received reflect a strong appreciation for the Program and for individual guards. In many cases the crossing guard becomes part of the fabric of the community.

96% Approval !!

** When asked if the Crossing Guard Program is a good way to spend transportation funding*

Introduction

The Marin County Transportation Sales Tax Expenditure Plan, approved by voters in 2004 as Measure A, committed a portion of the sales tax revenues to the Measure A Crossing Guard Program. The Crossing Guard Program is included in the overall Measure A Program under *Strategy 4: School Related Congestion and Safer Access to Schools*.

Measure A included a requirement that the programs included in Strategy 4 be assessed every two years through a public process involving parents, school officials and students throughout Marin County. The Transportation Authority of Marin conducted the required assessment for the Crossing Guard Program at the end of the 2008-2009 regular school year. The Measure A Crossing Guard Program 2009 Assessment Report documents the assessment and the resultant findings.

The Transportation Authority of Marin coordinated the 2009 assessment with the Authority's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), the Marin Public Works Association (MPWA), the Marin Office of Education, School District offices, the Marin County Schools Superintendents, individual schools and local law enforcement representatives.

Background and Purpose

Measure A commits funding for crossing guards at up to 70 locations. The 2008-2009 regular school year represents the third year of the Crossing Guard Program. The Program funded 54 crossing guards during the 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 school years. The number of guards was increased to 63 for the 2008-2009 school year. The number of guards funded in a given year is dependent on the total amount of sales tax revenues received by the Authority, a percentage of which is made available for the Crossing Guard Program.

The Authority uses a set of industry standard criteria to determine if locations "qualify" for funding based primarily on vehicular and pedestrian traffic volumes at the specific locations. The criteria are vetted by the TAC and MPWA and the list of locations for each school year is approved by the Authority Board.

The Authority presented the proposed survey and survey approach to the TAC and MPWA during the Spring of 2009. The survey consisted of eleven questions and a space to provide

additional information and/or comments. A copy of the survey is included in Appendix A. The survey was translated to accommodate Spanish-speaking parents and students.

The list for the sampling of schools to receive the survey was presented to the Marin County Schools Superintendents at their meeting on March 4, 2009. Some schools were concerned about the logistics of distributing the survey in hardcopy since they had converted to electronic means, e.g. email, for distributing materials to parents. This was the case for each of the middle schools and one of the elementary schools. An on-line version of the survey was developed and a link was distributed to the three schools which did not send hardcopies home with students. A list of the ten schools included in the sampling for the focused distribution of the survey is included in Appendix B.

The assessment had four primary objectives:

1. To determine the level of awareness of the Measure A Crossing Guard Program;
2. To determine the typical travel modes to and from school and the frequency at which students cross at a location where a crossing guard is on duty;
3. To determine whether or not the presence of crossing guards influences travel choices for students that walk or ride a bicycle to and from school on most school days; and
4. To determine whether or not the communities served by the Crossing Guard Program consider the expenditure of Measure A funds a good investment.

Each of the eleven questions in the survey can be directly related to one of the four objectives.

Methodology

The Authority distributed approximately 3,000 copies of the survey to seven elementary schools in early June 2009. The Authority coordinated with the seven schools to determine how many Spanish versions were needed for each school. The Authority returned to the schools to collect the completed surveys and compiled the responses. Some of the surveys collected were incomplete or had conflicting information such as multiple choices where only one choice was requested. Responses containing irregularities were deemed “incomplete” and removed from the analysis.

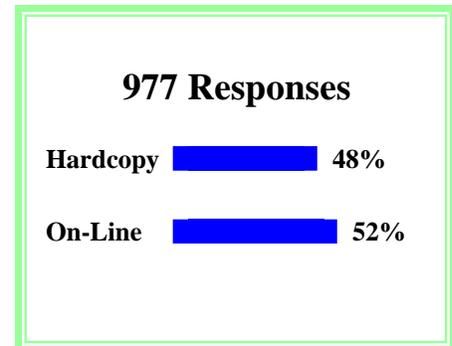
The link to the on-line survey was distributed via email to more schools than included in the sampling via the school district offices. The on-line responses were downloaded at the end of the Survey period and compiled with the hardcopy responses.

In addition to the parent/student survey, informal interviews with school employees, public works employees and representatives from local law enforcement agencies were conducted to solicit feedback from individuals involved with providing crossing guard services.

Responses

A total of 554 hardcopy surveys (out of approximately 3,000 distributed) were returned to the Authority from the seven schools that received the hardcopy version of the survey. Eighty-four (84) of the surveys that were returned to the Authority were deemed incomplete. The remaining 470 “complete” responses were combined with the on-line responses and included in the analysis documented in this Measure A Crossing Guard Program 2009 Assessment Report.

On-line responses were collected from parents or students at a total of 21 schools. Two of the 21 schools were included in the seven schools that received the hardcopy version of the survey, so the total number of different schools from which surveys were received is 26. Less than five responses were collected from eight of the 26 schools. A total of 537 respondents logged into the on-line survey, but only 507 completed the survey without any irregularities. The 507 on-line responses combine with the 470 hardcopy responses for a total of 977 responses included in the analysis documented in this Measure A Crossing Guard Program 2009 Assessment Report. The responses to the eleven questions are presented in detail below.



The feedback received from the informal interviews with school employees, public works employees and local law enforcement representatives was mostly positive and reflected support for the Crossing Guard Program. Some law enforcement agencies provide crossing guard services while others do not actually serve as crossing guards but provide support through enforcement activities in school crossing areas, or simply with their presence in the area.

The responses to individual questions from the survey are detailed below and are segregated according to which of the four objectives of the assessment they are related. The first two questions were the name of the school and the grade in school, respectively, and they do not relate directly to the objectives of the assessment. The details of the responses below begin with Question 3.

Objective 1: To determine the level of awareness of the Measure A Crossing Guard Program

Question 3: Have you seen crossing guards at intersections in Marin County on school days?

Yes  99.6%

No  0.4%

Question 4: Did you know that most of the crossing guards in Marin County are funded by the countywide half-cent sales tax authorized by Measure A?

Yes  14.4%

No  85.6%

Objective 2: To determine the typical travel modes to and from school and the frequency at which students cross at a location where a crossing guard is on duty

Question 5: During the last month, how often have you used a crosswalk where a crossing guard is on duty?

Never  10.4%

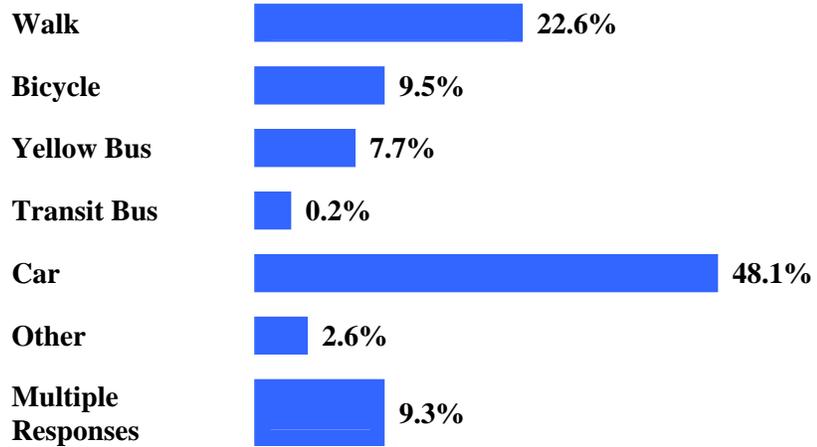
Once  4.3%

A Few Times  23.1%

On Most School Days  27.4%

Every School Day  34.7%

Question 6: How do you get to school on most school days?



Comment: Some of the “Other” responses indicated they get to school in a carpool. The typical “Multiple” response indicated some combination of modes such as drive and park a few blocks away and walk from there. Multiple responses only occurred on the hardcopy version (the on-line survey did not allow for multiple responses).

Objective 3: To determine whether or not the presence of crossing guards influences travel choices for students that walk or ride a bicycle to and from school on most school days (Questions 7 through 10 were directed only at respondents that indicated they walk or ride a bicycle in Question 6)

Question 7: Do you regularly cross a street where a crossing guard is on duty on your way to or from school?



Question 8: Is it more comfortable for you to walk or ride your bike to school knowing that there are crossing guards at some intersections?

Yes  96.2%

No  3.8%

Question 9: Have you changed the way you go to school so that you can cross a street at a location where a crossing guard is on duty?

Yes  39.8%

No  60.2%

Question 10: Did you change from riding to school in a car to walking or biking because you know there are crossing guards at some intersections?

Yes  33.4%

No  66.6%

Comment: Approximately one-third of respondents who indicated that they walk or ride a bicycle to and from school on most days (i.e. approximately one-tenth of all respondents) indicated that they were previously driven to school in a car. A primary objective of the Crossing Guard Program is to effect this change in behavior.

Objective 4: To determine whether or not the communities served by the Crossing Guard Program consider the expenditure of Measure A funds a good investment

Question 11: Do you think the Crossing Guard Program is a good way to spend transportation funds?

Yes  96.2%

No  3.8%

The numbers of responses to each of the questions, as opposed to the percentages shown above, are included in Appendix C.

Conclusions

The Crossing Guard Program is achieving its primary objective of increasing the number of students that walk or ride their bicycle in lieu of being driven to school. The survey results indicate that the communities served by the Crossing Guard Program see the crossing guards as an important and valuable aspect of travel to and from school. In addition to the data from the eleven questions detailed above, respondents were afforded the opportunity to provide additional information and/or comments. The additional information/comments are included in Appendix D. A majority of the 398 comments received reflect a strong appreciation for the Program and for individual guards. In many cases the crossing guard becomes part of the fabric of the community.

96% Approval !!

** When asked if the Crossing Guard Program is a good way to spend transportation funding*

Appendices

Appendix A

Transportation Authority of Marin Marin County Measure A Crossing Guard Program 2008/2009 Parent/Student Questionnaire English Version (also available in Spanish)

The Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) is conducting a survey to solicit feedback from students, parents, school officials, law enforcement and other parties involved with the Marin County Measure A Crossing Guard Program funded by TAM. The feedback will be used to assess the effectiveness of the Program, to identify areas for potential improvement, and to inform future funding decisions.

Please complete and submit one Questionnaire per student and return the completed form to the student's classroom by June 10, 2009.

Please provide the following information about the student for which this questionnaire is being completed (name is not required).

Q1 School: _____

Q2 Grade: _____

Please answer "Yes" or "No" to the following question.

Q3 Have you seen crossing guards at intersections in Marin County on school days?

	Yes	No
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please answer "Yes" or "No" to the following question.

Q4 Did you know that most of the crossing guards in Marin County are funded by the countywide half-cent sales tax authorized by Measure A?

	Yes	No
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please check the box that best applies to you.

Q5 During the last month, I have used a crosswalk where a crossing guard is on duty...

	Never	Once	A Few Times	On Most School Days	Every School Day
	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Please check the box that best describes how you get to school on most school days.

Q6

Walk	Bicycle	Yellow Bus	Transit Bus	Car	Other (Describe)
<input type="checkbox"/>					

Other: _____

If you walk or ride a bicycle to school on most school days, please answer the following questions. (If you do not, please skip to No. 7 below.)

- | | | | |
|------------|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| Q7 | 6A – Do you regularly cross a street where a crossing guard is on duty on your way to or from school? | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> | No
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| Q8 | 6B – Is it more comfortable for you to walk or ride your bike to school knowing that there are crossing guards at some intersections? | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> | No
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| Q9 | 6C – Have you changed the way you go to school so that you can cross a street at a location where a crossing guard is on duty? | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> | No
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| Q10 | 6D – Did you change from riding to school in a car to walking or biking because you know there are crossing guards at some intersections? | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> | No
<input type="checkbox"/> |

Please answer “Yes” or “No” to the following question.

- | | | | |
|------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| Q11 | Do you think the Crossing Guard Program is a good way to spend transportation funds? | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> | No
<input type="checkbox"/> |
|------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|

Please provide any additional information or comments (attach additional sheets as necessary).

Thank you for completing this questionnaire. Your input is very important to us. Please **return the completed questionnaire** to your classroom no later than **June 10, 2009.**

Appendix B

List of Ten Schools for Focused Distribution

Index	School District	School	Hardcopy Or On-Line
1	Mill Valley	Old Mill Elementary	Hardcopy
2	Mill Valley	Mill Valley Middle	On-Line
3	Reed	Reed Elementary	On-Line
4	San Rafael Elementary	Vallecito Elementary	Hardcopy
5	San Rafael Elementary	Sun Valley Elementary	Hardcopy
6	Kentfield	Kent Middle	On-Line
7	Lagunitas	Lagunitas	Hardcopy
8	Ross Valley	Manor	Hardcopy
9	Novato	Rancho Elementary	Hardcopy
10	Novato	Lu Sutton Elementary	Hardcopy

Appendix C

Summary of Numbers of Responses for Questions 3 through 11

Q3	Have you seen crossing guards at intersections in Marin County on school days?	
	Yes	973
	No	4
Q4	Did you know that most of the crossing guards in Marin County are funded by the countywide half-cent sales tax authorized by Measure A?	
	Yes	141
	No	836
Q5	During the last month, I have used a crosswalk where a crossing guard is on duty...	
	Never	102
	Once	42
	A Few Times	226
	On Most School Days	268
	Every School Day	339
Q6	Please check the box that best describes how you get to school on most school days	
	Walk	221
	Bicycle	93
	Yellow Bus	75
	Transit Bus	2
	Car	470
	Other	25
	Multiple Responses	91
Q7	Do you regularly cross a street where a crossing guard is on duty on your way to or from school?	
	Yes	269
	No	45
Q8	Is it more comfortable for you to walk or ride your bike to school knowing that there are crossing guards at some intersections?	
	Yes	302
	No	12
Q9	Have you changed the way you go to school so that you can cross a street at a location where a crossing guard is on duty?	
	Yes	125
	No	189
Q10	Did you change from riding to school in a car to walking or biking because you know there are crossing guards at some intersections?	
	Yes	105
	No	209
Q11	Do you think the Crossing Guard Program is a good way to spend transportation funds?	
	Yes	940
	No	37

Appendix D

Summary of Additional Information and Comments Received

The table below includes all of the additional information and/or comments received from both the hardcopy and the on-line surveys, including comments received with responses that were deemed “incomplete” and excluded from the analysis documented in the Measure A Crossing Guard Program 2009 Assessment Report. The comments are included in this report in order to provide a sense of the respondents’ impression of the Crossing Guard Program.

The comments are presented herein as they were received. No editing has been performed on the comments, but some text has been overwritten as described below.

Some of the text from the original comments has been replaced with italics in brackets, e.g. *{text}*. The text in italics within the brackets gives an idea about the nature of the original text which has been overwritten. Any text that could be used to identify an individual guard or respondent has been overwritten since the objectives of the assessment do not include reviewing individual guard performance. Profanity and text describing what is considered inappropriate behavior have also been overwritten.

We absolutely need a crossing guard in front of our school. People drive to fast and don't slow down in the designated school hazard. I think someone will get seriously hurt if there isn't one.
DO NOT get rid of our crossing guard! People are <i>{profanity}</i> on Sir Francis Drake. They clearly see kids waiting on the edge of the crosswalk and SPEED up regardless. At times when there is no guard on duty I <i>{description of inappropriate behavior}</i> who refuse to slow down and show blatant disregard for public safety.
Cross guards are vital to the safety of our children.
I feel more comfortable allowing my child to ride to school knowing that when he crosses, he will be escorted safely. Although a school zone, cars rarely slow down to 25 mph when guard isn't present.
We were very disappointed that the GG transit bus discontinued its 3:00 pick up @ the school to take back kids to Fairfax/San Anselmo Previous years a car trip to the school was not necessary to pick up kids who live east of White's Hill, because the transit bus picked them up.
Crossing guard is necessary on Sir Francis Drake Cars drive over speed limit constantly
Crossing guards are amazing ♥ them
No comments
This is <u>so</u> vital. I can't say enough to support crossing guards. Crossing the street in a <u>marked</u> crosswalk directly in front of school when a <u>crossing guard</u> is not there, I've almost been hit twice by speeding, distracted drivers!
thanks to all crossing guards for help to people sure when we are cross the streets. Mother of Kindergarden
We love our crossing-guard! She does a terrific job keeping us safe.

<p>Crossing guards need to be on duty when kindergartners are going to and from school also. Lu Sutton has a different schedule for its kindergartners--it is not safe to cross Center during the times they are going to school.</p>
<p>The crossing guard(s) that cross children to a curb where parents are dropping off children from cars need some barriers or other devices that block the end of the crosswalk, so that cars cannot stop or block the end of the crosswalk (which prevents the guard from letting children cross!)</p>
<p>I <u>really</u> appreciate our Crossing Guard! She is <u>very</u> seeing and very friendly without ever taking her eyes off the road or the kids. Thank you so much for this very important job!</p>
<p>Our crossing guard is awesome & absolutely necessary! Between inconsiderate/unobservant parents and old people who are annoyed to have to stop or slow down--our kids are at risk on {street name}.</p>
<p>because many kids go without parents. Some of the crossing guards need a lesson though!!</p>
<p>When we do walk or ride to school we use the crossing guards. Given the fact that a child was killed & her father hurt we need to keep the crossing guards.</p>
<p>Our crossing guard is very important to us. She does a great job. We truly need her!</p>
<p>Crossing guards are necessary! Especially with the recent accidents involving children being hit IN CROSSWALKS. An extra set of ADULT EYES are needed.</p>
<p>I am thankful for the crossing guards. I do believe strongly that there should be more. Some drivers do not pay attention, which makes most crosswalks dangerous.</p>
<p>I really appreciate having the crossing guard at our school. She provides us with a great safety service.</p>
<p>We used to ride our bikes more to school, but many times I have to drop my son off as I head to work. The main reason I don't let my son ride to school by himself is because I don't feel it is safe. There are no cross guards @ McClay, a busy intersection. Also, the parents who drive to school - some are extremely unsafe, pulling into driveways, doing U-turns on Center, etc. I will NOT let my son ride on the street only on the sidewalk-Center Rd is too dangerous! *We need a bike lane on Center Road!</p>
<p>The crossing guard program is going very well because no one walks out of the yellow lines and the crossing guard is kind.</p>
<p>There is still a huge problem with parents and how they drop off kids and make dangerous maneuvers in front of the school, even with a crossing guard whos almost been hit.</p>
<p>Our crossing guard ensures that there our no accidents - so our kids are safety. I think the parents/school would have grave safety problems without her.</p>
<p>Need a crossing guard when Kindergarten gets out</p>
<p>es muy importante tener estas personas para que los conductores puedan respetas y asi poder evitar los accidentes gracias por pensar en nuestros hijos.</p>
<p>We are <u>so</u> grateful for the new crosswalk and crossing guard near {school name}. What a difference he makes!</p>
<p>I think it is very helpful to have crossing guards assisting children before and after school</p>
<p>The crosswalk & crossing guard on {street name} (near {school name}) has been <u>great</u>. I often drive part way in & walk from a distance. This is much more comfortable with these additions.</p>
<p>The safety of our children is very important.</p>

<p>Not only do I appreciate the crossing guard at my school - but I think the 4 intersections I drive through on the way keep us safe. In light of the recent tragedy in Novato (4th grader killed in crosswalk) this is invaluable isn't it?</p>
<p>We carpool to school, however, we use the crosswalks often on our way in and at pickup.</p>
<p>The crossing guard who now works regularly near <i>{school name}</i> is a very sweet man and we're very happy to have him there. The crossing guard who helps people across <i>{street name}</i>. near <i>{school name}</i> is also very friendly and effective. Thanks!</p>
<p>on front. Thank you for our crossing guard at <i>{school name}</i>. My kids can now walk from the church again thank you.</p>
<p>For elementary schools, yes. For middle schools, the kids are old enough to know how to deal with traffic.</p>
<p>We will park at the church and walk from there. It is very nice having the new crosswalk and the Crossing Guards.</p>
<p>I drive past <i>{street name}</i> and <i>{street name}</i> every school morning and I would not want to see that corner without a crossing guard...it's too busy. Even though my son doesn't walk there I'd vote to spend tax dollars to keep those who do safe.</p>
<p>The safety of our children is very important.</p>
<p>As a mother of three young daughters I feel crossing guards are very important in keeping our children safe. This is especially true on streets closest to middle schools and high schools. Many drivers young and/or experienced are distracted at busy intersections.</p>
<p>We do not cross a street where one is needed but if we had to walk on one of the busy streets I would feel so much more comfortable if there was the help & safety of a crossing guard.</p>
<p>Please provide a permanent x guard on Arthur. Thank you!</p>
<p>Since <i>{school name}</i> is so centrally located, with preschool and downtown & the library close by, we are often walking around there. It is very helpful to have crossing guards because there is so much traffic.</p>
<p>We love <i>{guard name}</i>! He keeps the kids & roads safe in an area that some people drive through too fast (rotary near library).</p>
<p>The crossing guards are essential to the safety of our walk & bike to school experience. Even children who arrive by car often use the crossing guards. Thank you.</p>
<p>Staggered dismissal times for K keep us from using the crossing guards more. We will use more next year when we are at the later/general dismissal time.</p>
<p>Our guards are sweet and help us feel safe. Thank you</p>
<p><i>{School name}</i> needs the crossing guards. They have helped me <u>not</u> to hit children in my car. Gets crazy after school w/ all the kids. Good job!!</p>
<p>We allow our children to walk to school every day without adult supervision because we feel they are safe with <i>{guard name}</i> our crossing guard. Thank you.</p>
<p>It is very reassuring knowing that a crossing guard is there helping direct traffic so that our children are safe</p>
<p>It would be nice if parents/community members could volunteer for this kind of thing</p>

We ride a trailer-bike occasionally & don't need a crossing guard for that. Otherwise we drive. In general I think we should have guards on the highest traffic corners (on {street name}) but probably <u>not</u> on low-traffic corners.
Thank you for the crossing guards. They are good for getting kids to walk to school safely.
my mom a dad are out of town so I filled this out {respondent information}
The crossing guards are generally courteous and helpful.
It is nice to have a consistant person at the crosswalk so they can get to know the children who cross on a regular basis.
Our crossing guards are really great!!
I feel the crossing guard presently stationed at front of {school name} ({street name & street name}) Is WAY too old & slow, immobile & spaced out to handle such a busy intersection. The crossing guard at {street name & street name} is way better & they should be switched! Not sure if {street name & street name} even need crossing guard? But the {guard description} needs to <u>retire</u> . {Respondent information}
Crossing guards have been very courteous and friendly--makes for a great (and safe) start to each day. Thank you!
How do we ensure there are always crossing guards where there are supposed to be?
However, using money to fund bus transportation would be safer and more efficient
Some days I drop my son off just before the school because he likes to walk. I feel safe knowing the crossing guards will get him across the street.
The intersection at {street name} and {street name} <u>definitely</u> needs crossing guards. Even though we live in a different direction, I drive past this intersection to get to work and think it is essential to the safety of all.
Love the crossing gaurds! They make my children more independent!
However, parents could volunteer to be crossing guards and put the \$ other places -- towards educational needs.
I thought, they were volunteers or people who work instead of paying traffic tickets.
it is very helpful for drivers, too, to be reminded to slow down...
The crossing guards are very nice!!!
I think the crossing guards are very important. I feel confident kids are safer walking and riding their bicycles to school alone with the crossing guards. There is a lot of traffic in the a.m. and p.m. drop off times and guards are needed.
I thought they were volunteers-now I know and I thank you. Our guard is located at the single most important intersection by school. He is very effective & friendly. There is <u>much</u> traffic at that intersection - I would definitely be concerned for my children's (ages 9 & 10) safety w/o a guard.
We love our crossing guard {guard name}!
More crossing guards to make the school safer.
At busy intersections a crossing guard "signals" to drivers that kids are crossing. I think that "signal" is a really important one for rushing commuters.

<p>A crossing guard who holds up traffic is not a good one. We have one who does this and it creates additional pollution from all the idle cars. He is on the corner of {street name & street name}. Others on site are great.</p>
<p>The crossing guards provide a better flow to the traffic at school beginning & ending times. Gives families more security for kids walking/biking to school.</p>
<p>There needs to be a crossing guard at Lovell & Elma intersection. Cars speed on Lovell and there isn't even a stop sign there. That is a very dangerous intersection when kids are crossing to go to school in the a.m. and in the afternoon.</p>
<p>Thank you for supporting the crossing guards. They are very important to the safety of our children.</p>
<p>They do a real good job making sure cars yield to pedestrians and bicyclists. On top of that some of them are great with the kids.</p>
<p>I think it is essential to have a crossing guard, <u>especially</u> on Sir Francis Drake where people don't want to stop.</p>
<p>We live across the street from the school.</p>
<p>Especially with young children, having the crossing guard is <u>SO</u> important. It alerts drivers that kids are present - a reminder we all need while in a hurry in the morning.</p>
<p>The woman on {street name} just before {street name} and after the library is ADORABLE! We look forward to seeing her every morning.</p>
<p>With traffic so crazy in the A.M. I feel my child's safety is better with having a person notifying cars of crossing children.</p>
<p>Cars <u>do not</u> stop w/ the flashing yellow lights above the cross walks most of the time, <u>unless there is a crossing guard!</u></p>
<p>We drive student to school. Live a mile from school & she is to young to ride-must go to work after dropping at school.</p>
<p>{Guard name} is the BEST!</p>
<p>My 6 yr old and I were hit by a car in a crosswalk when a car passed all cars stopped at the crosswalk. If a crossing guard had been there, that never would have happened.</p>
<p>Without crossing guards, kids crossing Sir Fracis Drake Blvd. wouldn't have a chance.</p>
<p>I the Crossing Guard are so important for the Community.</p>
<p>We don't need to cross streets because we live very close. Crossing guards are a great thing for all the kids. I wish more people would not drive their kids to school.</p>
<p>Crossing guards are a great addition to our community.</p>
<p>Please do not remove the guards! We need them!! Especially crossing Sir Fr. Drake, dangerous road.</p>
<p>As my son gets older (we ride together now), I would feel more confident of his safety if there were crossing guards at those streets he needed to cross. I hope they continue to be funded.</p>
<p>We love crossing guards! Currently my children ride bikes, scooters or walk <u>with</u> me, but I know having a crossing guard at busier crosswalks will set my mind at ease when they are travelling to and from school without me. Thank you!</p>

Please also consider a crossing guard at Marinda & Sir Francis Drake, very dangerous intersection & light often does not work properly.
Always, they are so nice and kind.
another crossing guard on our street would be wonderful--the crossing we use is on a busy corner and is quite dangerous--we would love a guard there. We live Past Manor school on Oak Manor Drive.
The crossing guard program is critical to keeping kids safe and allowing them to walk/bike to school safely.
Our crossing guard {guard name} is on {street name} at {street name} and she rocks!!
Crossing guards are essential on busy streets such as Sir Francis Drake Blvd.--drivers rushing to work make crossing the street very dangerous for children.
please keep crossing guards-they help control the traffic in a good way.
I have been extremely happy with the crossing guards located en route to school. They are courteous and engage me & the kids. I hope they stay!
Three crossing guards are stationed at crossings around {school name}, two on {street name} and one on {street name}. The two on {street name} are essential for the safety of children walking and biking to school because most of them live the other side of this busy street. The crossing guard on {street name} should not be necessary if other parents drive slowly!
Many drivers do not stop (are oblivious for whatever reason.) Crossing guards are helpful in making motorists aware that they need to stop.
I believe crossing guards are critical to the safety of our school age children.
There are 2 crossing gaurds who have been at the same spots all year. That makes it very comfortable, friendly and more Neighborhood feeling. The places where there is constant change seems to have less of a friendly feeling. My family enjoys knowing their crossing guard like I did.
We need school crossing guards. They are essential to school children's safety.
The crossing guard on {street name} ({guard description}) is <u>Amazing!</u> We love her & <u>so</u> appreciate her.
We would like to see the bus program subsidized or free. Not enough parking even for carpooling.
See other side--Buses should also turn <u>right</u> exiting school. They back up the carpool/drop off lane when waiting to turn left. Speed bumps should be installed before & after exits & entrance of school. Highly recommend!!!
The traffic is so dense, I am grateful there are crosswalk guards. Parents frantic to get to work often overlook basic safety rules. The crossing guards are a necessary safety precaution for everyone.
Crossing guards are very helpful.
Very needed in our community!
We live near {school names} and REALLY appreciate BOTH sets of guards keeping all our kinds safe
Although I realize that we are in a budget crisis in California, I feel that safety is extremely important and we must do everything we can to keep kids safe as they are coming to school and going home.

Our elementary school is very close to {school name} (and its high school-age drivers). The crosswalk in front of {school name} is VERY helpful, but unsafe unless there is a crossing guard present. I think that the crossing guard program is <u>money well spent</u> .
We have very treacherous intersections near our school. The crossing guards are extremely helpful to children in arriving safely, <u>and</u> to have motorists slow down when approaching our school zone. <u>Please</u> continue the crossing guard program with transportation funds!
It would be nice if the cross guard at {street name} & {street name} would smile once in awhile and/or say hello.
We would like to see the bus program subsidized <u>or</u> free. Not enough parking even for carpooling.
The crossing guards definitely make things safer. When we used to cross {street name} at {street name}, we almost got hit a couple of times. Also, I had some scary close calls almost hitting children running out into the street from the apartment along {street name} before there was a crossing guard.
With the amount of traffic and ignorant self, self-centered people driving, crossing guards are one of the smartest ways to spend money. Safety first.
Crossing guards are v. Important especially with the <u>fast cars</u> on {street name}. They could use a motorcycle officer also as no one obeys the speed limit.
7 [referring to question 11] is yes but only because some (not an insignificant portion) do not seem to know that a pedestrian has right of way in crosswalk-maybe \$ should be spent educating drivers, or giving them tickets.
I rely on our crossing guard daily. I would not feel comfortable crossing the street w/out him. The traffic flow would be greatly effected w/out the guard.
The crossing guards are a necessity at {school name}! They provide a great, and much needed, service to our families.
Our crossing guard at {street name} & {street name} in {city name} at {school name} takes his job seriously, and works very hard to insure students' safety.
It is hard to imagine what {school name} would be like without the guards. A lot of students walk or bike and the only access route has poor visibility at the school corner.
I feel much safer knowing we have a good (friendly, conscientious) crossing guard at our school!
I answer "yes" to #7 [referring to question 11] not knowing the budget and the expense of the crossing guards.
I think crossing guards should be trained to direct traffic. The traffic in the mornings around school is nutty!
I was disappointed to learn that the crossing guard at our school is not allowed to be in the street anymore because of his credentials. He is highly qualified and should not have been moved to the sidewalk. As a driver I feel less at ease with him on the sidewalk and would like to see him back in the street directing traffic. He is awesome and we will al be safer with him in the street.
Our crossing guard is fantastic and does a fantastic job of keeping kids safe.
{School name} crossing guards are great!
Crossing guards save lives. Mom/Dad traffic in the AM is like bumper cars-Crossing Guards save lives!

<p>{Guard name} the crossing guard at {school name} ({street name} & {street name}) is the best crossing guard I have ever encountered. He should be the standard for training all crossing guards. <u>All</u> the kids and parents love him and he does a fantastic job.</p>
<p>Our crossing guards are essential in the morning/afternoon. They keep car traffic/foot traffic running smoothly. We could not function w/out them. I think our children would be in danger w/out them!</p>
<p>{Guard name}, the crossing guard at {school name}, is awesome! He is dedicated to the children's safety and is delightfully cheery and affable.</p>
<p>Having a crossing guard at school intersections is extremely important to the safety of our kids. Our son rides his bike & could not do this safely w/ out a crossing guard. Cars drive very fast on {street name}-keep the crossing guards!</p>
<p>Our crossing guards help protect our children. I feel much safer crossing w/ my 3 kids.</p>
<p><u>Thank you</u> for providing the Crossing Gard program</p>
<p>Our crossing guard is great, not only does his job but is friendly every day.</p>
<p>{Guard name} is a wonderful crossing guard who has everyone's best interest in mind.</p>
<p>Our crossing guard, {guard name}, keeps our kids safe every day at a very congested intersection when school's in session. We couldn't imagine doing without him!</p>
<p>{School name} has an amazing cross guard called {guard name}. He makes sure everyone is always safe and he has an amazing positive attitude always smiling!! We love {guard name}!!</p>
<p>We need traffic directors.</p>
<p>The crossing guards at {school name} are very helpful--especially {guard name}. {Guard name} is an asset to the school. He is extremely helpful in assisting, those young & old, to get across the steet safely. And, his attitude is very positive.</p>
<p>Our crossing guard at {street name} and {street name} in {city name} is an <u>exceptional</u> crossing guard ({guard name}). He not only looks out for the safety of <u>all</u> people & motorists, he is so kind, friendly, polite and reminds us with verbal cues, such as "walk your bikes and remember to look both ways." He is a gem to have!</p>
<p>Our crossing guard is more than just a safety feature. {Guard name} is also a part of the community and greets the kids and me every day with a smile on his face.</p>
<p>Our crossing guard {guard name} makes every child feel welcome. He always has a greeting and a smile for everyone.</p>
<p>Crossing guards are needed at {street name} & {street name} late arrivers speed down the street, whip around the corner, and Im sure would have hit a child by now, if it was not for the crossing guard. He is vital for that corner. And {guard name} is a <u>great</u> crossing guard.</p>
<p>During drop off & pick up I think having a crossing guard is essential. There are many children riding bikes, scooters & walking with parents who's safety depends on the eyes of the crossing guard. As a driver of a car I always look in all directions but also at {guard name} to double check it's clear to continue.</p>
<p>The crossing guard(s) are <u>essential</u> for child safty!</p>
<p>The crossing guards @ {school name} are excellent! They really make a difference in keeping our kids safe!</p>

Our crossing guard at {street name} and {street name} in {city name} by {school name} is always at his post early and stays late. He does a nice job.
The crossing guard helps to maintain the flow of pedestrians which helps the vehicle traffic. Without the crossing guard, I think traffic would be very disorganized and take much longer at drop off/pick up.
I find the crossing guard at {school name} who's name is "{guard name}" to be very helpful. He does a great job and is an asset to {school name}. He is at the front crosswalk on "{street name}". The other crossing guard at the west end of the school leaves cigarette butts all over the ground where he smokes at the immediate neighbors mail boxes. That is not a good example and is littering.
Our crossing guards help protect our children. I feel much safer crossing, they are also friendly and seem to help the flow of traffic.
I do not think I would possibly allow my daughter to ride her bike to school on a daily basis if there was <u>NO</u> crossing guard on duty.
The crossing guards at {school name} are extremely important!
I think crossing guards are particularly needed at {school name} because of the way the roads & school are situated.
I believe our crossing guards are a <u>huge</u> part of our school community and provide a very necessary safety net for our children. I would be extremely disappointed and unhappy to <u>not</u> have them helping my child get to & from school.
A good crossing guard makes an enormous difference, increasing the safety of <u>every</u> child and even improving traffic flow because kids are more likely to use cross walks.
Without crossing guards to safeguard children as well as warn approaching cars, you would be <u>besieged</u> with accidents and problems, some potentially fatal. Our crossing guards ({guard name} in particular) are excellent.
Give me a break--The crossing guards are fantastic 1. Reliable 2. Thoughtful 4. Kind 5. Safety (always first) 6. Never late 7. Never sick etc etc etc!! (keep the crossing guards employed!!)
I think crossing guards are needed, as I see too many parents backing into crosswalks, hang uturns, and double parking at crosswalks
{Guard name}, the crossing guard at {street name} & {street name} is fabulous. He is energetic, happy, friendly & courteous at all times. He brightens our day <u>every</u> day.
Our TAM-provided crossing guard at {street name} is a life saver. It's a very busy and ill-marked intersection. I wish he had more authority to deal with traffic control--not just crosswalk management (but that's a lot better than nothing!)
The crossing guard at {school name} is terrific. He is delightful & courteous for all the families to attend school morning & afternoons. He really enjoys his job & that makes a huge difference. He makes everyone HAPPY!
Of the 3 crossing guards at {school name}, I believe only 1 (maybe 2) are funded by this program. This is generally <u>not</u> the location we cross
I would like to see a safe route to Sun Valley School from the Gerstle Park area. It is not safe for our kids to ride or walk across 2nd, 3rd, & 4th streets in the morning, as traffic is so heavy. Crossing Guards at 2nd & 3rd Sts. would be extremely helpful.
The crossing guard at {street name} is very nice and does a great job helping parents avoid accidents.

<p>Crossing guards is the safest way for school age children to cross the intersection in school, especially for the smaller kids.</p>
<p>I wish the crossing guards had the authority to prevent people from double parking, making u-turns in intersections, etc. The crossing guards are <u>extremely</u> helpful!</p>
<p>Our crossing guard at {street name}. and {street name} in {city name} is an <u>exceptional</u> crossing guard ({guard name}). He not only looks out for the safety of <u>all</u> people & motorists, he is so kind, friendly, polite and reminds us with verbal cues such as "walk your bikes and remember to look both ways." He is a gem to have!</p>
<p>{Guard name} is by far the BEST X-ing guard in CA!! Sorry, don't know his last name, but he is working at {street name/street name} crossing.</p>
<p>Our crossing guard, {guard name}, is vital to the safety of parents & children at the intersection of {street name} & {street name}. He does a great job! Unfortunately since the authorities came out & informed him he cannot help to direct traffic it has become very dangerous at that corner. I understand there are insurance liabilities but you should know that there is a much higher chance of an accident now, than when he was allowed to help with the flow of traffic!</p>
<p>The should be required - not "an Option"</p>
<p>The guards are really important for the safety of our kids because children get easily distracted, and traffic congestion at drop off and pick up can cause many accidents. Thank you for having them.</p>
<p>The crossing guard that works at the corner of {street name} and {location} is quite possibly the most friendly and inspiring person I've met in years! We call him "Mr. Smiley" because rain or shine he is always smiling and waving to all the kids and families going to and from school. He is the BEST and deserves special recognition! Sincerely, {Respondent Information}</p>
<p>{Street name} is such a dangerous highway to cross and I am so grateful to the crossing guards that protect children. It is a vital service</p>
<p>The crossing guard for {school name} is FABULOUS. He is always so friendly and happy and makes everyone feel good.</p>
<p>I am not so impressed by the crossing guard at {school name} (at the corner of {street name} and {street name}). She is somewhat half-hearted and certainly not cheerful. However, the crossing guard for {school name} (the one at {street name} and {street name} intersection is fabulous - he is energetic and extremely cheerful. Thank you.</p>
<p>Please train your crossing guards to be courteous to parent and children - the guard at the {school name} crossing is not</p>
<p>Our child's crossings are at intersections controlled by traffic lights, but the crossing guards still provide important protections, making sure inattentive drivers don't drift through intersections.</p>
<p>great service and very important. especially like the happy guy at the corner of the {location}.</p>
<p>the guard on {street name} is fabulous, the one at the bottom of the hill at {street name} is not very pleasant.</p>
<p>we encounter three of the crossing guards on a regular basis and are very happy they are there. one of the intersections would be unsafe to cross without them- thanks</p>
<p>Crossing guard in front of {school name} ({guard description}) is abusive and hostile. He has hit my car with his crossing sign and has a bad reputation for being a hot head.</p>

<p>The {school name} has on large particularly busy and dangerous intersection. Many many children must cross here. I have seen the crossing guard BANG on the backs of backing cars to keep them from hitting children in the crosswalk. I fear disaster would strike if we did not have our magnificent crossing guard.</p>
<p>Guards are crucial. 2 many distracted drivers. They r always curious and careful. We love the guy @ {location}!!!! The {guard description} @ {school name} is great too. They make a HUGE difference.</p>
<p>The crossing guards are very pleasant and I feel comfortable having them there. I would worry about the pedestrians otherwise. Thanks.</p>
<p>the crossing guard the {location} is the nicest, friendliest man ever...our kids look for him each day...his smile makes their day</p>
<p>Guards are really nice and protective.</p>
<p>This crossing guard is the happy man I have ever seen. We call him "Mr. Smiley". He puts everyone in a good mood and waves to everyone. Great job!!</p>
<p>We love the crossing guard who is at the intersection of {street name} & {street name}. But he hasn't been there for a couple of days and we miss him!</p>
<p>We love {guard name} the crossing guard at {street name} and {street name}!!</p>
<p>Our crossing guard at {location} was great. He always had a smile and a wave for us.</p>
<p>My dad told me that when he was growing up, older kids from the school were crossing guards. He said it was fun.</p>
<p>At {school name} on {street name} they have closed down one of the crossing areas so technically you have to cross twice. I think this was done to improve the traffic flow to the carpool/car line parents when they turn from {street name} to {street name}. I think this is wrong and dangerous. Pedestrians should have priority over cars.</p>
<p>the crossing guard for {school name} in {city name} is wonderful. Always there, always friendly.</p>
<p>At {school name}, the {guard description} crossing guard is always quick with a smile and great at his job. The {guard description} at the bottom of the hill at {school name} is flat-out rude and unpleasant.</p>
<p>Most of your crossing guards are great. The smile on the guard that works at {street name} and {street name} in the morning really makes my day. Without guards on {street name}, it would not be safe enough to let kids walk/ride to school.</p>
<p>The crossing guard at the corner of {street name} in {city name} named {guard name} is fantastic. I never met such a happy crossing guard in all my life. He deserves an award. I am sure that most people in this neighbourhood would agree that he brightens up everybody's day.</p>
<p>On multiple occasions, I have seen one crossing guard step out into traffic before the light changes, anticipating the change from green to red. This is a VERY dangerous action as the children on the other side of the street tend to follow her lead.</p>
<p>Speed limits are seldom enforced around school. The guards are an essential safety precaution.</p>
<p>The guards are very friendly and nice; that is important for children, so they will feel comfortable walking near a stranger. Otherwise, they could possibly veer away from them, and walk/ride outside the cross-walk.</p>
<p>The {school name} crossing guard, {guard name}, is wonderful and definitely makes us feel safer crossing busy {street name}.</p>

The morning crossing guard at the bottom of {school name} is very rude to both students and parents.
The {guard description} crossing guard at {location} for {school name} is fabulous! Give him a raise.
Crossing guard has been very helpful in assisting my child cross the street when she takes the bus home after school. It is a pretty busy street.
The Crossing Guard at the bottom of the {school name} hill is less than friendly to the children he is there to protect but is a ruiner for all mornings.
I think the crossing guards are not only providing a safer crossing for the children, they are also teaching them to look out for potentially dangerous situations. It's also nice to have a safe adult helping them get to school.
The crossing guards that we have in {city name} are wonderful...friendly, observant, helpful. Can't say enough about them. Great people!
The crossing guard at {school name} has been the most helpful , friendly and attentive person . Twice a day he brings smiles to all that pass him.
Crossing guards should be carefully screened and selected for temperament, attitude and suitability for this very important job. Crossing guards need to be friendly and kind to everyone, and at the same time be vigilant for the safety of all the children crossing the street. They should be regularly supervised and monitored and trained. If parents, or others, observe the crossing guard displaying aggressive, bullying, mean or any other inappropriate behavior towards the children, immediate and thorough investigation should take place and the matter should be taken seriously. The school the crossing guard is working near should always know who the crossing guards immediate superior and supervisor is, and be able to communicate with them within the same business day. {School name} in {city name} has had a crossing guard at the intersection of {street name} and the {location}, who is very bullying and intimidating towards the children. GET RID OF HIM!!!!!!!!!!!! He has a terrible attitude and the children are uncomfortable around him.
I liked the way you blocked off {street name} to pedestrians crossing from {school name}. It made the excess car traffic turning right onto {street name} much faster. flow of traffic was better, cars were not forced to wait on the green arrow b/c of pedestrian crossing. good job.
I really have no idea if this is a good use of funds. I do not know how much it costs. I do not know if they are needed at all intersections where they are currently work, or if they are needed at more.
It would be good if the crossing gaurds paid attention. Often I have seen them on their cell phone and not paying attention. They also need to hold the sign up high as they often get lazy and the power of the sign is lost
The regular crossing guard at the corner of {street name} and {street name} does an outstanding job. Not only does he safely escort pedestrians and bikers across the intersection, but he does so cheerfully, and brings joy to the school day. He should be commended for outstanding performance. I hope he continues to work at my crosswalk!!
We love the " smilie" cross guard @ {street name} & {street name}
The crossing guard at {street name} and {street name} near the {location} is really GREAT!! Please keep him around!!
I have watched cars speeding while dropping their kids off at school, I have even had to stop kids running in front of fast cars. Crossing guards are not a luxury they are a necessity!

I like knowing there area going to be crossing guards every day, morning and afternoon to help get across busy intersections. Thank you!
the crossing guards really help make getting to school safer for pedestrians. thank you.
The crossing guards in {city name} are wonderful and do a great job of keeping our kids safe from aggressive drivers.
The {guard description} at the {location} entrance to {school name} in the morning is rigid and unreasonable. One morning (and the ONE AND ONLY time during the whole school year) I asked for permission to drive up the driveway to drop off some large, heavy, cumbersome project materials. I explained what I wanted to do and why, and he refused, forcing me to make two trips up the hill on foot. The driveway is open to teacher/staff traffic at this hour and he could have made an exception for a parent who does not abuse the system.
Some of the crossing guards need to have more "people skills" and be politer to the children.
The man who mans the front of {school name} in the mornings is a jerk.
My child rides the bus home from school. There is one terrific guard at the corner where {street name} and the cross street to school. The guard at the entrance to the school is so rude, I understand he is preventing drivers from going up to school but the way he does it, just holding his hand up and saying nothing with a mean look, is really upsetting.
Love our crossing guard at {street name} and {street name}
The crossing guards should be instructed NOT to be involved in conversations during their crossing duties. Multiple days every week I have seen the {guard description} crossing guard engaged in conversations with people on the corners, unfortunately this is an issue because she doesn't notice when the light changes and often times adults AND kids start walking across without her guarding them. I have seen many cars stop quickly when they see people in the cross walk walking without the guard. She also stands in the street, not on the sidewalk which makes it difficult to make a right turn onto {street name} without being concerned about her stepping in front of you or hitting her, or getting a ticket from the police at the corner because she is in the roadway, when she doesn't have the right of way and the light is red. It is a great concern.
The guard at {street name} and {street name} is friendly, polite and helpful. The guard at the {street name} crosswalk at {school name} is rough, unfriendly, and verbally aggressive to children and parents.
They seem kind and courteous.
The crossing guard in {school name} is very rude and mean. I don't know his name but he is a {guard description}. He has had several run ons with other parents and needs to go to some customer service class and needs some social skills. He is very authoritative in a very rude way. But the crossing guard near {location} ({guard description}) is a delight to see every morning. Everybody loves him and waves at him. These are the kind of crossing guards we need. He should definitely get a raise.
Nothing is more important than the safety and happiness of our children.
The guard at {street name} and {street name} is the BEST
The guard at {location} intersection is wonderful! He is cheerful every morning and gives us a big wave. My son looks forward to seeing him!

<p>{Guard name} is the crossing guard for {school name}. She is very good at being friendly but staying completely focused on making sure all the children, parents, dogs, bicycles, etc. are all safely across the two streets. It is a very difficult corner and we feel strongly that she helps to make us safe when we cross. Thanks {guard name}!</p>
<p>Our crossing guard, {guard name}, is excellent. Very professional and friendly. Focuses on the childrens' safety like a hawk.. Have seen her on several occasions intercede when cars don't obey the lights, and enter an active crosswalk.</p>
<p>Next time change the survey to reflect children attending different schools from the same family</p>
<p>We have really appreciated the friendly, smiling, waving greetings of the crossing guard posted near {location} in {city name}.</p>
<p>my walk to school does not require i go across {street name}, {school name} is just down the road from my house. in past i bused to {school name} and {school name}. However, it does make me feel secure knowing the guard are around to protect and guide and take care of students. they are an asset we should always maintain.</p>
<p>Besides the one grumpy crossing gard at the {location} of the {school name}. I find all the crossing gards to be friendly & aware of the children at all times.</p>
<p>{Guard name} does an excellent job very reliable and dependable</p>
<p>The cross guard at the entrance intersection of {school name} is bit grumpy (he NEVER smiles). Maybe he needs to be paid more...</p>
<p>{Guard name}, our crossing guard at {school name}, is terrific!</p>
<p>The crossing guard at {school name} in {city name} is the grumpiest person I have ever had the opportunity to meet. I recommend he be replaced. My children agree.</p>
<p>They provide safety for young kids.</p>
<p>The crossing guards are efficient and serious about safety. They protect the children and do their jobs well.</p>
<p>{Guard name}, who patrols {street name} near {location}, is the friendliest guard we've ever met! He brightens our day!</p>
<p>We think the normal crossing guard at {street name} at {street name} is very friendly and very effcient.</p>
<p>The crossing guard at the {street name-location} Intersection is the most consistently cheerful and friendly soul. In addition to keeping our children safe, he puts everyone in a good mood all year long. He should be nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize as you can't hold on to an angry thought as you pass his intersection.</p>
<p>{Guard name}, who is a Cross Guard at the intersection of {street name} and {street name} is awesome! He brightens everyone day with his smile and wave. It is nice to know that if my kids need to walk home then they will be helped by such a friendly person. I'd like to recommend that {guard name} be rewarded and/or recognized for his outgoing personality and friendly waves to everyone that passes by his cross walk whether they are on foot or in a car!</p>
<p>{Guard name} is the best - at {street name} and {location}</p>
<p>As a parent, I feel much better about the safety of my son knowing that there are crossing guards at major intersections on {street name} when he comes home from school.</p>

The crossing guards are always professional, courteous, safe, thoughtful and kind. I feel very good to know they are there.
The intersection in front of {school name} is VERY busy and dangerous. We love our crossing guard. Thank you!
will be walking or busing to school next year. i really appreciate the crossing guard. especially the guy at {street name} and {street name} that smiles and waves hello to me every morning. when he is not there i worry that he might be ill or not okay.
crossing guards are useful and necessary...however a closer examination of temprament and personality is necessary when selecting...there is a man at the {location} @ {school name} unhappy and miserable in his approach to the kids and parents, growling on a daily basis...a more balanced temprament would be better suited
The crossing Guard at the corner of {street name} and {street name} is the nicest gentleman and greets us every morning with a big smile and wave.
The am crossing guard at {school name} does not smile.
The crossing guards in {city name} are always friendly and reliable. They cross the kids on some very busy roads in our town. They do a good job !!
Although we don't use the crossing guards very often, the one at {street name} and {street name} is very friendly and alert. He makes sure the kids and even the adults are safe crossing the intersection.
I'd love to see more pathways through each neighborhood so that kids can walk without going near {street name}..
{Guard name} at the {street name}/{street name} intersection is fabulous; He blocks the road and holds his sign and you just know no car is going to miss seeing him! ... They better not at least! What a big heart he has to put himself out there - literally -for our kids. thanks {guard name}!
{Guard name} at {school name} is a very very wonderful crossing guard; She is sooo pleasant, reliable and effective... I wouldn't let my kids cross a street without someone like her guarding them....
Our crossing guard at {school name} is excellent. She takes her job seriously and is always helpful at getting parents/kids across the street safely.
The crossing guard at the intersection of {street name} and {street name} is FABULOUS!
She is excellent and incredibly dedicated to her job. She makes the parents feel their children are in exceptionally good hands! She's awesome!
The crossing guards are VITAL for the safety of our children. Absolutely VITAL. Cars are in such a rush to get to where they are going. The crossing guard is the only person who can slow them down! We depend greatly on our crossing guards. Thank you!
The crossing gaurd at {school name} does a good job. Often times when parents are in a rush, she is a good reminder not to jay walk or rush to make the light. The kids are very safe.
The guard at the entrance to {school name} is too mean. I'm sure he has a hard job but he dosen't have to be rude!
I would not let my child walk to school and cross {street name} without a crossing guard. The crossing gaurd @ {street name}/{street name} is the best!
I think that people driving pay more attention if a crossing guard is at the intersection

The crossing guard at the corner of {street name} and {street name} is excellent. He always smiles, is courteous and helps all the kids cross at a dangerous intersection. Give him a raise!!!!
Crossing gauad is very nice and humble man at {street name} and {street name} intersection.
We lost our crossing guard {guard name} at {school name} last month, when he passed away at home. The new guard is very friendly, but I think he forgets that pedestrians have the right of way. He makes us wait in the cross walk to let cars go through the intersection. I don't like that.
We cross the street to the school most every day and find the crossing guard imperative. Even with the crossing guard in the middle of the cross walk, people drive through the stop sign and skirt around the crossing guard. We have had very good crossing guards and believe they are necessary to our children's safety.
I had NO idea that crossing guards were paid! I assumed that it was a volunteer activity. What ever happened to simple civic duty?
Just having someone there in a bright orange vest gets drivers' attention, and reminds them to slow down. It is great for kids and parents who cross busy streets, definitely safer.
Maybe parents could volunteer
The crossing guards should wait and collect a few children before stopping traffic. It seems every child that approaches the curb immediately stops all traffic. Traffic backs up more than necessary if the children could just wait a moment until there are a few of them.
I wish that the crossing guards were taught to maintain an effective flow of traffic during peak times. One guard at {school name} would stop traffic (in advance) for every single pedestrian - even if there was a another pedestrian 30 feet behind that one, and another 30 feet back of the second. It would be more effective to let pedestrians build up and then halt traffic. Otherwise it can take forever to get through the intersection since there is a persistent trickle of pedestrians. The drivers in those cars have to get to work on time and helping them do that doesn't have to preclude pedestrian safety!
Morning crosswalks are no longer safe without a crossing guard. They are essential to the safety of the children and the community.
I think the crossing guards are very important to our community!
The guard at {street name} and {street name} for most of this Spring (April & May, but stopped 6/1 - I believe his name is {guard name}), was WONDERFUL. Helpful, cheery, nice and thoughtful, unlike many others ...
in a few years when our son goes to {school name} the crossing guard will definitely be used as we live just 2 blocks away. I see many kids using the crossing guard in our immediate neighborhood and believe it is a worthwhile expense. If it was a choice between school buses and crossing guards, I would prioritize with crossing guards, especially in Marin where many kids ride bikes. Thank you.
I see many times when cars would go zooming by if crossing guards did not make the cars stop for kids..ESSENTIAL for safety.
We loved {guard name}. His replacements have also been very good.
Our crossing guard on {street name}/{street name}, {guard name}, was wonderful. He really took his job seriously and really tried to keep everyone safe. He will be missed. Our new crossing guards our nice.
My children could walk to school if a crossing guard was at the end of Jerry Russum park and Lucas Valley. (AT THE MINI MART)

<p>The intersections near our school are very busy and one has a severe blind spot. This particular intersection has no crossing guard, and a parent volunteer has been stationed there in recent weeks, and it has been incredibly helpful and MUCH safer for our children. With many people driving their kids to school, mixed with commute traffic/people going to work, there are many cars on the road at morning and afternoon drop off. The crossing guards are crucial and appreciated.</p>
<p>not that necessary</p>
<p>The crossing guard was the best so far! There was never a day he did not smile and waive and treat everyone with such kindness and care!!</p>
<p>I think it is important for our children's safety. So many drivers are not alert of children crossing the street in the morning. They are rushing to work.</p>
<p>Would love a crossing guard at {street name} and {street name}.</p>
<p>The drivers in and around the {school name} campus tend to be reckless at times. The crossing guard on many occasions has slowed traffic and forced cars to allow pedestrians to cross safely. We definitely need to continue this program. I'll gladly pay the tax.</p>
<p>We need a crossing guard at Las Gallinas Ave and Blackstone Dr. Every child going to our school crosses this intersection daily.</p>
<p>Morning {guard description} crossing guard @ {school name} got confrontational with me and my son on two occasions. Please have a different one next school year b/c I felt intimidated. Questions? My email is {respondent information} Thank you.</p>
<p>Please keep it up.</p>
<p>thanks for providing crossing guards!</p>
<p>The presence of the crossing guard is a reminder for even those in cars, to pay closer attention (and slow down!).</p>
<p>Need to add crossing guard at intersection of Sir Francis Drake & Ash crosswalk</p>
<p>We drive our child to school most days, but we always pick him up off school grounds, so he uses the crosswalk every day. The fact that we use several crossing guards is very useful, and I suspect they have prevented students from being injured. Car traffic is much less aggressive when the guards are managing the flow.</p>
<p>Our crossing guard makes it safe for us to cross the very busy street. There is a traffic light, but cars would run the light if the guard wasn't there.</p>
<p>Since we live near very busy street (Sir Francis Drake Blvd.) which the kids need to walk on in order to get to school, the crossing guards are very important for the safety of the kids.</p>
<p>The crossing guards at my school were fantastic this year and seemed very devoted to what they were doing.</p>
<p>I think crossing guards are extremely important to protect our children. One incident is worth the cost of crossing guards all year.</p>
<p>The crossing guards for {school name} are excellent</p>
<p>This is a great service. Please continue. Thank You</p>
<p>The crossing guard in front of {school name} ({street name}) is outstanding!!!!!!</p>

our family carpools with two other families. students are dropped off in a central location to both schools in Kentfield. Use of crosswalks at both schools is crucial to the every day safety of the kids.
The {school name} crossing guards are extremely conscientious in ensuring student safety.
very important as drivers tend to ignore traffic lights, there has been many close calls, w/o guards would have to drive kids to school every day
The crossing guards in front of {school name} and at the corner of {street name} and {street name} are invaluable!! It would be a hazard for students and cars without them. Thank you!
Crossing Guards are extremely important to the safety of our children in Marin County.
We LOVE {guard name} and {guard name}, the crossing Guards at {school name}! They are the best!
In the mornings, on school days, there is high traffic. For safety of all, I feel very strongly that crossing guards are necessary and I am not sure that I care how they are funded; just as long as they are funded. They are essential during the school year.
{Guard name} at {school name} is a great crossing guard who looks out for the students.
We cross {street name} and {street name}. It is *very* dangerous, even with a crossing guard on duty. I saw a car swerve left *around* the waiting cars to turn right, and was only stopped by the crossing guard standing in the street! There were kids in the road!
The crossing guard at {school name} is GREAT (don't know his name). When I walk, his signals are clear when it's time to go. And he ALWAYS makes the cars stop with arms stretched out and a stern look in his eyes. My dad is always impressed with that part when he drives me. He says Wow, your crossing guard means business. I usually walk to school but when my dad drives me, he won't even turn into the school lot when the crosswalk is empty until the guard looks at him and waves him in, with his head and eyes. I meant to give him a present when school ended but I forgot to.
Crossing guards save lives! Remember Bacich....
They are invaluable at our school. The school is across a very busy street, where kids are learning to ride their bikes for the first time, or walking. It's really important to us...really.
Funding does not support buses so kids are more likely to walk or ride bikes...these modes need to be safe and crossing guards aid in that.
We love the crossing guard program. It is very important to feel safe when crossing the street with our children. The crossing guards makes us feel safe!
We love our crossing guard on {street name} and {street name}!!
The addition of the crossing guard at the corner of {street name} and {street name} is a lifesaver - terrible intersection made crossable.
keep crossing guards
The two traffic guards I pass (at {street name} and {street name}) and in front of {school name} are excellent and very helpful. Thanks!
My son will more likely ride his bike to school most school days this coming year if there are crossing guards.

<p>The crossing guard at {school name} is EXCELLENT!!! He has to manage pedestrian & vehicle traffic for the school and {school name} and works is like a pro. As a family who primarily drives to school, I very much appreciate the difference he makes in our commute and am certain he makes a difference in the families walking/biking safety</p>
<p>{Guard name} is the best crossing guard ever! He is quiet but has a kind manner and yet he is very strict with drivers who want to turn into {school name} when there is someone in the crosswalk. I feel safer with him there.</p>
<p>Our intersection at the school is chaotic with kids and cars. We definately need a crossing guard there.</p>
<p>Thank you for providing safety. Drivers don't always wait for people in crosswalks. Also, they sometimes don't see people waiting to cross the street. This program is wonderful!</p>
<p>Due to the high level of traffic congestion near school, an increasing number of drivers appear to be disobeying traffic signals. In spite of this, they still obey the school's crossing guard's instructions. For this reason, It's MUCH safer to walk to or from school when a crossing guard is present.</p>
<p>{Guard name} is great. So is the guard on {street name}/{street name}. Thank you.</p>
<p>There was a guard on {street name} and {street name} in the entry way to the parking lot at {school name}. Please reinstate that guard. THANK you.</p>
<p>Both {school name} and {school name} are located near major streets and fast-moving traffic. Either you pay the crossing guards or you pay the lawsuit when a kid gets hit by a car.</p>
<p>Crossing guards are essential for children's safety. I would fully support additional local taxes to preserve these and other school-related expenses. If the voters of California, in general, are too stingy to support great public schools, we need to be extra generous and support our schools.</p>
<p>{Guard name} is the best crossing guard ever! He is at work everyday and he keeps everyone safe. He is also very friendly and kind. He knows so many people by name. We are so lucky to have him!!</p>
<p>Crossing guards need to also notice how their extended time keeping the crosswalks only for pedestrians causes long back-ups for cars waiting to turn, particularly along {street name} in {city name}. I think that the guards should try to accommodate motorists a bit more... they are not the enemy!!</p>
<p>The crossing guard at {street name} and {street name} should not push the traffic light button when no children or people are in the area. This slows commute traffic.</p>
<p>They are a safety necessity. Cars drive much too fast (on Sir Francis Drake Blvd) and the children don't always behave in a safe manner. I believe there would be many more accidents if we did not have the crossing guards. I salute their work.</p>
<p>Our school avenue is really busy and dangerous, we need desperate the service. Thanks</p>
<p>Our street is very dangerous. Our crossing Guard {guard name} has averted several possible accidents and is completely in charge of the walkers, bike riders, etc. who could easily be hit by the fast cars. He is amazing.</p>
<p>They're pleasant and very helpful. In the morning, traffic is a little crazy and knowing there's someone making sure the kids are crossing safely is very comforting.</p>

<p>The crossing guard at {school name} is outstanding! He is very alert and directs both children and cars appropriately. Our family feels very strongly that provides a valuable safety service for our children and all others. We also rely on crossing guards at other intersections because we live a fair distance from {school name}. Please keep this public service. Without it, my son would not be allowed to walk or ride to school because {street name} and {street name} have such heavy traffic.</p>
<p>The crossing guards have made us comfortable with our son riding or walking to school. Without them, we would not allow this due to the very heavy traffic before and after school on all major streets between our house in {city name} and {school name}. We have noted that all the crossing guards we have seen are very diligent and careful, including those along {street name}, on {street name}, and across from {school name}. We applaud the Transportation Authority of Marin for doing such a great job in hiring these crossing guards. We really appreciate our tax dollars going to a program we feel has a direct pay-back in terms of enhancing the safety of our children and other pedestrians in our area. This public service is invaluable, and we really hope it is maintained in it's current form. Thank you very much!! A grateful mom of two students</p>
<p>The {personal description} drives from {school name} to {school name}. He is always sleeping in the bus. I am very concern of him driving the children if he is that tire. I have pictures of him Sleeping in the Bus while waiting for the children to come out.</p>
<p>It would be great to have a crossing guard on the Bon Air/South Eliseo traffic light. This is a very dangerous light with cars not obeying the right of way for pedestrians all the time. Out of the 10 times my son is crossing there, at least 5 times he has to wait for the cars to pass, although he has the right of way. We have informed already the local police to show some presence there, but so far nothing happened. We wonder if an accident has to happen to change the situation.</p>
<p>Very responsible and pleasant crossing guard</p>
<p>Keeps children safe. I can't tell you how many times I notice drivers not paying attention to the kids in the crosswalks!</p>
<p>{Guard name} is an excellent crossing guard. I trust him with my children's lives every schoolday!</p>
<p>not everyone can ride or walk to school - stop insulting us or trying to make us feel bad because we have to drive to work and drop off our student on the way.</p>
<p>{Guard name} is the {school name} crossing guard. He works at a dangerous and very busy intersection with dependable grace. It would be very, very difficult for our young children to manage that intersection without {guard name}. He deserves our commendation.</p>
<p>{School name} gard is very good and attentive.</p>
<p>With there being so many children attending school name who need to cross {street name} to get to school, a pedestrian initiated signal at a major intersection like {street name} and {street name} is de rigueur. Such a signal would result in more and more children riding/walking vs. being driven and creating traffic congestion and crazy driving behaviour (because kids are late). Please consider this.</p>
<p>The crossing guard, {guard name}, at {school name} is FANTASTIC!!!</p>
<p>My child goes to and from school early enough in the morning and late enough in the afternoon that there are no crossing guards out most days at that time. It is also my understanding that the crossing guards that do work the intersections near his school are actually parent volunteers and are NOT paid through any local or state transportation funds. Nor do I think crossing guards are a good use of transportation funds. To the extent that crossing guards are needed - a concept I do not necessarily believe - I think the need can and is adequately filled by parent volunteers from the schools.</p>

If not a crossing guard, the intersection would require a different type of signal to allow kids to cross E. blithedale.
{Guard name} at {school name} is excellent and a big help in keeping the kids safe!
we really appreciate the crossguards.
The crossing guard's role should be to ensure all road users obey the traffic light signals thus ensuring the best traffic flow. The guards at {school name} don't seem to understand this and generally make traffic flow worse without improving safety.
I have no idea if this is a good use of funds because I have no idea how much it cost and what how the other funds are used or what other alternatives are. "Other" or "do not know" wasn't an option.
our crossing guard was/is essential for the saftey of the students and the parents.
Would like a crossing guard at the intersection of Tiburon Blvd (131) and Bay Vista Drive to make crossing that intersection safer.
Most schools in {city name} have volunteer (parent) crossing guards who do a great job, supported by police observers at times. The intersection at {street name} and {street name} in {city name}, by the {school name}, is a tragedy waiting to happen because crossing guards are trying to help students cross a MAJOR 5-lane road AGAINST THE LIGHT. The students need a dedicated pedestrain crossing signal which shows a STOP for all cars trying to turn right from the school into {street name}. At present these cars have a green light while the crossing guard stops them to let kids cross. It is INCREDIBLY DANGEROUS. If kids don't get hurt, drivers will, as happened to us when we got rear-ended by a car behind us who only saw the green light and not the crossing guard's sign holding back he cars. I have written to {police department} and got no reply.
1) Your survey should be configured to allow respondents to indicate if they have kids at more than one school. 2) Even though I indicated we drive to school most days, we drive to a location near the campus (not directly to the campus) and walk the final block or two, to avoid traffic near the school and to get a little fresh air. As a result we use the crossing guard nearly every day of the school year, twice a day (coming and going). The crossing guard has had a noticeable improvement on drivers' safety and awareness. I would be sad to see the crossing guard be eliminate, as I feel the safety of adults and children would be compromised without his ({guard name}) presence and watchful eye.
as we continue to grow our walk and bike to school programs and encourage kids to participate _ the crossing guards roles will grow - they are a necessity
The crossing guard at the intersection of {street name} and {street name} makes the problem worse. He causes the traffic to back up on {street name} to an unreasonable amount. The children are capable of following the walk/don't walk signs properly and those who are too little for that are with an adult. I truly believe everyone would be better off without the crossing guard.
we have the nicest crossing guards at {school name}! thank you!
{Guard name} is the crossing guard at {school name} and he has been a great asset to the community. He is very alert, conscientious, and nice. He has made the very dangerous crosswalk to the school much safer for our kids.
We would probably drive to school if there were no crossing guards.
We want to thank {guard name} for always being so wonderful and attentive! Hope to see you next year {guard name}!

<p>It is very important to have them. It gets very hectic when all the kids let out at once and having the cross guard there reminds you to stop and be aware of who is trying to cross the road.</p>
<p>Crossing guards are great for those kids close enough to walk or ride, but to get rid of more traffic around schools we need buses!</p>
<p>{Guard name}, the crossing guard at {school name}, is very reliable and attentive.</p>
<p>Our crossing guard at {street name} and {street name} is instrumental in getting children and cars safely through a difficult intersection. I feel much safer as both a driver and a parent knowing he is there to assist us.</p>
<p>Please keep our crossing guards.</p>
<p>There are a number of dangerous intersections near the school; the speed of drivers is frightening; the presence of the crossing guards are essential for safety.</p>
<p>We love having crossing guards. Most are quite reliable. However, I am concerned about the few who are not. As a parent, I shouldn't have to wonder if my kids will have to cross Sir Francis Drake Blvd without a guard, on those days when the guard was a no-show. Adults have been killed this year crossing SFD Blvd. Reliably staffing these crossings is a matter of life and death. Please do what you can to strengthen the program. If there were not guards, I would NOT allow my child to walk to school. – {Respondent information}</p>
<p>{Guard name}, at {school name} is wonderful.</p>
<p>They make crossing the street safe; especially on the wierd intersection of {street name}/{street name}/{street name}.</p>
<p>Both crossing guards at {school name} do an outstanding job in protecting our children and others. They deserve commendation. Thank you!</p>
<p>{Guard name} is the most charismatic and energetic crossing guard I have ever met. His friendly nature and everlasting smile brighten even rainy days. His dedication and genuine concern for the safety of others deserves high praise and recognition. It is a true pleasure to watch him assisting others with such joy and care. It is amazing to witness the number of people who wave a friendly "hello" to him everyday. My four kids and I missed saying goodbye to him since he was not working during the last two weeks of school (we think that with his terrific personality, he should be in Hollywood!). We will miss him, as we will be relocating to {city name}. Thanks, {guard name}!</p>
<p>{Guard name} does a fantastic job on {street name} at {school name}! He is dedicated, caring, and good-natured. His professionalism deserves commendation. Thanks for protecting our kids!</p>
<p>{Street name} can be tricky in the morning and afternoon -- traffic moves quickly along there and you have college students and others using the street. I watch cars and trucks 'blowing' through the light at the crossing to {school name} and am always happy that {guard name}, the crossing guard, is there to protect the kids. He's very watchful.</p>
<p>Too many drivers are pre-occupied and in such a hurry, pedestrian rights and students who may not catch the attention of a driver is too easily missed. Having crossing guards is a safety need that I would not want to see eliminated. Currently when I see drivers on Sir Francis Drake Blvd., I seldom see anyone observing the correct speed limit for a school zone. Maybe some enforcement would help finance guards in these fiscal challenging times.</p>
<p>Yes, drivers are often too preoccupied to notice children or adults in crosswalks and in too much of a hurry to feel that they should stop or slow down.</p>

<p>It is good to have the crossing guard cross all people even adults</p>
<p>The crossing guard needs training on managing the flow of cars and people. He should hold people on the sidewalk while a stream of cars is allowed to leave the parking lot to avoid a backup of cars, and then let the whole group cross.</p>
<p>Guard on {street name} outside {school name} is really useful to ensure cars turn into {school name} safely while children are crossing.</p>
<p>We carpool in the am and walk in the pm.</p>
<p>they are good and helpful. it seems they work too long at the intersection before and after any school kids will be crossing</p>
<p>Crossing guards make traffic slow down and stop properly. While morning traffic is heavy, afternoon traffic is not as bad.</p>
<p>They do an excellant job. And it is a hard job too. To keep drivers to obey the rules. And keeping our children safe while crossing any street. Keep up the hard work.</p>
<p>The crossing guards are 'crucial' in an environment where people rely too much on cars and fail to observe necessary speed limits, especially at school start and end times. If the crossing guard was not there I would not allow my daughter to walk to school on her own because, although she is capable of crossing the road on her own, I don't trust the harried mothers to drive sensibly when faced with a tardy for their child or arriving late for an appointment.</p>
<p>I drop off my daughter accross the street and she uses the crossing guard to get accross {street name}.</p>