

SCHOOL-RELATED CRASH REVIEW

Location: Weller Road west of Greenly Street

Crash Date: June 11, 2024

Crash Time: 6:30 PM

Local Case No.: 240027847

Review Date: January 10, 2025

Description of Incident

On Tuesday, June 11, 2024, at approximately 6:30 PM, a bicyclist was traveling southbound across Weller Road at an unmarked location west of Greenly Street. A motorist traveling westbound along Weller Road struck the bicyclist in the roadway. The report indicated that the bicyclist suffered minor injuries. Daytime weather conditions were clear, and the roadway surface was dry.

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

Location and Site Description

The subject location is along Weller Road, approximately 60 feet west of Greenly Street. Weller Road Elementary School (ES) is located at 3301 Weller Road to the east of Greenly Street. A. Mario Loiederman Middle School (MS) is located along Weller Road at 12701 Goodhill Road, directly opposite of the crash site. The subject location also falls within the watershed for Wheaton High School (HS), which is located southeast of the crash location. Weller Road ES has a current enrollment of 697 students in grades Pre-K through 5th. A. Mario Loiederman MS has a current enrollment of 979 students in grades 6th through 8th.

Weller Road 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.

A. Mario Loiederman Middle School (MS)

The majority of student arrivals are between 7:45 AM and 8:15 AM and dismissal occurs between 3:00 PM and 3:20 PM.

Weller Road

Weller Road is classified as a neighborhood connector, is approximately 30 feet wide, and is oriented in the east-west direction. Weller Road is approximately two miles long between Littleton Street to the west and Woodedge Road to the east. At the crash location, Weller Road has buffered sidewalks on both sides of the street, shoulders, and speed humps.

The posted speed limit along Weller Road is 30 mph with a school flasher/hazard identification beacon (HIB) just east of Greenly Street. This flasher is missing a speed limit sign. A Montgomery County RideOn bus stop exists in both directions on the west leg of Greenly Street. Multiple school-related signs exist along the corridor, including a school sign with supplemental plaques (Ahead and downward arrows at the marked crosswalk near the ES), and "State Law Stop for Peds in X-Walks."

Refer to **Figure 1** in the attachments for additional details on the Weller Road segment.

Weller Road at Greenly Street

The intersection of Weller Road at Greenly Street is a three-leg intersection, with Greenly Street extending southerly from Weller Road. Greenly Street is an unmarked roadway spanning approximately 25 feet with parking permitted on both sides with a posted speed limit of 25 mph. There is direct residential frontage with buffered sidewalks on both sides. Pedestrian ramps are provided at the corners of the intersection with standard crosswalk markings for the Greenly Street approach. There are no marked nor accessible crossings for the Weller Road approaches. The intersection is stop-controlled along the northbound Greenly Street approach. The Weller Road approaches are uncontrolled.

The Weller Road 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 Weller Road corridor was reviewed between Goodhill Road to the west and Dean Road to the east. Please refer to **Figure 1** for additional information.

Crash History

Crash data obtained from dataMontgomery indicates that six (6) incidents occurred within the vicinity of the crash site between January 2020 and September 2024. Five (5) crashes occurred along Weller Road within 500 feet of Greenly Street, including one (1) at the same location as the subject incident. The other crashes include two (2) crashes that occurred approximately 650 feet to the west, near the middle school driveway; one (1) crash that occurred on the east leg of Weller Road at Greenly Street; one (1) crash approximately 375 feet to the east at Dean Road; and one (1) crash to the south at Greenly Street and the intersection with Harrell Street. The six (6) crashes reported near the Weller Road and Greenly Street intersection included three (3) injury crashes, three (3) property damage crashes, and the crash type consisted of two (2) sideswipe crashes, one (1) head on crash, two (2) angle crashes, and one (1) rear-end crash. There were no pedestrian or bicycle-related crashes. One (1) of the incidents occurred during wet pavement conditions, and one (1) occurred at night. The incidents are illustrated on **Figure 3**.

Field Observations and Findings

Field observations were performed on Thursday, January 9, 2025, at 12pm. Weather conditions were clear, and the roadway surface was dry. Conditions were cold, and snow cover remained from the previous weekend storm. Snow was observed covering portions of the on-street parking aisles on both sides of the road. There was low pedestrian activity due to the time of day. Vehicles were not seen traveling at excessive speeds along Weller Road, where the incident took place. On-street parking was consistent along the corridor, which reduces sight lines at intersections, driveways, and along curves through the corridor. There is a slight crest vertical curve along Weller Road, west of the incident location, which limits sight distance for pedestrians wishing to cross at this point. There are no sight distance issues when looking east of the incident location along Weller Road. Pavement markings are in acceptable condition.

On the north side of the road, a pedestrian path leads from Loiederman Middle School to a bus stop near the crash site. Another bus stop is located on the opposite side of the road at the same location. While there are no crosswalk markings, the bus stops and path access for the school indicate a pedestrian desire line offset from the intersection.

Recommendations

Based on the crash report, the bicyclist crossed at an unmarked and uncontrolled location. The following measures were identified as a result of this review:

1. Consider installing a marked crossing with continental crosswalk pavement markings, crossing island, and school crossing signs at this location.
2. Consider restricting on-street parking near this crossing location in order to provide better sight lines.
3. Install missing signs for the school flasher to the east of Greenly.

Site Photograph



Photo 1. Looking east along Weller Road towards Greenly Street. Approximate crash location.

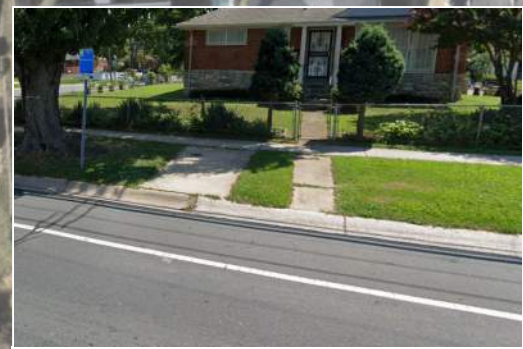


Photo 2. Limited sightline due to crest vertical curve looking west along Weller Road towards MD 185 (Connecticut Ave). Approximate crash location.



Static speed limit sign, bus stop, and pedestrian path from A. Mario Loiederman MS.

Approximate crash location.



Bus stop location along Weller Road EB. Buffered sidewalks on both sides of the road.



School flasher missing sign along Weller Road EB.

Figure 1 - Weller Road Corridor Observations



Figure 2 - Crash Diagram

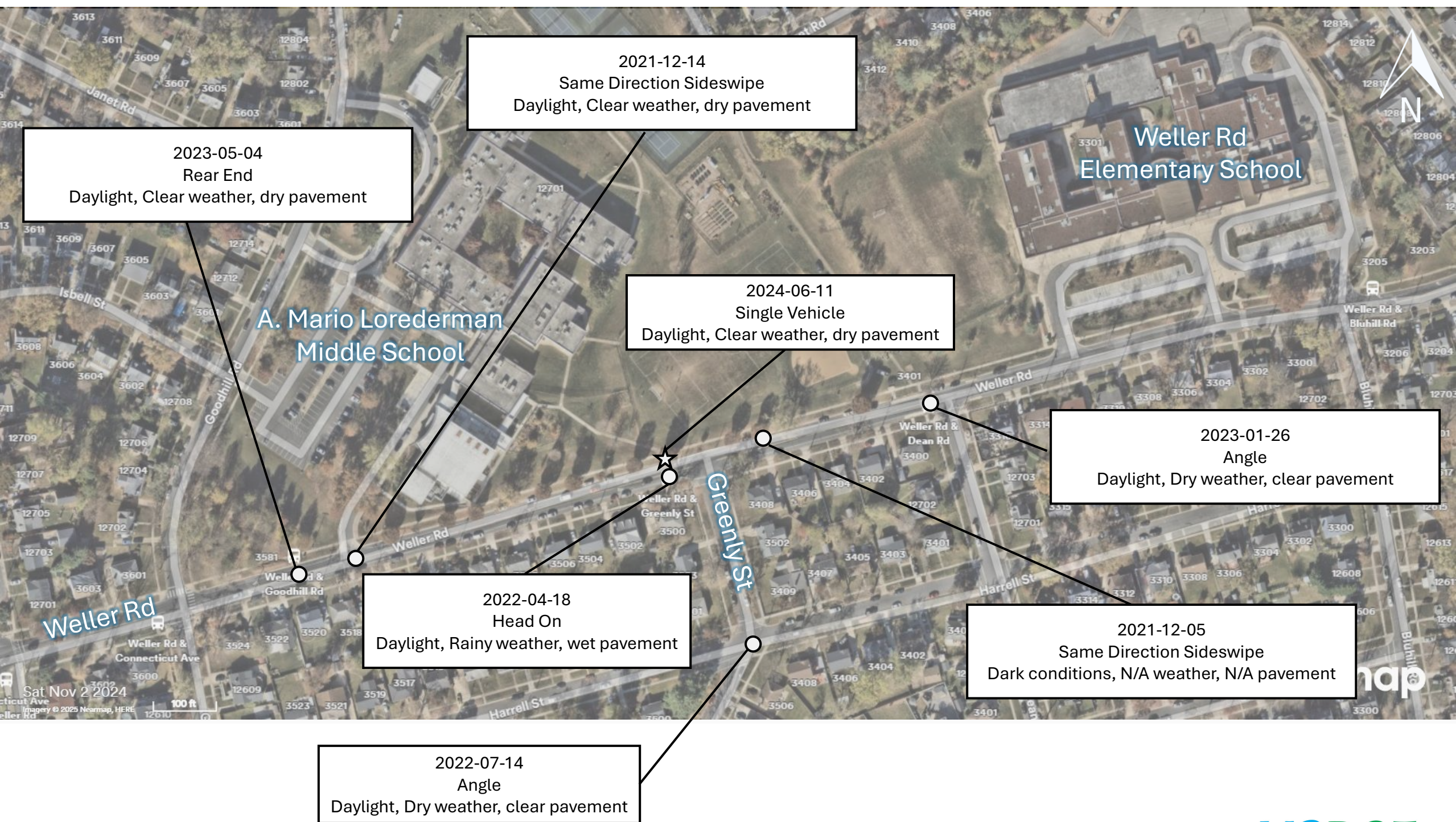


Figure 3 – Crash History (January 2020- September 2024)