

Communication from Public

Name: Elizabeth Rosen
Date Submitted: 06/10/2025 01:25 PM
Council File No: 23-0304

Comments for Public Posting: As parents of children attending Rockdale Elementary, we have been writing and calling about the desperate need for a crossing guard at the four way stop of Yosemite and Avoca for over two years. Due to the current deployment methodology for crossing guards, we have been low on the list to receive one because we are not a stop light intersection which has received priority with no data backing up that choice. In the meantime, a student was hit by a car while crossing on her way to school, and was seriously injured at this intersection in November of '24. Despite our increasingly loud pleas, despite a child being hit as we predicted, still no crossing guard has been deployed. We want community feedback and traffic incidents to be factored into the methodology of crossing guard placement as it is just a matter of time at Avoca and Yosemite before another child gets hit by a car and is severely injured or worse.



Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Walking to school safety

65 messages

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>
To: info@ernc.la

Tue, Feb 28, 2023 at 4:08 PM

Hi There,

I'm an eagle rock resident (on Hepner Ave.) and have two kids who go to Rockdale Elementary. The majority of kids who walk to that school have to cross at Yosemite and Avoca and the intersection there is INCREDIBLY dangerous. Cars fly through the stop signs and even when we are crossing there appears to be a blind spot because cars will continue to drive even when I'd assume they can see us crossing with children. I am honestly surprised there hasn't been a horrible tragedy since school started back up.

There was a crossing guard named Emma there before the pandemic but apparently she was moved to another school. I spoke with the Principal of Rockdale, Ms. Williams, who told me it is an LADOT issue, however I have reached out to them to no avail.

I would love to find out what steps I need to take to reinstate a crossing guard to keep our little kids and families safe as they walk to school. Ideally I'd love to have a stop light there like there is at Yosemite and Wiota but in the meantime we really need a crossing guard. Any help from our wonderful neighborhood council would be greatly appreciated!

Thank you,
Elizabeth

--

Elizabeth (She/Her)

Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Tue, Feb 28, 2023 at
4:42 PM

To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Cc: info@ernc.la

Elizabeth

I'm looping Tim (the ERNC's Education Director) and Nate Hayward (the Deputy Chief of Staff for CD14 and the person who got the most recent stop-signs and restriping done) in on your request.

I go through that intersection every day as well and can co-sign basically all of your observations about crossing safety issues at that intersection. At the very least it would be helpful if LADOT or LAPD would do some visible enforcement there--my personal opinion is that way too many people are still used to using Yosemite as a high-speed cut-through which is exactly why the ERNC and TERA had pushed for the stop-signs to be added in the first place

MPS

Michael P. Sweeney, AIA
Vice-President
Subdistrict 2 Representative
Land Use Committee Co-Chair

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Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>

Tue, Feb 28, 2023 at 4:56 PM

To: Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Cc: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>

Alice please reach out to Fernando Navarrete at DOT about how we get a guard back and cc me.

Thanks!

Nate Hayward
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Councilmember Kevin de León
[200 N. Spring Street, Suite 425](#)
[Los Angeles, CA 90012](#)
cell: (323) 383-4906
e-mail: nate.hayward@lacity.org
[Quoted text hidden]

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Tue, Feb 28, 2023 at 5:15 PM

To: Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>

Cc: Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>

Wow, thank you so much for the prompt response, I was not expecting that. I appreciate everyone's effort and will look forward to hearing what needs to be done!

Thank you,

Elizabeth

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Elizabeth (She/Her)

Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>

Tue, Feb 28, 2023 at 7:18 PM

To: Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>

Cc: Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

Will do

On Tue, Feb 28, 2023 at 4:56 PM Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org> wrote:

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--

Alice Roth

Area Director, Northeast Los Angeles

Councilmember Kevin de León | Council District 14

City of Los Angeles

alice.roth@lacity.org



- General City Services: **3-1-1**
- LA Dept of Mental Health: 800/854-7771
- Homelessness Outreach Services: **2-1-1**
- Parking Enforcement: 213/485-4184
- Police Non-Emergency: 877/275-5273
- LADWP: 800/342-5397
- Immediate Life Threatening Emergency: **9-1-1**

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Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>

Tue, Feb 28, 2023 at 7:43 PM

To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Cc: Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

Hello Elizabeth,

Our office will help to make sure that this intersection is safe and secure for the community. Thank you for bringing this matter to our attention. We will be in contact.

My Best Always,
-Alice

Be safe, stay healthy, be well.

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Wed, Mar 1, 2023 at 7:39 AM

To: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>

Cc: Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

Thanks so much, Alice! I really appreciate everyone's attention to this. Have a great day.

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Elizabeth (She/Her)

Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Sun, Mar 5, 2023 at 9:49 PM

To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

Hi Elizabeth,

This is Tim, the ERNC Education Director. I'm just seeing this now.

Let me add that Eagle Rock Elementary has funding for a couple crossing guards approved by the DOT but we are having a very hard time filling the position.

Before the pandemic we found that the best option is to have a parent who is interested apply. The hours are minimal (less than 2 hours a day) so your best bet is finding someone already engaged with the school. In addition, the window between getting approval and hiring someone is limited. At ERE, there have been times when we have found someone who wants the job, and then learn that the DOT window to fill the job has already closed.

So it might be something to start looking for now by putting the word out within Rockdale to gauge interest so that when the approval happens, you're ready to send in some applications.

Tim

[Quoted text hidden]

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Mon, Mar 6, 2023 at 9:03 AM

To: Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

Hi Tim,

Thanks so much for the response. That's too bad that there's a crossing guard shortage. I will start to spread the word at the school and around our community. Will you tell me a bit more about the job - what is the pay and any other details as well as how they can apply when it's time?

Thank you,

Elizabeth

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Elizabeth (She/Her)

Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Mon, Mar 6, 2023 at 11:04 AM

To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

I've attached a sample application from LADOT. It does clarify that an average workday is about 3 1/2 hours, broken up into two shifts before and after school. That is what makes finding the right person challenging. It's not a full time job and can interfere with other work schedules. Pay is \$17.25/hr.

Tim

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 **crossingguardjobopportunity.pdf**
413K

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Tue, Mar 14, 2023 at 11:08 AM

To: Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

Thank you Tim! Do you by any chance have an idea of when the application window would be open for Rockdale?

Thanks,
Elizabeth

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Elizabeth (She/Her)

Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Sun, Mar 19, 2023 at 7:53 PM

To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

I don't have an idea of when it would be open.

The first step, I believe, is a traffic study which would be commissioned by CD14. Alice, can you confirm?

[Quoted text hidden]

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Mon, Apr 10, 2023 at 9:40 AM

To: Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

Hi Tim and Alice,

Following up on this - was it confirmed that the first step is a traffic study commissioned by CD14? And if so, who do I speak to to get that started?

Thank you,
Elizabeth

[Quoted text hidden]

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Elizabeth (She/Her)

Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Thu, Apr 13, 2023 at 9:38 PM

To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

Alice,

We really need some clarification on this issue. I just learned that the attempts for Eagle Rock Elementary to staff their crossing guards recently hit a snag. This is the response they received from LADOT when we attempted to help staff the position out of our parent base.

"In fairness to Crossing Guards, locations are rotated (everyone would like to be near their home and hours change per location). Locations (schools) are staffed by priority number. And if the location where your school is located is a lower priority number then it would not be staffed until there are enough available staff in the area. That also changes daily with call outs due to illness and such"

This sounds like a change of policy based on our past experience at ERE in staffing our crossing guard needs. It might also have a chilling effect on trying to staff our local schools since there's no guarantee that our efforts will result in a local crossing guard. Can you please respond with more information? You've been silent on this thread for a while. Who can we contact at LADOT? Is there anything at all that the city will do to help keep our kids safe when crossing the street because right now it doesn't seem like a priority.

Tim

[Quoted text hidden]

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Fri, Apr 28, 2023 at 4:23 PM

To: Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

Hello Nate, Alice, Tim and Michael -

I am circling back on this given the two recent tragic deaths related to crossing walks near schools in LA. I am determined to make sure we have a crossing guard at the intersection of Yosemite and Avoca for the start of the '23 school year in August.

Please please let me know what needs to be done. There was mention of a traffic study needing to be completed? Who is going to commission that? How do I put this intersection for Rockdale Elementary on the radar for all of this? I don't want our little corner of LA to get lost in the shuffle and I'm so upset that the crossing guard we did have was taken away from us and placed somewhere else based on whoever was loudest.

If there aren't enough crossing guards, there needs to be more incentive for people to apply. An ad campaign, a pay bump or any other number of ways to increase the appeal. This clearly has not been a priority of LADOT - how do I change that?

Do I need to get the media involved? A lawyer? Not hyperbole and I am not trying to be difficult, I simply want our kids to get to school safely. I know I'm not alone in that sentiment and I appreciate those of you on this email who have made a good faith effort to help.

If someone would give me answers and clearly explain the process - who makes these decisions and what I can do to fortify our position, that would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you,
Elizabeth

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Elizabeth (She/Her)

Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>

Fri, Apr 28, 2023 at 4:28 PM

To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Cc: Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la, Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>

Hi all,

There is actually a report on this going to Council this week. Sarah can you send the report to the people on this thread and check in with DOT about what they told the community?

Nate Hayward

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of Councilmember Kevin de León

[200 N. Spring Street, Suite 425](#)

[Los Angeles, CA 90012](#)

cell: (323) 383-4906

e-mail: nate.hayward@lacity.org

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Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Fri, Apr 28, 2023 at
10:30 PM

To: Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>

Cc: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, info@ernc.la, Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>

Nate

Thanks for your attention and quick response. My (personal) \$.02 is that there's a disconnect between LADOT's city-wide, strategic approach to hiring and allocating crossing guards, and the much more hyper-local issue of those who are probably most-willing to do the job only wanting to do it in their specific 'hood.

I don't have a Goldilocks solution off-hand, but is there a public posting for the requirements somewhere? I'd be curious to see what they are and noodle on it.

Thanks in advance,

MPS

Michael P. Sweeney, AIA
Vice-President
Subdistrict 2 Representative
Land Use Committee Co-Chair

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Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org> Sun, Apr 30, 2023 at 1:21 PM
To: Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>
Cc: Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, info@ernc.la, Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>

Nate,

There are different aspects of the problem that need to be addressed differently. And staffing is certainly an issue.

But the first step in this process needs to be done by YOU and the CD 14 office.

When Eagle Rock Elementary wanted a crossing guard at one intersection, around 2018, we reached out to Sean Starkey in the CD 14 office in order to do a traffic study. If you don't know what I'm referring to, please reach out to him or someone else in city government to clarify.

That needs to be BEFORE the current school year ends so that it truly reflects the normal, school day, traffic for that location. So it's a timely need that can't wait for whatever action the Council plans to take.

Only after the traffic study is done, can LADOT prioritize that intersection in regards to assigning a Crossing Guard. So it's an essential first step.

I plan to speak to the LADOT Sergeant overseeing this part of Eagle Rock this week. His name is Luciano Meza. Here is his email, luciano.meza@lacity.org. I will ask him about this specifically. But I don't think I have the authority to commission the study. It needs to come from DeLeon's office.

Tim
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Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org> Sun, Apr 30, 2023 at 4:06 PM
To: Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>
Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, info@ernc.la

Hello All,

We agree that crossing guards are an essential part of a safe passage to school. We want to make sure all schools across the 14th district are able to use this resource to keep students and families safe. Item 55 on Wednesday's Council Agenda is a motion instructing LADOT to report back on various aspects of the crossing guard program, focusing on prioritization of locations and ways to expedite hiring.

(<https://lacity.primegov.com/Portal/MeetingPreview?compiledMeetingDocumentFileId=49198>)

I will continue to follow this motion and I look forward to reading the report. In the meantime, I will do some research about other approaches to addressing this issue.

Best,
Sarah

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Sarah Flaherty | *she/hers/ella*
Legislative Deputy
Councilmember Kevin de León | Council District 14
C: (310) 730-3294 | O: (213) 473-7014



Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Mon, May 1, 2023 at 8:28 AM

To: Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>

Cc: Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, info@ernc.la

Thanks for this, Sarah. I will be calling in with comment on this item.

While this is a step in the right direction for the overall program, in terms of our intersection of Yosemite and Avoca, it seems that your office needs to commission the traffic study according to Tim's email above.

Nate, Sarah and Alice, please let me know what the steps are for you to arrange for the traffic study for our intersection. I want to make sure this gets completed before school is out in June.

Thank you,
Elizabeth

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Elizabeth (She/Her)

Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>

Mon, May 1, 2023 at 8:53 AM

To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>
Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

Hi Elizabeth,

I spoke to LADOT about what was needed to get a crossing guard when I was a field deputy and a traffic study was never mentioned at that time. We're checking in with Sean to better understand his experience and LADOT to confirm their requirements. We're of course happy to do everything we can to improve our chances of getting a guard at Rockdale, and the rest of our schools in CD 14.

Best,
Sarah

[Quoted text hidden]

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com> Mon, May 1, 2023 at 11:05 AM
To: Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>
Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

Okay great. Please let me know what Sean says. Glad we're all on the same page.

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Elizabeth (She/Her)

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com> Mon, May 1, 2023 at 2:54 PM
To: Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>
Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

Hi All,

As if on cue, when I went to pick up my kids from school just now, this car pictured drove through the stop sign right at me, and when I motioned for him to stop he put his foot harder on the gas and flew towards me. I had to jump out of the way and then he yelled at me "to keep walking" as he drove past. Two other parents witnessed this.

I'm so frustrated with this intersection I could cry.

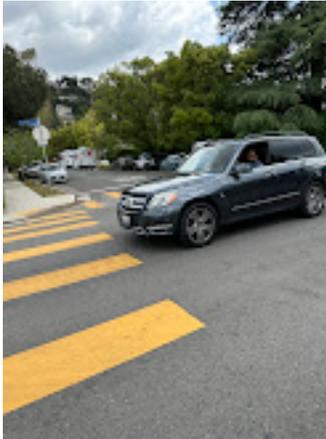
Thank you all for your help again, I can't tell you how necessary this is.

- Elizabeth

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Elizabeth (She/Her)



IMG_3469.JPG
4605K

Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org> Wed, May 3, 2023 at 3:12 PM
To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>
Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

I'm so sorry that happened, Elizabeth! We absolutely agree.

Item 55 on [today's agenda](#) passed so, as mentioned, I'll track its progress and work to get my hands on those report backs ASAP.

The city budget hearings are tying up most of us legislative staffers this week but Sean and I have plans to chat next week.

I'll check back in as soon as I get more info.

Thank you all for your advocacy! Teamwork makes the dream work :)

Best,
Sarah

Sarah Flaherty | *she/hers/ella*
Legislative Deputy
Councilmember Kevin de León | Council District 14
C: (310) 730-3294 | O: (213) 473-7014

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Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com> Wed, May 3, 2023 at 4:06 PM
To: Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>
Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

Thank you Sarah, I was listening in today and in line to comment but didn't get the chance. So glad it passed and hope this means hope/help is on the way! Let us know how your chat with Sean goes. I really appreciate it!

- Elizabeth

[Quoted text hidden]

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Elizabeth (She/Her)

Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>

Wed, May 3, 2023 at 10:32 PM

To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Cc: Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

Thank you, Sarah.

Hello Elizabeth,

So sorry to hear about your experience!

I have asked Officer Henderson, Central Traffic Officer for the area, to visit this location at earliest to monitor the vehicles and rate of speed around the school zone.

Officer Henderson will advise on his findings.

Please call me at the office (323) 254-5295 to discuss further.

We are here to help!

Thank you.

My Best Always,

-Alice

Be safe, stay healthy, be well.

[Quoted text hidden]

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Thu, May 4, 2023 at 2:26 PM

To: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>

Cc: Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

Thank you Alice!

Will try you tomorrow morning. Really greatly appreciate your help.

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Elizabeth (She/Her)

Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>

Tue, May 9, 2023 at 5:29 PM

To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

Hi All,

[Item #5 on tomorrow's agenda](#) instructs the LA Dept of Transportation (LADOT) to report back on the feasibility of establishing a dedicated speed hump program for schools. This forthcoming report from LADOT, along with the crossing guard report, will hopefully help us chart a clearer path forward for making the streets around our schools safer.

Best,
Sarah

Sarah Flaherty | *she/hers/ella*
Legislative Deputy
Councilmember Kevin de León | Council District 14
C: (310) 730-3294 | O: (213) 473-7014

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Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Tue, May 9, 2023 at 6:07 PM

To: Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>

Cc: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

This is great—thanks for the update, Sarah!

MPS

Sent from my iPhone

On May 9, 2023, at 5:29 PM, Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org> wrote:

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Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Wed, May 10, 2023 at 10:03 AM

To: Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Cc: Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

Yes, thank you Sarah! Happy to hear and appreciate the update.

Did we ever confirm whether or not a traffic report needs to be ordered? If so, would love to get that going with just 7 weeks left of school.

Thank you!

Elizabeth

[Quoted text hidden]

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Elizabeth (She/Her)

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Thu, May 11, 2023 at 10:30 AM

To: Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Cc: Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

Whoops, I stand corrected, it's only 4 weeks left of school! I'm in denial haha.

Sarah, were you able to get answers about commissioning the traffic study? My husband and another dad watched two cars fly through these stop signs without even a hint of slowing down this morning after dropping off the kids. I do not know what it is about this intersection that brings out the worst in people. It feels like it's only a matter of time before someone is seriously hurt or worse.

I am desperate for us to have a crossing guard in the new school year and if a traffic study is necessary it should happen now.

Thank you,

Elizabeth

[Quoted text hidden]

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Elizabeth (She/Her)

Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>

Thu, May 11, 2023 at 5:12 PM

To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

Hi Elizabeth,

I just spoke to Sean. According to his memory, when he put in a request for Eagle Rock Elementary a few years back LADOT did not mention anything about a traffic study. LADOT came out to look at the intersection in person and determined it qualified for safety reasons based on their observations this wasn't something commissioned by council action.

Alice will reach out to the crossing guard lead at LADOT. If anything needs to be done to support the process legislatively, she will let me know and I of course will be happy to help.

Best,
Sarah
[Quoted text hidden]

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com> Thu, May 11, 2023 at 6:15 PM
To: Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>
Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

Amazing thank you!! I really appreciate the team effort here.
[Quoted text hidden]

--
Elizabeth (She/Her)

Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org> Wed, May 17, 2023 at 2:05 PM
To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>
Cc: Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, info@ernc.la

Hi Elizabeth,

Here is the email for the local LADOT crossing guard lead. I still plan to chat with him when my work schedule allows. But feel free to reach out to him directly.

luciano.meza@lacity.org

Tim
[Quoted text hidden]

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com> Wed, May 17, 2023 at 3:03 PM
To: Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>
Cc: Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, info@ernc.la

Hi Tim,

Thanks so much for this! I will reach out to Luciano tomorrow.

Also wanted to update everyone, I've been in touch over the phone with Alice who has been extremely helpful - she went to the intersection with a traffic engineer and also has reached out to the head of central traffic, officer Hendersen. Unfortunately (although I suppose fortunately) the intersection seems perfectly in line with standards so there is nothing to improve upon in terms of engineering.

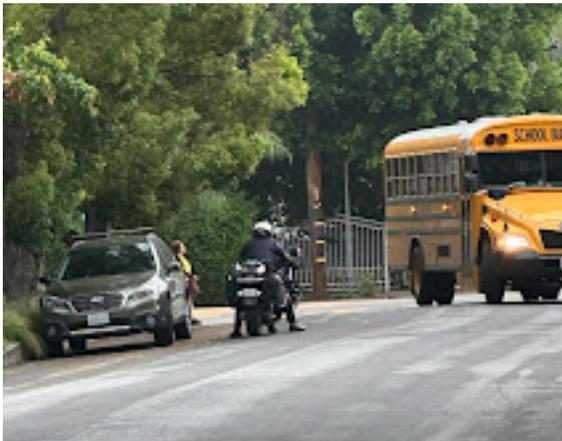
I spoke with Officer Hendersen as well and he told me that this intersection is not unique, this is just how people drive. This was disappointing, I think it is unique if only that 35 school children use it every morning, but I did encourage him to go there to ticket during morning hours when kids are crossing. And great news, he was there this Tuesday! I got several texts from other concerned parents telling me that they were so glad he was there. Now that people know I'm kind of helping this, I keep hearing of more and more near misses - one mom actually kicked a car who drove so close to her and her kid the other day. Hopefully his occasional presence and ticketing will keep people on better driving behavior.

But this still boils down to: we need our crossing guard back. Alice was going to reach out and see where Rockdale was on the list for crossing guards and I'll email Luciano as well. It's important that our collective efforts will pay off with a new guard next school year. I'll keep everyone posted but know that I and the other parents of Rockdale really really appreciate what you all are doing for us and our kids, you're all rock stars in my book :)

[Quoted text hidden]

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Elizabeth (She/Her)



IMG_7914 2.HEIC
415K

Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Wed, May 17, 2023 at
3:34 PM

To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Cc: Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, info@ernc.la

One easy safety enhancement from [LADOT's own toolkit](#) to at least look at would be pedestrian paddle signs--these are dirt cheap and I think lots of the neighbors and parents would consider their chance of dingling up speeding cars in a crosswalks to be a feature rather than a bug:

MPS

Michael P. Sweeney, AIA
Vice-President
Subdistrict 2 Representative
Land Use Committee Co-Chair

[Quoted text hidden]

Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Wed, May 17, 2023 at
3:35 PM

To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Cc: Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, info@ernc.la, Michael MacDonald <treasurer1@tera90041.org>

[cc'ing Michael MacDonald from TERA on this as well--they have been spearheading the Slow Yosemite project since before lockdown.]

[Quoted text hidden]

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Thu, May 18, 2023 at 8:36 AM

To: Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Cc: Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, info@ernc.la, Michael MacDonald <treasurer1@tera90041.org>

Michael,

This pedestrian paddle sign is a genius idea and I think would go SO FAR in an intersection like ours to alert people to stop.

Who would be able to have one installed? Is it LADOT? Whose door do I need to knock on to get this done?

Let me know and thank you so much for this suggestion.

- Elizabeth

[Quoted text hidden]

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Elizabeth (She/Her)

Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>

Thu, May 18, 2023 at 8:39 AM

To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>
Cc: Michael MacDonald <treasurer1@tera90041.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

Thank you, Michael.

Yes, Elizabeth, I have contacted LADOT and am awaiting a response.

Will let you know.

Thank you.

[Quoted text hidden]

Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Thu, May 18, 2023 at 9:02 AM

To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>
Cc: Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, info@ernc.la, Michael MacDonald <treasurer1@tera90041.org>

Elizabeth

LADOT installs these—they just need to be directed to do so...

MPS

Sent from my iPhone

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Fri, Jun 2, 2023 at 2:37 PM

To: Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>
Cc: Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, info@ernc.la, Michael MacDonald <treasurer1@tera90041.org>

Hi All,

Regarding the installation of these paddle signs in the east/west bound lanes of Yosemite and Avoca, I wasn't sure who is supposed to instruct LADOT to get that going. I spoke with Luciano who said it needs to be approved by a traffic engineer.

Alice, I know you were working with a traffic engineer, would you be able to request approval from them and then ask LADOT to have these installed? Would greatly appreciate it.

Given that the rule of priority is for stop lights to have crossing guards over stop signs (endlessly frustrated by this, as we have a light on the other side and that intersection is exponentially safer), it's unlikely that

we'll have a crossing guard staffed for us before the 23-24 school year begins, which is a huge bummer. But having these paddles in the meantime will go a long way to help us stay safer.

Thank you so much,
Elizabeth

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Elizabeth (She/Her)

Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>

Sun, Jun 4, 2023 at 7:47
PM

To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Cc: Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, info@ernc.la, Michael MacDonald <treasurer1@tera90041.org>

Hello Elizabeth,

According to LADOT Traffic Engineers, they do not install paddle signs at controlled intersections, so the Yosemite and Avoca intersection does not qualify. This intersection is up to current standards with the signs, pavement markings, and stop ahead warnings. The LADOT Traffic Engineer has visited the location and from what they can see, the approach for both WB and EB directions have the adequate sight distance to see the warning signs and the stop signs. The recommendation from LADOT would be for increased traffic enforcement from LAPD in this area during the times of the day school children are present. I have also asked Traffic Officer Henderson to monitor this area. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Thank you.

My Best Always,
-Alice

Be safe, stay healthy. be well.

Wed, May 3, 2023, 3:58 PM

Elizabeth

Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

to 40101

Hi Officer Hernandez,

My neighbor gave me your contact info as I've heard you have been super helpful to our neighborhood and community in keeping our streets safe.

I'm reaching out for two reasons, both regarding the intersection of Yosemite and Avoca. This four way stop is incredibly dangerous and is the intersection that most kids walking to Rockdale Elementary need to use to get to school (including my first grader and third grader). For some reason, cars traveling east bound on Yosemite seem to be unable/unwilling to stop there and the driving aggression has become a huge safety concern. I'd say conservatively forty percent of cars just roll through the stop, and even when parents and kids are crossing they will drive up to them and get menacingly close on the opposing cross walk or weave around the children. I'm wondering if you can have a motorcycle police officer stationed there to ticket during the morning maybe monthly? I think it would go a long way to help our kids stay safer.

And on that note, I have begun to have my camera on when crossing because the near-miss incidents have become so egregious. Three days ago, this man in this Mercedes SUV drove right through the stop sign (didn't even bother slowing down) while I was crossing on the other side and when I motioned for him to stop, he actually slammed on the gas at me! It scared me to death and then he yelled a profanity at me as I jumped out of the way. Two other parents crossing on the other side witnessed this and we were all shaken. Am I able to file a complaint against him?

Thank you so much for your attention to this issue! I'm committed to making this walk to school safer for our kids and have reached out to the city council and LA DOT about a crossing guard. It seems it will be a long process to get one (we had one who was moved to another school during the pandemic). But people getting ticketed occasionally will go a long way to curb the danger in the meantime.

Thank you!
Elizabeth Rosen

Thu, May 11, 2023, 3:36 PM

Elizabeth
Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>
to ladot.centraldistrict

Hi There,

I'm a concerned parent of two students at Rockdale Elementary in Eagle Rock and am on a quest to reinstate the crossing guard we lost during covid quarantine at the dangerous four way stop intersection of Yosemite and Avoca in Eagle Rock.

I was told that I need to request a traffic study to get the approval for a crossing guard there.

How do I ensure a traffic study is carried out and we are on the list for a crossing guard application? This intersection has near misses of cars hitting students multiple times a week if not day. I'm beyond frustrated that we had a wonderful crossing guard keeping everyone safe who was moved to an intersection that has a stop light, which seems way safer for students to cross.

Please advise, and thank you for your concern in keeping our elementary students safe.

--

Elizabeth

Fri, May 19, 2023, 9:00 AM

Elizabeth

Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

to luciano.meza

Hi Luciano!

I was given your email from a member of the Eagle Rock Neighborhood council, who I've been in touch with as well as Alice Roth from the city council. CD 14 office. I'm a parent of kids at Rockdale Elementary and am on a mission to have a crossing guard reinstated (ours was moved during the pandemic) at the incredibly dangerous intersection of Avoca and Yosemite.

I've been told you are the person to speak with, which is a relief. Please let me know what steps need to be taken for this to happen for the '23-'24 school year. We'd love to have our crossing guard Emma come back and/or find a new person. I've posted the recent job listing flyer in our nextdoor app and am doing whatever I can!

Thank you so much,
Elizabeth Rosen

Fri, May 19, 2023, 9:44 AM

Luciano
Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>
to Michelle, Kenneth, me

Good Morning Ms Laime,

Thank you for your email and all the assistance with the promotion of the program. I have looked up the location and its ranking. My staff is continuing to hire Crossing Guards. Unfortunately, we have had our challenges. We continue to look at other possible options to expedite the hiring process. We are also exploring other options to increase our recruitment and retainment.

The location of Avoca and Yosemite ranking determines the assignment of crossing guards. The Hollywood/Central office deploys Crossing Guards to the location and the location is about 30 on the list of Crossing Guard locations waiting for assignment. Under our current structure, we may be able to staff the location next school year. I do not want to give you any false hopes and the chances of staffing the location at the beginning of the school year is unlikely. It may not be possible until the 2nd semester. If we can expand our crossing guard policies, we may be able to increase our recruitment capabilities. This may allow for the assignment of a crossing guard sooner.

I am sorry if the answer is not what you were expecting. I can assure you we are working hard with the resources we have.

Thank you

<https://ladot.lacity.org/crossingguard>

Fri, May 19, 2023, 12:54 PM

Elizabeth
Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>
to Luciano, Michelle, Kenneth

Thank you so much for the quick response, Luciano, I really appreciate it!

This isn't the news I was hoping for, but I understand you're in a tight spot with staffing shortages. I do have a few questions that you can hopefully answer and help me understand the situation.

1. I'm confused as to why priority is given to intersections with stop lights versus four-way stops. Is there data showing it's less safe for students to cross at lights?

I would assume it's the opposite, as drivers tend to actually stop at red lights. I'd say that thirty percent of drivers actually do not stop at the signs going east/west bound on Yosemite and are weaving around students and parents, or creeping up so close that we can kick cars = this is daily, there are near misses all the time. I fear it is just a matter of time before there is a horrible collision with a child or parent.

2. Can people apply for the crossing guard position and request their placement location? Meaning, when we are promoting this job opportunity and a candidate wants to work there at Yosemite and Avoca, is that taken into consideration or are all new hires assigned to the ranked list automatically?

3. This might not be your jurisdiction but maybe you know who can help - in the meantime I would love to find other ways to make this crosswalk safer for the Rockdale elementary kids. Per the suggestion of a neighborhood city council member, one easy safety enhancement from [LADOT's own toolkit](#) would be pedestrian paddle signs--these are cheap and would make us all feel slightly safer with our kids until we staff a crossing guard. Who do I ask about having these installed?

Please let me know. I know I'm asking a lot, and I really appreciate your time and help!

Thank you, Luciano.
-Elizabeth

Fri, May 26, 2023, 9:46 AM

Elizabeth
Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>
to Alice, Sarah, Luciano, Michelle, Kenneth

Hi Luciano, Michelle and Kenneth,

Following up on this email from last week- I'd love to know why priority for crossing guards is given to intersections with lights as opposed to signs, (for example there is a stop light on the other side of rockdale that is much safer and we would not need a crossing guard there while we desperately need one at the four way stop of yosemite and avoca).

Would also love to find out who at LADOT I should be in touch with regarding having these installed in the west/east bound crosswalks of Yosemite and Avoca.

May 26, 2023, 7:12 PM

Luciano Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>

to me, Michelle, Kenneth, Alice, Sarah

Greetings,

1. I understand the confusion regarding Signaled locations vs Stop Sign locations. The district Engineers have utilized accident data and other data regarding the safety of the locations. I was surprised when I was told that Signaled locations are a priority over stop signs.

2. The Crossing Guard program places the crossing guard at locations due to their priority. I am discussing ideas about hiring what I would call, "Community Crossing Guards".

It is a temporary solution that may allow for guards to be placed at locations with low priority. The idea is still in rough draft and I have not found support for the idea, but I am not giving up.

3. The peddle signs may be a good idea. I do not know the criteria for placing the pedestal sign. The District Engineers are responsible for determining if a sign can be placed.

Thank you

May 30, 2023, 9:23 AM

Elizabeth

Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

to Luciano, Michelle, Kenneth, Alice, Sarah

Thank you for your response, Luciano.

If there's anything I can do as a concerned parent to bolster your idea of community crossing guards, please let me know. I hate the thought of

starting the new school year without further safety measures at this intersection, and am very frustrated that priority is given to stop lights (we'd love to have a stop light there, it would be exponentially safer!). Anything we can do to make it safer for the elementary kids would be greatly appreciated and I'm happy to help in any way I can.

Thank you,
Elizabeth

May 30, 2023, 12:56 PM

Luciano Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>
to Richard, Brian, me, Michelle, Kenneth, Alice, Sarah

Thank you, your support is greatly appreciated. The Chief has expressed interest in further discussion and I am excited about that.

I would ask for your patience, this is City Government and things may not go as fast as we would like.

Thank you

[Quoted text hidden]

Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Tue, Jun 13, 2023 at
8:34 AM

To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, info@ernc.la, Michael MacDonald <treasurer1@tera90041.org>

Alice

So I was almost t-boned at this intersection at 7:35am this morning. I was going northbound on Avoca and a black Ford Ecosport blew through the stop sign (and both crosswalks) going east on Yosemite well above the speedlimit. While I'm definitely (personally) happy that I wasn't hit, I'm even more thankful that school is now out for the summer because it happened at exactly the time that there usually are multiple families and kids crossing Yosemite to get to Rockdale.

While I don't doubt that the current intersection meets LADOT's minimum criteria for intersection safety, it is abundantly clear from this thread and conversations I've had with neighbors and parents that the minimum standards are just simply not enough. Whether it's something specific to the intersection geometry itself, or whether Yosemite just attracts morons is ultimately a distinction without a difference--it is incumbent that City make this intersection safer before school restarts in August. It's not realistic to expect LAPD to resolve this through enforcement alone--additional work needs to be done to ensure that this intersection is safe around the clock and across the entire year.

I will be happy to meet with LADOT any time about this--to return to my incident this morning, because they are only focussing on "times of the day school children are present", they are tacitly admitting that it is OK for this to remain a problematic, dangerous intersection the rest of the day and year. Speaking for myself, that is completely unacceptable.

MPS

Michael P. Sweeney, AIA
Vice-President
Subdistrict 2 Representative
Land Use Committee Co-Chair

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Richard Loew <richard.loew@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Tue, Jun 13, 2023 at 9:41
AM

To: Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>
Cc: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, info@ernc.la, Michael MacDonald <treasurer1@tera90041.org>

Hello everyone,

Is there something that can be done similar to what's being done with the Slow Streets program, like a roundabout or pylons? I know Yosemite is not part of the program but it seems like creating an intersection in which cars cannot plow through would alleviate a lot of the issues.

Richard Loew
President
Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council
Richard.Loew@ernc.la



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Michael MacDonald <treasurer1@tera90041.org>

Tue, Jun 13, 2023 at 10:02
AM

To: Richard Loew <richard.loew@eaglerockcouncil.org>
Cc: Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Tim Coulter

<tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, info@ernc.la

Thanks everyone for continuing the discussion on this issue.

Another long term option to consider would be to implement a raised crosswalk (aka a "speed table" or "raised intersection"). TERA & the Slow Yosemite leadership group had identified raised crosswalks as a solution to deter aggressive and dangerous driving on Yosemite where stop signs and traffic lights are insufficient.

Implementation of raised crosswalks requires reconstructing curb ramps, so this would be something that would need a significant funding source. Nate- are there funds available from the NELA Active Transportation Project from the 710 MIP, or another grant source available to fund raised crosswalks?

Kind regards,

Michael MacDonald
Treasurer, Board of Directors
The Eagle Rock Association (TERA)
<http://tera90041.org/>
(347) 524-9929

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Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org> Tue, Jun 13, 2023 at 12:27 PM
To: Michael MacDonald <treasurer1@tera90041.org>
Cc: Richard Loew <richard.loew@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>, info@ernc.la

Hi Michael,
The \$5M for Northeast Los Angeles in 710 funds has been committed to the Heart of Historic Highland Park project. Given that Rock the Boulevard received over three times that amount for a street in Eagle Rock, we thought it was fair to make sure the remaining funds went to Highland Park. Funding can always be reappropriated with some red tape, but that would have a negative effect on the Highland Park community.

Raised crosswalks are something the city has been struggling to do for years - even though they are great concept. However, I know there are issues about doing them on streets that have bus traffic like Yosemite. Not that these issues can't be sorted out, but they take time.

We will meet with DOT to discuss if there are any design modifications that can be made to the intersection to slow traffic.

Thanks!

Nate Hayward
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Councilmember Kevin de León
[200 N. Spring Street, Suite 425](https://www.kdeleon.com/200-N-Spring-Street-Suite-425)
[Los Angeles, CA 90012](https://www.kdeleon.com/los-angeles-ca-90012)

cell: (323) 383-4906
e-mail: nate.hayward@lacity.org
[Quoted text hidden]

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Tue, Jun 13, 2023 at 5:26 PM

To: Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>

Cc: Michael MacDonald <treasurer1@tera90041.org>, Richard Loew <richard.loew@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>, info@ernc.la

Hi All,

Michael, I'm so glad you got through that unscathed, thank goodness. A reminder to everyone that that is a MULTIPLE TIMES DAILY occurrence, honestly hourly, and I hope everyone on this email list is aware that it is not a matter of if, but when a student or parent is hit by a car.

I have become the defacto parent voice you're interacting with but know that there are at least 15 families who I'm communicating with about this who feel as strongly as I do. I'm happy to put them all on a thread but don't want to overwhelm. However, I'm also worried that by leaving them out of our correspondence, there is not enough noise from the community to let those of you in a position to do something how dire this is. We are tax paying citizens screaming for you all to help us keep our kids safe and the answers ultimately continue to be "there's nothing we can do."

Nate, please do see if there is something that can be done to the intersection, even if there are "technically no problems" I am telling you, there are problems! Despite what I continue to be told, it is a uniquely dangerous intersection as I watch cars stop at the other stop signs on Yosemite and fly through this one. It is also unique in that 30 school children use it daily to get to and from elementary school.

Just two blocks east on Yosemite I saw that this was recently installed at Yosemite and Glacier drive and can't help but wonder if they were able to get this, why can't we do something as well?

Lastly, I keep requesting from LADOT to see the data that justifies why the priority for crossing guards is given to stop lights vs. stop signs. No one seems to have it. There is a stop light on the other end of Rockdale on Yosemite that would not need a crossing guard because drivers

actually stop there. I'm endlessly frustrated that our beloved crossing guard was moved to another school, with a stop light, because of this seemingly arbitrary rule and we are holding our breath every morning when we cross with our children.

Thank you again, I am obviously frustrated but do sincerely appreciate everyone's attention and care on this thread. I am simply desperate.

- Elizabeth

Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Mon, Aug 14, 2023 at
3:24 PM

To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Cc: Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Michael MacDonald <treasurer1@tera90041.org>, Richard Loew <richard.loew@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>, info@ernc.la

Nate

Any update on this intersection? After a summer of relative quiet, I personally saw someone blow through the stop sign at 7:45 this morning headed westbound on Yosemite while I was waiting to turn.

Looking back at the email chain, this entire discussion seems to have gone dormant with the discussion of traffic-tables and while understand and generally agree about the cost, impact & equity issues you bring up, it's disappointing that the entire summer has now come and gone without any evidence of cheaper, simpler improvements (like paddle signs, or plastic bollards, or paint....) even being discussed which at the very least might ameliorate the problem. As Richard and Elizabeth pointed out in June, the recent slow-streets bollards and striping seem to be working, so it's not like this is required to be expensive and slow.

What's the path to getting something done here?

MPS

Michael P. Sweeney, AIA
President
Subdistrict 2 Representative

[Quoted text hidden]

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Thu, Aug 17, 2023 at 12:36 PM

To: Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Michael MacDonald <treasurer1@tera90041.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Richard Loew <richard.loew@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>, Tim Coulter <tim@eaglerockcouncil.org>, info@ernc.la

Yes, thank you for this Michael. Excited for school to start but not excited for the scary and frustrating experience of getting my kids to and from school.

Yesterday at school pickup one car blew through and this morning two more, going east and west bound. This is just when I was crossing. NO ONE stops at this intersection. It is a ticking time bomb. A few things to note:

1. I saw THREE crossing guards at the stop light intersection of Fig and York. While I'm glad those students have safety I can't help but feel frustrated at the disparity of resources.

2. I received this email from Councilwoman Eunisses Hernandez's office this week. Titled "Improving Street Safety At Schools." Click here to read what is being done for CD 1 schools:

<https://mailchi.mp/af5df1968828/la-is-for-all-12618337?e=fe81a43cb5>

Can't help but feel quite a bit jealous of this kind of action from representatives and wondering what/if is going to be done for the elementary students of Rockdale?

thank you,
Elizabeth



IMG_3992.JPG
3151K



Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Following Up for Rockdale

11 messages

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Fri, Jun 9, 2023 at 10:54 AM

To: Luciano Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>

Hi Luciano and Alice,

One last email before the summer break :) Wanted to see where Rockdale's intersection of Yosemite and Avoca is currently on the list for crossing guards. Last I heard from you, Luciano, we were 30 on the list. Have there been many hires since then? Would love to know where we stand as we head into summer. Will they be hiring throughout the summer as well? If so I'll continue to spread the word.

Thank you!

Elizabeth

--

Elizabeth (She/Her)

Luciano Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>

Fri, Jun 9, 2023 at 11:43 AM

To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>

Good Afternoon,

For the month of May, the Hollywood / Central area hired 4 new guards and unfortunately 1 guard passed away. The office has been working on the end of the school year and summer school. Good News is that we conducted around 10 interviews this week. My staff is in the process of scheduling as many interviews as possible in the next few weeks. Student safety is our priority and we are determined to staff as many crosswalk locations as we can for the following school year.

Your support and assistance is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Fri, Jun 9, 2023 at 11:46 AM

To: Luciano Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>

Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>

Thank you Luciano, that is good news. I'm sorry to hear about the passing of one of the crossing guards.

What number on the list are we (Rockdale - Yosemite and Avoca) to receive a guard?

Thank you,
Elizabeth

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Elizabeth (She/Her)

Luciano Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>
To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>
Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>

Fri, Jun 9, 2023 at 11:51 AM

Rockdale Elementary is #106 in the HWD/CNT area. Our current staffing on the priority list is around the mid 80s? In addition, we had 1 candidate complete the process and is ready to hire.

[Quoted text hidden]

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>
To: Luciano Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>
Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>

Fri, Jun 9, 2023 at 11:53 AM

Okay thank you. I will continue to post your hiring flyer in hopes to get that number closer to 106!

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Elizabeth (She/Her)

Luciano Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>
To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>
Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>

Fri, Jun 9, 2023 at 11:58 AM

Awesome, thank you so much

[Quoted text hidden]

Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>
To: Luciano Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>
Cc: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Fri, Jun 9, 2023 at 1:36 PM

Hello Luciano,

Thank you for your assistance with this important public safety issue. Hopefully, you have more candidates soon and the hiring process moves along quickly.

Sorry to hear the news about the passing of one of your potential crossing guard candidates.

We will be in contact.

My Best Always,
-Alice

Be safe, stay healthy, be well.

[Quoted text hidden]

Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>
To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>
Cc: Luciano Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>

Fri, Jun 9, 2023 at 1:38 PM

Hello Elizabeth,

Your active advocacy is very much appreciated.

We will be in contact.

My Best Always,
-Alice

Be safe, stay healthy, be well.

[Quoted text hidden]

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>
To: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Luciano Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>
Cc: mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org

Tue, Aug 15, 2023 at 2:27 PM

Hi Luciano and Alice,

I hope you both had a nice summer! With school beginning, I am writing to inquire the status of having a crossing guard for Rockdale Elementary at the four-way stop of Yosemite and Avoca in Eagle Rock. In the last two days of school I have witnessed several cars blowing through this intersection - while students were crossing! I know I'm a broken record but it is a ticking time bomb.

Please let me know where on the list Rockdale is to receive a crossing guard. Time is of the essence and our students/families desperately need this safety measure.

Thank you so much,

Elizabeth

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Elizabeth (She/Her)

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Wed, Aug 23, 2023 at 2:01 PM

To: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Luciano Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>

Cc: mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org

Following up on this - Luciano, can you let us know where Rockdale stands on the list for crossing guards?

Thank you,

Elizabeth

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Elizabeth (She/Her)

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Mon, Aug 28, 2023 at 11:59 AM

To: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Luciano Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>

Again following up on this. I know it's a busy time but please Luciano respond and let us know where Rockdale Elementary (Avoca and Yosemite) is in line for receiving a crossing guard. Thank you!

Elizabeth

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Elizabeth (She/Her)

Elizabeth

Fri, Aug 23, 2024, 9:28 AM

Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

to Luciano, Sarah, Mariann, Alice

Hello All,

I hope it's been a wonderful start to the school year.

I'm writing to address our massive need for a crossing guard at the four way stop intersection of Avoca and Yosemite. This crosswalk services Rockdale Elementary School and is always a major safety hazard as the drivers do not stop at the stop signs and are extremely aggressive.

Luciano, last year I believe you helped us secure a wonderful crossing guard named Ms. Emma who unfortunately stopped working (I hope due to retirement) towards the end of the school year. Ms. Emma did such a great job keeping our kids safe and managing the intense traffic. This intersection has unfortunately become once again a thruway for aggressive, frustrated, impatient drivers and is no longer safe for our families and students.

There is now a crossing guard on the other side of Rockdale which is wonderful but as a parent who frequently walks out of our way to use that intersection as opposed to the much closer intersection of Yosemite and Avoca, I can confidently say that our families should also have a crossing guard at Yosemite and Avoca.

Please let us know what we need to do to be assigned a much needed crossing guard. Thank you!

--

Elizabeth (She/Her)

Luciano
Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>
to me, Sarah, Mariann, Alice

Fri, Aug 23, 2024, 11:12 AM

Greetings,

Ms Emma did retire. In addition, other schools were ranked higher in priority. Unfortunately, we do not have the personnel to provide a crossing guard at the location at this time. The City is on a hiring freeze, and we have not been able to hire new crossing guards. I am asking and urging the City to allow the hiring of more crossing guards, but I am still waiting. I would ask that the parents contact their City Councilperson and request that hiring of crossing guard resume.

Thank you

--



Luciano Meza
Lieutenant / STS II

Training Unit ManagerHollywood
Parking Enforcement Office

Los Angeles Department of
Transportation

213 298-9966



Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Child HIT BY CAR on Yosemite and Avoca!!!

20 messages

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Wed, Nov 6, 2024 at 10:06 AM

To: Luciano Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>, Mariann Shea <himariann@gmail.com>

Bcc: Sarah North <north223@gmail.com>, Dana Higuera-Reyes <president@rockdalepta.org>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Michael MacDonald <treasurer1@tera90041.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Richard Loew <richard.loew@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Hello Luciano,

I'm sorry to inform you that this morning a teenager was crossing the incredibly dangerous intersection of Yosemite and Avoca on her way to high school and was hit by a car while in the crosswalk. She was injured and bloody but thankfully taken to safety quickly, however this is unacceptable. Many elementary school children and parents witnessed this.

We have been BEGGING for a crossing guard there for years, with the welcome interlude of Ms. Emma being there keeping our kids safe, but without a crossing guard there as has been this school year, this was inevitable.

I know you have cited LADOT's lack of resources, Luciano, but if it takes pulling a crossing guard from a stop light intersection and posting them at Yosemite and Avoca to keep our kids safe at this much more

dangerous crossing, then so be it. I have asked for whatever study was the basis to give priority to stop light crossings, but to no avail. This seemingly arbitrary rule almost got this child killed this morning.

At this point we won't stop until we have a safer intersection so please let us know what steps are going to be taken by LA DOT. Enough is enough.

Thank you,
Elizabeth and Concerned Rockdale Parents

--
Elizabeth (She/Her)

Sarah North <north223@gmail.com> Wed, Nov 6, 2024 at 12:35 PM
To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>
Cc: Luciano Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>, Mariann Shea <himariann@gmail.com>

Hi Luciano,

Nice to meet you. I'm a Rockdale parent, business owner, and longtime Eagle Rock resident.

Echoing Elizabeth's note—as someone who walks her 3rd and 6th graders to school every day—the intersection of Yosemite and Avoca is incredibly dangerous for the students going to and from school.

It's a terrible tragedy that a child was struck by a vehicle in the crosswalk today. What steps are going to be taken to ensure more students aren't injured tomorrow and beyond?

Many thanks,
Sarah
[Quoted text hidden]

--
Sarah North
c: 917 523 8148 direct
e: north223@gmail.com

Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org> Wed, Nov 6, 2024 at 8:02 PM
To: Natalie Freidberg <natalie.freidberg@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Gregory Van Grunsven <greg.van.grunsven@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Talha Aamir <talha.aamir@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Michael MacDonald <treasurer1@tera90041.org>, Greg Merideth <president@tera90041.org>
Cc: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>, Mariann Shea <himariann@gmail.com>

[LA DOT is removed from this]

Looping in the same people for context on the request to be added to the 11/12 agenda.

Question for Elizabeth and Mariann—have you reached out to Councildistrict 14, too? I think they are consumed with other things now, but their main staff have been part of several rounds of discussion about this intersection.

MPS

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 6, 2024, at 10:06 AM, Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com> Wed, Nov 6, 2024 at 8:48 PM
To: Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>
Cc: Greg Merideth <president@tera90041.org>, Gregory Van Grunsvan <greg.van.grunsvan@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Mariann Shea <himariann@gmail.com>, Michael MacDonald <treasurer1@tera90041.org>, Natalie Freidberg <natalie.freidberg@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Talha Aamir <talha.aamir@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Hi Michael,

Really appreciate this getting on the agenda. I did connect with cd14 last year when I was deep in the throes of advocating for a safer intersection. The person I had the most contact with was Alice Roth who even went there with a traffic engineer, but sadly that didn't result in any changes. I was also in contact with the senior lead traffic officer for Eagle rock, officer Hernandez.

Happy to give any more info and again as always we very much appreciate your involvement!

- Elizabeth

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Elizabeth (She/Her)

michael macdonald <michael.s.macdonald@gmail.com> Fri, Nov 8, 2024 at 9:42 AM
To: Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>
Cc: Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Gregory Van Grunsvan <greg.van.grunsvan@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Mariann Shea <himariann@gmail.com>, Natalie Freidberg <natalie.freidberg@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Talha Aamir <talha.aamir@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Elizabeth & Michael-

Thanks for looping me in on this. As Michael S. noted, this intersection has been an issue for a long while. Obviously a crossing guard would be an immediate and necessary response to protect students. We wholeheartedly support that request, and can write a letter to the council office to that effect if that is helpful.

In TERA's Slow Yosemite initiative, we had also suggested a next phase of improvements that would require additional funding, but had not been able to get traction with CD14 to allocate existing

funds or to pursue new funding. Three possibilities that could more permanently improve safety of crossings at Avoca would include:

- [Raised crosswalk](#): acts like a speed bump at the stop sign to physically force drivers to slow down through the intersection
- [Sidewalk curb extensions](#): reduces the distance to cross the street but more importantly improves the visibility of pedestrians at the corner by allowing pedestrians on the curb to be closer within a driver's field of view
- [Pedestrian refuge island](#): a concrete area at the center of the street that tightens the effective lane width to slow down drivers

If we do need to go on our own to pursue funding, TERA has an excellent grant writing consultant that we have worked with in the past who could help us to identify and pursue funds to improve student safety.

Best,

Michael MacDonald
Interim President
The Eagle Rock Association (TERA)
<http://tera90041.org/>
(347) 524-9929

[Quoted text hidden]

Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Fri, Nov 8, 2024 at
11:16 AM

To: Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>
Cc: Luciano Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>, Mariann Shea <himariann@gmail.com>, Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>, Severin Martinez <severin.martinez@gmail.com>, Greg Merideth <president@tera90041.org>, Greg Van Grunsven <greg.van.grunsven@ernc.la>, Natalie Freidberg <natalie.freidberg@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Talha Aamir <talha.aamir@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Nate & Alice

Unfortunately, the safety issues at the Yosemite/Avoca intersection that the Rockdale parents have been discussing for several years have resulted in a kid getting hit. The ERNC's Land Use & Planning Committee will be discussing this incident and ways to make this safer at our upcoming meeting next Tuesday evening (11/12); it would be great if a representative from the Council office could attend this meeting and help inform the community on what options there are.

Quite a few options have been discussed over the past several years, and it's deeply unfortunate that none of these were implemented in time to prevent this foreseen incident.

MPS

Michael P. Sweeney, AIA
President
Subdistrict 2 Representative

On Wed, Nov 6, 2024 at 10:06 AM Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Fri, Nov 8,
2024 at 11:17
AM

To: Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>
Cc: Luciano Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>, Mariann Shea <himariann@gmail.com>, Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>, Severin Martinez <severin.martinez@gmail.com>, Greg Merideth <president@tera90041.org>, Greg Van Grunsven <greg.van.grunsven@ernc.la>, Natalie Freidberg <natalie.freidberg@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Talha Aamir <talha.aamir@eaglerockcouncil.org>

The LUPC agenda is here, for your

reference: http://ens.lacity.org/ensnc/eaglerocknc/ensnceaglerocknc789184396_11122024.pdf

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Natalie Freidberg <natalie.freidberg@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Sat, Nov 9, 2024 at
10:22 AM

To: Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>
Cc: Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Luciano Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>, Mariann Shea <himariann@gmail.com>, Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>, Severin Martinez <severin.martinez@gmail.com>, Greg Merideth <president@tera90041.org>, Greg Van Grunsven <greg.van.grunsven@ernc.la>, Talha Aamir <talha.aamir@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Hello everyone,

I think it would also be very useful to have representatives from Rockdale school, LADOT and the Mayor's office in order to have as much info as possible. The fastest solution, at least in the interim, is to get a crossing guard but there is an extreme shortage and hiring is challenging due to budget issues. We might need the Mayor's office to make an exception to managed hiring.

I have reached out to SLO Hernandez and asked him to attend but neither he nor Traffic Officer Henderson are available. I'll try reaching out to LADOT to get someone or at least some more info.

Elizabeth, was a police report filed and if so, can you share the number? And could you ask the school if someone can attend?

Thanks,
Natalie

Natalie Freidberg
(323)386-1610

Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council
Communications Director
Business Director
Land Use & Planning co-Chair
Sustainability Committee

On Nov 8, 2024, at 11:17 AM, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

mariann <himariann@gmail.com>

Sat, Nov 9, 2024 at 11:39 AM

To: Natalie Freidberg <natalie.freidberg@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Cc: Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Luciano Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>, Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>, Severin Martinez <severin.martinez@gmail.com>, Greg Merideth <president@tera90041.org>, Greg Van Grunsven <greg.van.grunsven@ernc.la>, Talha Aamir <talha.aamir@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Hello everyone,

I will be attending the meeting on Tuesday. My husband was the one who witnessed the accident and got the girl to safety. As vice president of Rockdale's PTA, I can fill the roles of both a concerned local parent, and a representative from the school community.

Thank you all for taking this seriously and for the ideas of funding. The PTA is also ready to discuss fundraising and/or donations to support whatever efforts can make this intersection safer.

As for a police report, my husband walked the girl to her house and handed her over to her parents. The driver who caused the accident was also there. I don't know the outcome of the discussion between the family and the driver. Does anyone know if my husband can file a police report so that it is on record? Just in case the family didn't. We do not know them personally, but they live across the street from Rockdale.

Thanks,
Mariann Shea

[Quoted text hidden]

Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

Sat, Nov 9, 2024 at 11:53 AM

To: Natalie Freidberg <natalie.freidberg@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Cc: Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Greg Merideth <president@tera90041.org>, Greg Van Grunsven <greg.van.grunsven@ernc.la>, Luciano Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>, Mariann Shea <himariann@gmail.com>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Severin Martinez <severin.martinez@gmail.com>, Talha Aamir <talha.aamir@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Hi Natalie,

Agreed on all points.

As far as crossing guards go, a mayoral exception is desperately needed. Luciano from LADOT can speak to this more but there is a rule in place that crossing guard priority is given to stop light intersections. (See: <https://ladot.lacity.gov/crossingguard>) So we are extremely low on the list of getting a placement.

There is a crossing guard at the opposite intersection on Yosemite and Wiota with lights which is frustrating because that intersection is much safer as cars actually stop at red lights - in fact I used to walk my kids the extra distance to use that crossing when there wasn't a guard at either site.

Anyway, that's the info I've been given. We Rockdale parents really appreciate everyone's efforts.

Thanks,
Elizabeth

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Elizabeth (She/Her)

Greg Van Grunsven <greg.van.grunsven@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Tue, Nov 12, 2024 at
12:17 PM

To: Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Cc: mariann <himariann@gmail.com>, Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>, Natalie Freidberg <natalie.freidberg@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Greg Merideth <president@tera90041.org>, Greg Van Grunsven <greg.van.grunsven@ernc.la>, Luciano Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Severin Martinez <severin.martinez@gmail.com>, Talha Aamir <talha.aamir@eaglerockcouncil.org>

See attached agenda for tonight's meeting

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 **24-1112 ERNC LUPC Agenda_revised.pdf**
212K

Luciano Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>

Tue, Nov 12, 2024 at 1:07
PM

To: Greg Van Grunsven <greg.van.grunsven@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Cc: Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, mariann <himariann@gmail.com>, Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>, Natalie Freidberg <natalie.freidberg@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Greg Merideth <president@tera90041.org>, Greg Van Grunsven <greg.van.grunsven@ernc.la>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Severin Martinez <severin.martinez@gmail.com>, Talha Aamir <talha.aamir@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Jorge Sanchez <jorge.sanchez@lacity.org>, Kenneth Hill <kenneth.hill@lacity.org>

Greetings All,

I have just returned from a leave. I am sorry to hear of the incident and the issues at the location. Allow me to look into the location and get back to you.

Thank you

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Luciano Meza

Lieutenant / STS II
Training Unit Manager Hollywood
Parking Enforcement Office

Los Angeles Department of
Transportation

213 298-9966

Natalie Freidberg <natalie.freidberg@eaglerockcouncil.org>

Tue, Nov 12, 2024 at
2:39 PM

To: Luciano Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org>

Cc: Greg Van Grunsven <greg.van.grunsven@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Michael Sweeney <michael.sweeney@eaglerockcouncil.org>, mariann <himariann@gmail.com>, Elizabeth Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>, Alice Roth <alice.roth@lacity.org>, Greg Merideth <president@tera90041.org>, Greg Van Grunsven <greg.van.grunsven@ernc.la>, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org>, Severin Martinez <severin.martinez@gmail.com>, Talha Aamir <talha.aamir@eaglerockcouncil.org>, Jorge Sanchez <jorge.sanchez@lacity.org>, Kenneth Hill <kenneth.hill@lacity.org>

Thank you Luciano, if you can get any information to us before 630p that would be ideal, the meeting is at 7

Natalie Freidberg
(323)386-1610

Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council
Communications Director
Business Director
Land Use & Planning co-Chair
Sustainability Committee

On Nov 12, 2024, at 1:08 PM, Luciano Meza <luciano.meza@lacity.org> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

Fri, Nov 8, 2024, 9:14 AM

Elizabeth
Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>
to Luciano, Mariann

Good Morning Luciano,

Following up on this as yet another near accident happened this morning, this time a car ran the stop sign and nearly hit a kindergartener and her dad.

Please let us know the status of having a crossing guard assigned to this intersection of Yosemite and Avoca.

Thank you,
Elizabeth

Feb 4, 2025, 9:45 AM

Elizabeth
Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

to councilmember.jurado, stephen.f.rodriguez@lacity.org, Mariann, Talha, Natalie, Greg, Dana, Michael, Michael, Gregory, Luciano, Nate, Severin, Sarah, Denys

Dear Councilmember Jurado,

My name is Elizabeth Rosen and I'm a parent of two kids at Rockdale Elementary in Eagle Rock. I, alongside many other parents, have been fighting to get a safer crossing to school for our kids at the four way stop of Yosemite and Avoca.

I believe your office recently received a letter from the Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council asking for action with the full support of the Council. We also had the chance to discuss this with Stephen Rodriguez at the last ERNC meeting.

This intersection has been extremely dangerous for years, aside from the brief time in 2023 we had a crossing guard (who unfortunately retired). Due

to the specific way it is situated on Yosemite, cars frequently do not stop - or they barely stop and continue driving towards pedestrians who are crossing. It is baffling - drivers either don't see people crossing or ignore the laws and in general seem incredibly impatient to wait for young children to get across safely, but the consensus is clear - this intersection is a major hazard.

Over the last year and a half I have had countless emails, calls and meetings with LADOT, the ERNC, the district's lead traffic officer, your predecessor's office, and LAUSD to try to make this a safer crossing for the dozens of families with school children who use this to get to school. I'll attach a document with some of that correspondence below.

Unfortunately none of our efforts have been effective, and the inevitable sadly happened the morning of November 6th: A child was hit by a car on her way to school. She was thrown several feet and suffered injuries to her face, but luckily was able to get up and get home with assistance.

We are begging you to do what you can to make this a safe crossing for our children and families before another accident happens, potentially one that could end much more tragically.

In the short term, a relatively easy fix is that we need a crossing guard - which the LADOT has been unable to make a priority (a hiring shortage and an arbitrary rule to always give priority to stop light intersections has put us on the bottom of the list time and again). In the long term there needs to be physical changes made to the intersection, to increase visibility and safety as outlined in the letter from the ENRC.

We invite you to come one school morning to witness for yourself why this intersection is volatile and is, frankly, a ticking time bomb.

On a personal note, as someone who donated to and fundraised for your campaign, I'm so happy to have you in office. We greatly appreciate your attention to this important safety issue in Eagle Rock!

- Elizabeth Laime Rosen

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Elizabeth (She/Her)

Tue, Feb 4, 12:29 PM

Talha

Aamir <talha.aamir@eaglerockcouncil.org>

to me, councilmember.jurado, stephen.f.rodriguez@lacity.org, Mariann, Natalie, Greg, Dana, Michael, Michael, Gregory, Luciano, Nate, Severin, Sarah, Denys

Hello all,

In case it was missed, for reference I have attached the ERNC letter Elizabeth is referring to. Hope something can be done for this intersection before anything tragic occurs.

Thanks,
Talha Aamir
ERNC - Boulevards Director

Fri, Feb 7, 3:15 PM

Denys Hemen <denyshemen@gmail.com>

to Talha, me, councilmember.jurado, stephen.f.rodriguez@lacity.org, Mariann, Natalie, Greg, Dana, Michael, Michael, Gregory, Luciano, Nate, Severin, Sarah

Hi Councilmember Jurado,

My name is Denys Hemen and I am the dad of a Rockdale student. I walk my son to school on Mondays and have had several instances of cars lurching into the intersection as we cross, cars that stop then drive through the intersection as we are crossing, and "California stops" as we cross. There are no signs that I know of signifying the area as a school zone either. There is something "off" about the intersection that affects drivers' vision. Like stated above, a kid did get struck by a car and thankfully they are ok but that could have ended way worse. I hope you can send someone out to take a look in the mornings from 7:30-8am. We need something to be done before it's too late.

Thu, Feb 20, 4:21 PM

Councilmember

Jurado <councilmember.jurado@lacity.org> (sent by june.paniouchkine@lacity.org)

to me

Hello Elizabeth,

Thank you for your message. I have routed your concerns to the district staff for Eagle Rock who will be in touch soon.

Best,

Wed, Mar 5, 2:51 PM

Dylan
Stickland <dylan.stickland@lacity.org>

to Stephen, Caleb, Mariann, Talha, Natalie, Greg, Dana, Michael, Michael, Gregory, Luciano, Nate, Severin, Sarah, Denys, me

Hi Elizabeth,

Thank you for reaching out to our office with your pressing concerns, and for providing this extensive background. Now that our field office is effectively up and running and fully staffed as of last week, I will be happy to be your point of contact in this endeavor. I've also included my colleagues - Field Deputy Caleb Elguezabal and Lead Case Manager Stephen Rodriguez - on this email for their information and assistance.

It's nice to connect with you and the community (and everyone copied on this email). We certainly are glad to have had your support and are excited to collaborate! To that end I do think that a meeting to put a face to the name and take a look at the site would be helpful to get the ball rolling. Please let me know if you have the time to arrange that sort of a meeting - next week is looking more flexible for me to get out there as of right now.

In the interim I will be making use of the contacts and information that you provided to revamp this conversation where it left off with the prior office. I thank you again for all of the information provided that will ensure we are not starting from square one. I look forward to hearing from you!

With gratitude,

Dylan Stickland (he/him)

Constituent Services Deputy

Eagle Rock City Hall - (323) 254-5295

Office of Councilmember Ysabel Jurado | Council District 14

Thu, Mar 6, 8:02 AM

Elizabeth
Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

to Dylan, Stephen, Caleb, Mariann, Talha, Natalie, Greg, Dana, Michael, Michael, Gregory, Luciano, Nate, Severin, Sarah, Denys

Hi Dylan,

Thank you so much for your response - your office's support means so much and I know that together we'll make our little neighborhood so much safer for our kids getting to school.

I think it would be best to meet at the intersection in the morning when the kids are walking to school and drivers are crazy. Would also love it if Talha or Michael from ERNC could join us.

Would next tuesday or wednesday morning the 11th or 12th at 7:45 work for everyone? Or the following week, tuesday or wednesday the 18th or 19th?

Looking forward to meeting you!
- Elizabeth

Thu, Mar 13, 11:28 PM

Denys

Hemen <denyshemen@gmail.com>

to me, Dylan, Stephen, Caleb, Mariann, Talha, Natalie, Greg, Dana, Michael, Michael, Gregory, Luciano, Nate, Severin, Sarah

Hi Dylan,

Thank you for your response to this concerning matter. Us parents are always on high alert when crossing this intersection. I am available on Mondays to meet you if that day is better for you. Please let us know when you might be able to observe. We all look forward to finding a solution.

Hello Denys, Elizabeth, et al,

Apologies for my delay, I was out of office for a period on account of a family emergency and have been playing some catch-up with my casework.

As far as timing, how are mornings or afternoons this coming week, perhaps this Monday 4/7/25? I can make 7:45am work, however I prefer to meet in the afternoon, as late as 6pm. Please let me know what works best for you all and I will send a calendar invite to lock-in the meeting time.

Thank you,

Dylan Stickland (he/him)

Constituent Services Deputy

Eagle Rock City Hall - (323) 254-5295

Mon, Apr 7, 8:21 AM

Elizabeth

Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

to Dylan, Councilmember.Jurado, Stephen, Caleb, Mariann, Talha, Natalie, Greg, Dana, Michael, Michael, Gregory, Luciano, Nate, Severin, Sarah, Denys

Hi Dyland (and Caleb),

We were really hoping to meet you this morning at the corner of Avoca and Hepner - we had 7 concerned parents plus Talha from the ENRC there and while waiting also saw a near miss between a tesla and child crossing the street.

I know your office was getting up and running but now the lack of urgency is surprising considering a **child was recently hit by a car** at this intersection. This seems like such an easy win for your office - we need a crossing guard immediately while a more permanent, structural solution is explored.

Please let us know when you are able to meet during a school morning at 7:45,
Elizabeth and Rockdale Parents

Apr 7, 2025, 9:00 AM

Sarah North <north223@gmail.com>

to Dylan, Councilmember.Jurado, Denys, Stephen, Caleb, Mariann, Talha, Natalie, Greg, Michael, Michael, Gregory, Luciano, Nate, Severin, embolivar4@gmail.com, me, Dana

Hi Dylan,

Echoing Elizabeth's note—I was also one of the concerned Rockdale parents who was at the corner of Avoca and Hepner this morning, as scheduled.

I walk my kids to school most days. Reiterating the urgency for support at this corner—the near miss of the child this morning was crossing responsibly and even with a grown-up holding their hand. The problem is consistent and dangerous.

We look forward to meeting you during a school morning at 7:45am.

Many thanks,
Sarah

Apr 7, 2025, 9:53 AM

Denys

Hemen <denyshemen@gmail.com>

to Sarah, me, Dylan, Councilmember.Jurado, Stephen, Caleb, Mariann, Talha, Natalie, Gregg, Dana, Michael, Michael, Gregory, Luciano, Nate, Severin, embolivar4@gmail.com

Hi Dylan,

I was there waiting this morning also and disappointed to not see you. In 15 mins we saw at least 4 instances where cars went through the intersection when kids were about half way across the street, another car that took a right and cut off two kids walking without parents who had took their first steps to cross, two cars in the same lane going through the intersection at once. Next week is spring break so hopefully you can meet us another week day morning the week after. Hope to see you soon. Thank you.

Mon, Apr 7, 11:13 AM

Dylan

Stickland <dylan.stickland@lacity.org>

to Kelli, Denys, Sarah, me, Stephen, Caleb, Mariann, Talha, Natalie, Greg, Dana, Michael, Michael, Gregory, Luciano, Nate, Severin, embolivar4@gmail.com

Good morning everyone,

I greatly apologize for not being there this morning. I will be absolutely candid with you that this prior week was a struggle, largely on account of my having contracted a bronchial infection. That was in conjunction with me having to prepare to staff an event that was brought to us late while I was recovering (which also necessitated that I make time to return equipment this morning), along with other urgent casework. Suffice to say, it was a challenging week and I apologize for letting this fall through the cracks in that. I am adding our office admin [+Kelli Lloyd](#) to assist us in keeping track of this email thread as well.

I have spoken with our Field Deputy Caleb about this this morning, and he would like to take point on meeting you all in the field tomorrow if you are available.

We hope to connect further soon, and do want to emphasize that our office does take matters of traffic safety like these seriously, especially as it affects our students and families. We have been assessing options for implementing safety solutions here and at similarly dangerous crossings in our office and look forward to advancing those discussions together.

Apr 7, 2025, 5:31 PM

Denys Hemen

to Caleb, me, Dylan, Dana, Greg, Gregory, Kelli, Luciano, Mariann, Michael, Michael, Natalie, Nate, Sarah, Severin, Stephen, Talha, embolivar4@gmail.com

Thank you Caleb for making time for this in the morning. I'll see you there. We appreciate it. Dylan - get well soon and thank you for getting back to us so quickly.

Wed, Apr 9, 10:14 AM

Elizabeth

Laime <elizabethlaime@gmail.com>

to Dylan, Dana, Greg, Gregory, Kelli, Luciano, Mariann, Michael, Michael, Natalie, Nate, Sarah, Severin, Stephen, Talha, embolivar4@gmail.com, Denys, Caleb, MichaelGeorgeLand@gmail.com, John-Ryan

Hi All,

First of all, thank you to Caleb for coming out to talk with us the other morning, I feel it was a good start towards getting a safer intersection for our kids.

There were about 12 concerned parents/citizens who showed up along with Michael from the ERNC. We voiced our **concerns** that:

- This intersection is incredibly dangerous for pedestrians, something Caleb witnessed in just the 15 minutes we were there.
- A child has been hit by a car while crossing and was injured this year. A child was killed at this very intersection 20 years ago. This is not just another intersection.
- I personally have been emailing/calling LADOT, the police, LAUSD and the previous city council for years, BEGGING for something to be done about it. Please see the 45 page Document attached showing my efforts.
- We have warned the city that it was only a matter of time before there was a tragedy. We had the recent terrifying accident with a student, near misses literally every day, and it continues to be a ticking time bomb.

Some **short term solutions** discussed:

- The simplest and clearest one is to have **a crossing guard posted here.**
- Install relatively inexpensive infrastructure such as:

Pedestrian crossing signs posted in between lanes (called mid-block signs I believe).

Trimming hedges and trees around stop signs so they are more visible.

Flashing lights of some sort to alert drivers who might be unable to see due to the sun's position in the morning.

Fresh paint or rumble strips over crosswalk.

Signage indicating that people will be ticketed if they do not stop at stop signs (ie. this intersection is monitored by police).

Longer term solutions:

- Build out sidewalk on N/S sides of intersection so the crosswalk is a shorter distance and people stepping into the street are much more visible.

Steps to take for now:

- I will be at the city council budget meeting on the 24th to voice our concerns.

- Caleb will follow up with LADot about placing a crossing guard and ordering a traffic study.

- Once a traffic study has been accomplished, the goal is to implement some of the shorter term solutions above.

- Caleb and his office will also inquire about changing the (seemingly arbitrary) LADot policy that street light intersections have priority for crossing guards over stop signs.

If anyone else wants to add something I've missed, please do. Otherwise, thank you again for everyone's efforts, we won't give up on our children's safety!