

SCHOOL-RELATED CRASH REVIEW

Location: Bushey Drive, North of Minden Road

Crash Date: January 10, 2024

Crash Time: Approximately 8:53 AM

Local Case No.: 240001460

Review Date: December 17, 2024

Description of Incident

On Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at approximately 8:53 AM, a motorist traveling southbound along Bushey Drive struck a student walking along southbound Bushey Drive. The student was walking in the roadway. The collision occurred approximately 75 feet north of the intersection with Minden Road. Weather conditions were cloudy, the roadway surface was wet, and it was daylight. The student suffered minor injuries.

Figure 2 illustrates the crash location and direction of pedestrian and vehicle travel.

Location and Site Description

The subject location is along Bushey Drive, north Minden Road. Sargent Shriver Elementary School is adjacent to Bushey Drive, northwest of the subject location. The subject location also falls within the watershed for A. Mario Loiederman Middle School (MS) and Wheaton High School (HS), which are both located east of the crash location, across MD 185 (Connecticut Avenue). Sargent Shriver ES, located at 12518 Greenly St, has a current enrollment of 734 students in grades Pre-K through 5th.

Sargent Shriver Elementary School (ES)

The majority of student arrivals are between 8:30 AM and 9:00 AM and dismissal occurs between 3:25 PM and 3:45 PM.

Bushey Drive

Bushey Drive is a one-mile long, neighborhood connector street, approximately 40 feet wide, and generally oriented in the north-south direction. Bushey Drive is located between MD 586 (Viers Mill Ave) to the south and Littleton Street to the north. Bushey Drive has four-foot sidewalks with a grass-buffer along both sides of the street.

In the southbound direction, Bushey Drive has a posted speed limit of 25 MPH with a “Fines Double 8AM-4PM School Days” supplemental plaque, between Havard Street and Weller Road. In the northbound direction, Bushey Drive has a posted speed limit of 25 MPH between Randolph Rd and Ilford Road. On-street parking is permitted along most of the segment, except for posted restrictions between Weller Road and Greenly Street, the block adjacent to the elementary school property to the east. Refer to **Figure 1** in the attachments for additional details of the Bushey Drive segment.

Bushey Drive at Minden Road

The intersection of Bushey Drive at Minden Road is a three-legged intersection, with Minden Road extending to the west from Bushey Drive. Minden Road is classified as a neighborhood yield street. Transvers crosswalk markings are provided for the west leg and ADA-compliant pedestrian ramps are provided on the west corners of the intersection at Minden Road. There are no marked crosswalks or

accessible pedestrian ramps on the north and south legs of Bushey Drive. The intersection is stop-controlled along the eastbound Minden Road approach. The Bushey Drive approaches are uncontrolled.

The Bushey Drive corridor was evaluated to identify potential infrastructure, maintenance activities, and road user behaviors that contribute to increased safety risk at and in the vicinity of the school-related crash location. The Bushey Drive corridor was reviewed between Randolph Road to the south and Elby St to the north. There is a horizontal curve along this segment near Elby Street approaching the location where the incident occurred. This curve constrains lines of sight and observations. Please refer to **Figure 1** for additional information.

Crash History

Crash data obtained from dataMontgomery provides information for seven (7) incidents along Bushey Drive between March 2015 and September 2024. Five (5) incidents occurred at the intersection of Bushey Drive and Elby Street, one block south of the subject crash location. The other two (2) crashes occurred along Bushey Drive near the intersections at Randolph Road and Minden Road, including the subject incident. Four (4) of the crashes were classified as a straight movement angle collision and two (2) were sideswipes. The incidents and locations are illustrated on **Figure 3**.

Field Observations and Findings

Field observations were performed on Wednesday, August 21, 2024, at 12pm. Weather conditions were clear, and the roadway surface was dry. There was low pedestrian activity due to the time of day and the fact that school was not in session. Vehicles were observed rolling through (not coming to a full stop) stop signs at both Elby Street and Minden Road. Additionally, vehicles were observed traveling faster than was appropriate for conditions and crossing over the double yellow centerline along Bushey Drive between Elby St and Minden Road where the crash occurred. Vehicles crossing over the double yellow centerline may be due to the lane widths (10 feet) in conjunction with eight-foot wide, on-street parking facilities in both directions along Bushey Road. On-street parking was consistent along the corridor, which reduces sight lines at intersections, driveways, and along curves through the corridor. Pavement markings are in fair condition.

Recommendations

1. Coordinate with elementary school staff to encourage students to use existing sidewalk facilities.
2. Consider conversion of the Bushey Drive at Elby Street intersection to all-way stop control due to poor sight lines resulting from roadway curvature and vehicular speeds. This intersection is one block south of Sargent Shriver ES and less than one block from the crash location.
3. Consider quick-build or curb line modifications at Bushey Drive intersections with Elby Street and Minden Road to “daylight” the intersections and provide better sight lines. Daylighting will open sight lines approaching the intersections, shorten crossings, physically prevent motorists from parking unlawfully, and promote traffic calming by narrowing the travel ways.
4. Consider lowering the posted speed limit to align with the target speed of a Neighborhood Connector Street – 20 mph. This will improve sight lines and allow for reduced reaction times.

Site Photograph



Photo 1. Bushey Drive looking north towards Elby Street. Approximate crash location.



Photo 2. Limited sightline due to on-street parking and horizontal curve looking south along Bushey Drive from Elby Street intersection.



Figure 1 - Bushey Drive Corridor Observations



Figure 2 - Crash Diagram

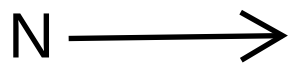


Figure 3 - Crash History (2015-2024)