

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

June 02, 2014

MEMO TO: Ruffin Hall
City Manager

FROM: Chief C.L. Deck-Brown

SUBJECT: Budget Note 05 – Crossing Guard Policy/School Safety

At the May 13, 2014 Law and Public Safety Committee meeting, the Committee requested staff draft a budget note not to exceed \$75,000 for the 11 schools that have currently made requests for school crossing guards.

Background:

The Raleigh Police Department currently provides school crossing guard services for sixteen schools at seventeen crossing locations. There are twelve school crossing guards employed by the Raleigh Police Department. Some school crossing guards work at multiple locations.

The schools which currently have crossing guards are Brentwood Elementary (2 locations), Carol Middle, Conn Elementary, Douglas Elementary, East Millbrook Middle, Forest Pine Elementary, Hunter Elementary, Lacy Elementary, Leadmine Elementary, Millbrook Elementary, Northridge Elementary, Poe Elementary, Wakefield Elementary, Wakefield Middle, Walnut Creek Elementary, and Wildwood Forest Elementary.

Council previously approved policy and evaluation procedures for school crossing guard request on 1/23/2007. In 2009, the Public Works Department began conducting evaluations of potential school crossing locations in order to determine if a need existed for a school crossing guard at the potential location. The Public Works Department evaluates various factors (traffic volume, number of pedestrians, pedestrian age, speed limit, etc.) to determine a score for the potential school crossing location. School crossing guards are assigned to the locations which receive a score of 100 points or higher. School crossing guards are not assigned to the locations which score less than 100 points.

Twelve of the seventeen locations for which the Raleigh Police Department provides school crossing guard services were assigned their school crossing guards prior to 2009. Five of the locations received school crossing guards after undergoing the Public Works evaluation that was implemented in 2009 and received a score of 100 points or higher. These five locations are Brentwood Elementary (Huntleigh location), Conn Elementary, Forest Pine Elementary, Hunter Elementary, and Walnut Creek Elementary (Tryon Ridge location).

Since 2009, there have been eleven locations which have failed to receive a score of 100 points or higher from Public Works. These locations are Daniels Middle, Dillard Middle/Elementary, Douglas Elementary, Durant Middle, Hunter Middle (Davie location), Leadmine Elementary, Leesville Elementary (Country Trail), Leesville Elementary (O'Neal), Martin Middle, Powell Elementary, and Walnut Creek Elementary (Quarry Ridge).

An analysis was conducted to determine the cost impact of providing a school crossing guard at the eleven locations which failed to receive a score of 100 points or higher.

Analysis:

A new school crossing guard is paid \$11.40 per hour in wages and benefits. A school crossing guard works 3 hours per day, 180 days per year. Therefore, a new school crossing guard is paid \$6,156 per year in wages and benefits.

Additionally, there is a cost of \$449 per new school crossing guard for uniforms and equipment. There is also a training cost of \$91 per new school crossing guard.

The total cost per new school crossing guard is \$6,696.20.

The total cost would be **\$73,658** for eleven new school crossing guards.

Additional Information:

The Wake County Public School System has 43 traditional elementary schools in the City of Raleigh. Twenty-seven of these elementary schools currently neither have school crossing guards nor have they requested school crossing guards to date. It would cost an additional **\$180,797** to provide these remaining twenty-seven elementary schools with school crossing guards.