

Date: April 8, 2019
To: Councilmember District 2 Jennifer Campbell
CC: Mayor Kevin Faulconer
Councilmember District 9 Georgette Gómez
Councilmember District 1 Barbara Bry
Councilmember District 3 Chris Ward
Councilmember District 4 Monica Montgomery
Councilmember District 5 Mark Kersey
Councilmember District 6 Chris Cate
Councilmember District 7 Scott Sherman
Councilmember District 8 Vivian Moreno
San Diego Superintendent of Schools Dr. Paul Gothold
Police Chief David Nisleit
Ocean Beach Elementary Principal Marco Drapeau
Anthony George, Mayor's Staff
Seamus Kennedy, Councilmember Campbell's Staff

From: Ocean Beach Planning Board
Re: Safe Routes to Schools and the Ocean Beach Elementary Pedestrian Corridor

Councilmember Campbell,

The Ocean Beach Planning Board has had multiple community members come to our board asking for a myriad of safety improvements for students and parents walking and biking to Ocean Beach Elementary. The OBPB is beginning to become concerned with the City's overall dedication to Safe Routes to School.

Specifically, parents have brought forward many instances where the traffic around OB Elementary during the morning drop off and afternoon pickup periods made them feel unsafe. This has made the lack of available options to help children arrive to school safely abundantly clear.

The Ocean Beach Planning Board has three recommendations to immediately increase safety for parents and children walking and biking to Ocean Beach Elementary:

- 1. Install lighted crosswalk with ped activated flashing lights in the mid-block crosswalk located on Santa Monica Avenue that connects Ocean Beach Elementary School's Main Campus with the Ocean Beach Elementary School TK/Kindergarten classrooms located across the street. Request to be completed by the start of school year (September 2019).**
- 2. Increased police presence and enforcement in the vicinity of Ocean Beach Elementary on Sunset Cliffs Blvd. Monday through Friday during the AM Drop off (7:20 to 8:00) and PM Pick up (2:00 to 2:30), Thursdays 12:30-1:00.**
- 3. City funded and designated Safe Routes to School Coordinator in 2019 Budget.**

Troublingly, when our Transportation committee heard from one parent, she told us when she sought amelioration for her safety concerns she was met with various road blocks from both city officials and the school administration.

This, coupled with the numerous safety complaints, has compelled the OBPB to request **every City Council Member recommit to SANDAG's Safe Routes to Schools. As the current conditions are putting our children and parents in danger and reducing the number of students who walk and take alternative means of transportation to and from school.**

We appreciate your attention to this matter and hope we can work with the City to protect the students and parents who walk and bike to school. We would hate for inaction on this to lead to harm to students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name 'Andrea', written in a cursive style.

Andrea
Chair, Ocean Beach Planning Board