

February _____, 2023

GOVERNING BOARD RESOLUTION ADVOCATING FOR SAFER ROUTES TO SCHOOL

WHEREAS, the vision of the Osborn Elementary School District is to become a community of healthy and safe learners learning and leading within an equitable safe environment;

WHEREAS, there have been numerous vehicle crashes near Encanto and Clarendon schools, especially on Osborn Road, and the Osborn School District Board has heard concerns from parents and community members regarding child safety in traveling to school;

WHEREAS, on September 7, 2022 the City of Phoenix adopted a Road Safety Action Plan: Vision Zero with the stated goal of making it safer to walk and bike in the City of Phoenix, and is actively soliciting community input regarding street safety;

WHEREAS, the Osborn School District Board desires to encourage alternative modes of transportation to our schools to encourage healthy habits and to reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions;

WHEREAS, in 2021 the Osborn School District created an ad-hoc committee of parents, principals, City of Phoenix staff, Arizona State University College of Health Sciences, and stake holders (the “Safe Routes to School Committee”) to research, investigate, and make recommendations regarding safety issues in and around Encanto and Clarendon Elementary schools;

WHEREAS, the Safe Routes to School Committee conducted a survey, which revealed that many children and families at Encanto and Clarendon Elementary Schools desire to walk or bike to school; however, over 75% of parents reported not feeling comfortable with their children walking or biking to school because there is “too much traffic” and “dangerous intersections” near our schools and 63% of parents expressed concern about the speed of traffic being “too fast” around Encanto and Clarendon Schools.

WHEREAS, in about 2018 the City of Phoenix authored an Osborn Road Bicycle Predesign & Feasibility Study to study possible safety improvements to the entire Osborn Rd. corridor through the Osborn School District.

WHEREAS, in 2022, the Safe Routes to School Committee presented a set of recommendations to the Osborn School Board to make our roads and sidewalks safer near Encanto and Clarendon Schools.

BE IT RESOLVED, therefore, the Osborn School District Governing Board encourages and requests that the City of Phoenix Streets Transportation Department to make the following changes near Encanto and Clarendon Schools:

1. Implement a road diet and protected bike lane on Osborn Road between 19th Avenue and 7th Avenue as set forth in the Osborn Road Bicycle Predesign & Feasibility Study and make sidewalk improvements along Osborn Road to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

2. Permanently reduce the speed limit on Osborn Road from 35 miles per hour to 30 miles per hour.

3. Create a four-way stop at the intersection of 11th Avenue & Clarendon Roads

4. Construct sidewalks where sidewalks are missing in the North Park Central and Woodlawn Park neighborhoods.

FURTHER, the Osborn School District Governing Board expresses its support for and pledges to work with the neighborhoods around Osborn schools to implement these and other necessary changes to make sure that all children have a safe route to school.