



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Requested Board Meeting Date: August 6, 2019

Title: Manzanita Avenue School Crosswalk Removal

Introduction/Background:

The Pima County Department of Transportation received a letter from the Catalina Foothills School District requesting the school crosswalk for Manzanita Elementary School on Manzanita Avenue be removed. A subsequent letter was received from the school district reiterating their request to have the school crosswalk removed following their parent outreach and school administration addressing initial concerns. Manzanita Avenue is a local, two-lane road with a 25 mph posted speed limit.

Discussion:

Catalina Foothills School District stated that the demographics of the neighborhood have changed since the crosswalk was installed and the crosswalk sees very little use. As the crosswalk is in place, the school district is required to staff it with a crossing guard. The school district would like to reallocate their limited staff resource elsewhere where there is a greater need.

Conclusion:

Pima County Department of Transportation staff conducted field observations and confirmed the school crosswalk on Manzanita Avenue has low usage. The majority of the observation periods noted no school-aged pedestrians utilizing the school crosswalk. As a result, the number of school-aged pedestrians does not meet the minimum threshold for school crosswalk installation per the Arizona Department of Transportation guidelines.

Recommendation:

The Pima County Department of Transportation and Catalina Foothills School District recommend Ordinance 2003-9 be repealed and the associated pavement markings and signing for the school crosswalk on Manzanita Avenue be removed.

Fiscal Impact:

Minimum.

Board of Supervisor District:

1 2 3 4 5 All

Department: Transportation Telephone: 520-724-6410

Contact: Lauren Fecteau, PE, PTOE Telephone: 520-724-2358

Department Director Signature/Date: Ana M. Alvarez 6/14/19

Deputy County Administrator Signature/Date: [Signature] 6/18/19

County Administrator Signature/Date: C. K. [Signature] 6/18/19



A 21st CENTURY LEARNING COMMUNITY

CATALINA FOOTHILLS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #16

2101 E. RIVER ROAD, TUCSON, AZ 85718

(520) 209-7500

(520) 209-7570 FAX

www.cfsd16.org

To: Ana M. Olivares P.E., Director
Pima County Department of Transportation
201 N. Stone Avenue, 4th Floor
Tucson, AZ 85701

Date: May 31, 2019

Re: Manzanita Elementary School – Crosswalk Removal Request

Dear Ms. Olivares,

In our continued consideration of the crosswalk on Manzanita Avenue, we contacted the two families [REDACTED] who noted concerns about the removal of the Manzanita Avenue crosswalk, following the February 15, 2019 communication to the school community. The [REDACTED] family responded, noting their understanding and agreement with our request to remove the crosswalk, as well as their desire to see speed bumps or other measures put in its place. Mr. [REDACTED] did not respond.

We also enlisted the continued help of another Manzanita parent, who is a professional traffic engineer, to review the situation and help explain the pros and cons of the crosswalk removal. We learned that crosswalks with very limited use, like ours, are not necessarily a good idea. They give pedestrians a sense of security, but vehicles don't expect crossings. The [REDACTED] family experienced this firsthand. Despite the presence of a crosswalk, a speeding car seemed oblivious of the situation and caused a near miss as they were crossing the road in the crosswalk.

We examined an ADOT guide for the installation of school crosswalks that says "A school crossing shall not be installed where the school age pedestrian volume is 10 or less" (<https://www.azdot.gov/docs/default-source/traffic-library/tp0920-2015-06.pdf?sfvrsn=2>). We fall well below that number. Only one family used the crosswalk during the 2018-19 school year (and only occasionally; not daily), so if a new crosswalk was being considered there, it would not be installed.

Not only does the underutilized crosswalk pose a safety concern, but it requires twice daily use of our already scarce resources, as we are required to staff it with a crossing guard. We believe we can more effectively utilize our staffing resources by having this crosswalk removed.

One of the suggested options was the addition of speed bumps or speed feedback signs. We would support the County installing speed bumps or speed feedback signs along Manzanita

Avenue in lieu of the crosswalk. Ultimately, we recognize that this would require the support of the neighborhood.

We suggested that the [REDACTED] family contact you directly about this matter, to voice their support and look into how to garner support for the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program in pursuit of speed bumps or signage.

We believe the initial concerns have been addressed and would like to reiterate our request to have the Manzanita Cross walk removed. If it would be possible to do so over the summer, this would help to ensure a smooth transition into the new school year.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Kim Boling
Principal
Manzanita Elementary School
Catalina Foothills Unified School District #16
3000 East Manzanita Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85718
520-209-7800
kboling@cfsd16.org



Douglas L. Huie
Director of Facilities and Transportation
Catalina Foothills Unified School District #16
4300 East Sunrise Drive, Tucson, AZ 85718
520-209-8508 (O)
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CATALINA FOOTHILLS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #16

2101 E. RIVER ROAD, TUCSON, AZ 85718

(520) 209-7500

(520) 209-7570 FAX

www.cfsd16.org

To: Ana Olivares PE, Director, Pima County Department of Transportation

From: Douglas L. Huie

Date: October 4, 2018

Re: Manzanita Elementary School – Crosswalk Removal on Manzanita Avenue

Dear Ms. Olivares,

This note is to respectfully request an existing crosswalk be eliminated. This is located at our Manzanita School on Manzanita Avenue, west of Campbell Avenue and on the north perimeter of the school site.

This crosswalk was one of two crosswalk installed per the Application and Operation Agreement for School Crossing executed in October 2008 (attached).

That was approximately 10 years ago and the demographics of the neighborhood have changed. We find the Manzanita Avenue crosswalk sees very little use. However, because it is in place, we are required to staff it with a crossing guard. We would like to reallocate our limited staff resource elsewhere where there is a greater need.

If you have questions, I can be reached at 520-209-8508 or dhuie@cfsd16.org

We thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Douglas L. Huie
Director of Facilities and Transportation
Catalina Foothills Unified School District #16
4300 Sunrise Drive, Tucson, AZ 85718

Enclosure:

Cc: Dr. Mary Kamerzell, Lauren Fecteau PE, Kim Boling



Department of Transportation



APPLICATION AND OPERATION AGREEMENT FOR SCHOOL CROSSING

Application is hereby made for a school crossing at the location indicated on the diagram below. This is in accordance with the provisions of Section 28-797 of the Arizona Revised Statutes.

School Name: Manzanita Elementary School

School District: Catalina Foothills

ABUTTING CROSSWALK

NON-ABUTTING CROSSWALK



In the event of approval by the Pima County Department of Transportation, Traffic Engineering Division, and subsequent establishment of appropriate markings and signs, the undersigned school authority agrees to administer all duties as prescribed in Section 28-797 of the Arizona Revised Statutes, and to operate the crossing in conformance with the Arizona Department of Transportation's Traffic Safety for School Area Guidelines. The school authority will provide for portable signs and an adult guard at the crossing during all periods said signs are placed in the roadway.

Portable signs shall be placed within the roadway, accompanied by a school-approved adult crossing guard, for the periods of student usage as noted below, and promptly removed at the end of the each period.

- a. Morning arrival: 45 minutes before classes begin
- b. Afternoon dismissal: 30 minutes after classes end

The portable signs shall not be left in the roadway beyond the prescribed crossing times unless authorized by Pima County Department of Transportation Traffic Engineering Division.

When not in use, the portable signs shall be positioned a safe distance from the side of the roadway so as not to face approaching traffic.

[Signature]
Pima County Traffic Engineering Division

[Signature]
County Traffic Eng

10/15/08
Date

[Signature]
Signature of School District Authority

[Signature]
Associate Superintendent

10/27/08
Date

[Signature]
Signature of School Authority

[Signature]
Principal

10/22/08
Date

This agreement may be terminated by either party upon determination that the crosswalk is no longer needed and upon receipt of a written letter of "intent to terminate this agreement" is sent to the other party.

ORDINANCE 2019 - _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA, RELATING TO TRAFFIC AND HIGHWAYS; REPEALING AN ORDINANCE FOR AN ABUTTING SCHOOL CROSSWALK ON MANZANITA AVENUE IN PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA FINDS THAT:

1. The Board of Supervisors of Pima County, Arizona has authority under A.R.S. § 28-627 and 28-797A as amended, to establish abutting school crosswalks.
2. The Board of Supervisors has determined that the abutting school crosswalk is no longer in full use by school-aged pedestrians as confirmed by the Pima County Department of Transportation, and as approved for removal by the Catalina Foothills School District.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA:

SECTION 1. Ordinance 2003-9 establishing an abutting school crosswalk on Manzanita Avenue, 575 feet west of Campbell Avenue, is hereby repealed.

SECTION 2. All other ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are superseded to the extent of such conflicts.

SECTION 3. The various county officers and employees are authorized and directed to perform all acts necessary or desirable to give effect to this ordinance.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors, Pima County, Arizona this
_____ day of _____, 2019.

Chairman, Pima County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Deputy County Attorney
KELL OLSON