

## **SCHOOL-RELATED CRASH INFRASTRUCTURE REVIEW**

### **MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (MCDOT)**

- **Location:** Woodcrest Drive at Melinda Lane
- **Crash Date:** August 28, 2025
- **Crash Time:** Approximately 3:55 PM
- **School Name:** Lucy V. Barnsley Elementary School, Earle B. Wood Middle School
- **School Walkshed Boundary:** ☒ Inside
- **Local Case No:** 250038671
- **Review Date:** November 6, 2025

### **DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT AND CRASH DETAIL**

On Friday, August 29, 2025, a pedestrian was crossing the subject intersection when the school bus began to drive and the student ran in front and was struck by a school bus. The crash report indicated the pedestrian did not suffer an apparent injury. The weather was clear, and the roadway was dry. Figure 2 illustrates the crash location and the direction of pedestrian and vehicle travel.

### **SCHOOL-SPECIFIC CONTEXT**

- **School Type:** ☒ Elementary / ☒ Middle / ☐ High
- **School Hours (Arrival / Dismissal):** 9:25 AM – 3:50 PM (ES) / 8:15 AM – 3:00 PM (MS)
- **School Enrollment:** FY 23 – 24: 645 (ES) / 1,039 (MS)
- **Crossing Guards Present:** ☐ Yes ☒ No

### **INFRASTRUCTURE & CONDITIONS**

- **Sidewalk Coverage**  
There is no sidewalk at the intersection. Sidewalk begins on the south side of the east leg approximately 85 feet east of the intersection.
- **Crosswalk Visibility**  
There are no crosswalks at the intersection.
- **Lighting at Location**  
There is one street light in the southeast quadrant consisting of a 100-watt high pressure sodium luminaire mounted on a utility pole.
- **Speed Limit / School Zone Limit**  
The posted speed limit on Woodcrest Drive is 25 mph. There is no posted speed limit sign for Melinda Lane.
- **Intersection Geometry**  
All four legs of the intersection are approximately 24 feet in width and are unmarked. Parking is restricted at the approaches to the intersection. Stop lines are present for the Woodcrest Drive approaches. Melinda Lane is uncontrolled.
- **Nearby Transit Stop**  
There is an MCDOT bus stop along Bel Pre Road approximately 900 feet to the north.
- **Nearby School Facilities**  
The elementary school is located approximately ½-mile to the west and the middle school is located approximately ¾-mile to the west.

## **SITE OBSERVATIONS**

- **Observation Date/Time**  
Tuesday, October 21, 2025, 2:30-4:00 PM.
- **Pedestrian Activity**  
Frequent pedestrian activity was observed, including high school children walking from the north, middle and elementary school children, parents of school children, community members, and local workers.
- **Vehicle Activity**  
☒ Moderate.
- **Drop-off / Pick-up Operations**  
Because the elementary and middle school are within the walkshed, school children and parents were observed to walk at the intersection within the drop-off and pick-up time periods, most notable between 3:30 PM and 4:00 PM. There were numerous pedestrians observed walking within the roadway or within the nearest property because sidewalks are not available. There is a worn path in the southeast corner where pedestrians were observed to be comfortable walking.
- **Visibility / Obstructions**  
There are no obstructions at the intersection.
- **Driver Behavior**  
Drivers appear to move through the intersection safely, driving slowly to look out for pedestrians, parked vehicles, and other vehicles at the intersection.
- **Additional Details**  
There is a “Cross Traffic Does Not Stop” plaque along the stop-controlled approaches.

## **CRASH HISTORY (At the location)**

- **Total Crashes (Last 5 Years):** Only the subject crash occurred at the subject intersection within the last five years.
  - **Pedestrian/Bicycle Involved:** Only the subject crash involved a non-motorist.
  - **Student-Involved Crashes:** Only the subject crash involved a student.
  - **Crashes During School Hours:** The subject crash occurred during pick-up hours.
  - **Recurrent Patterns (Time/Type):** There is no recurring pattern of crashes at the intersection.

## **FINDINGS**

There were no obvious infrastructure deficiencies that contributed to this crash. The crash occurred due to driver error.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

While not related to the crash, the following were identified as recommendations to enhance the safety of the location:

- ☒ **Engineering Improvements:** Consider installing ADA-compliant pedestrian ramps, continental crosswalks, and continuous sidewalk along Melinda Lane from Bel Pre Road to Barkwood Drive and on Woodcrest Drive from Melinda Lane to Nadine Drive.

### **SITE PHOTOS / MAPS**

- ☒ Photos Attached
- ☒ Crash Diagram Included
- ☒ School Walk Zone Map Included
- ☐ Heatmap of Past Crashes (if applicable)



School child on bicycle and parent walking at the intersection yielding to school bus





Pedestrian path along east side of south leg





Stop-controlled approach that crash occurred along with "Cross Traffic Does Not Stop" plaque



Pedestrians yielding to school bus



School children walking along roadway and along nearby property at intersection

Figure 1 – Woodcrest Dr at Melinda Ln Intersection Observations





Figure 2 – Crash Diagram





Figure 3 – Crash History (2020-2025)



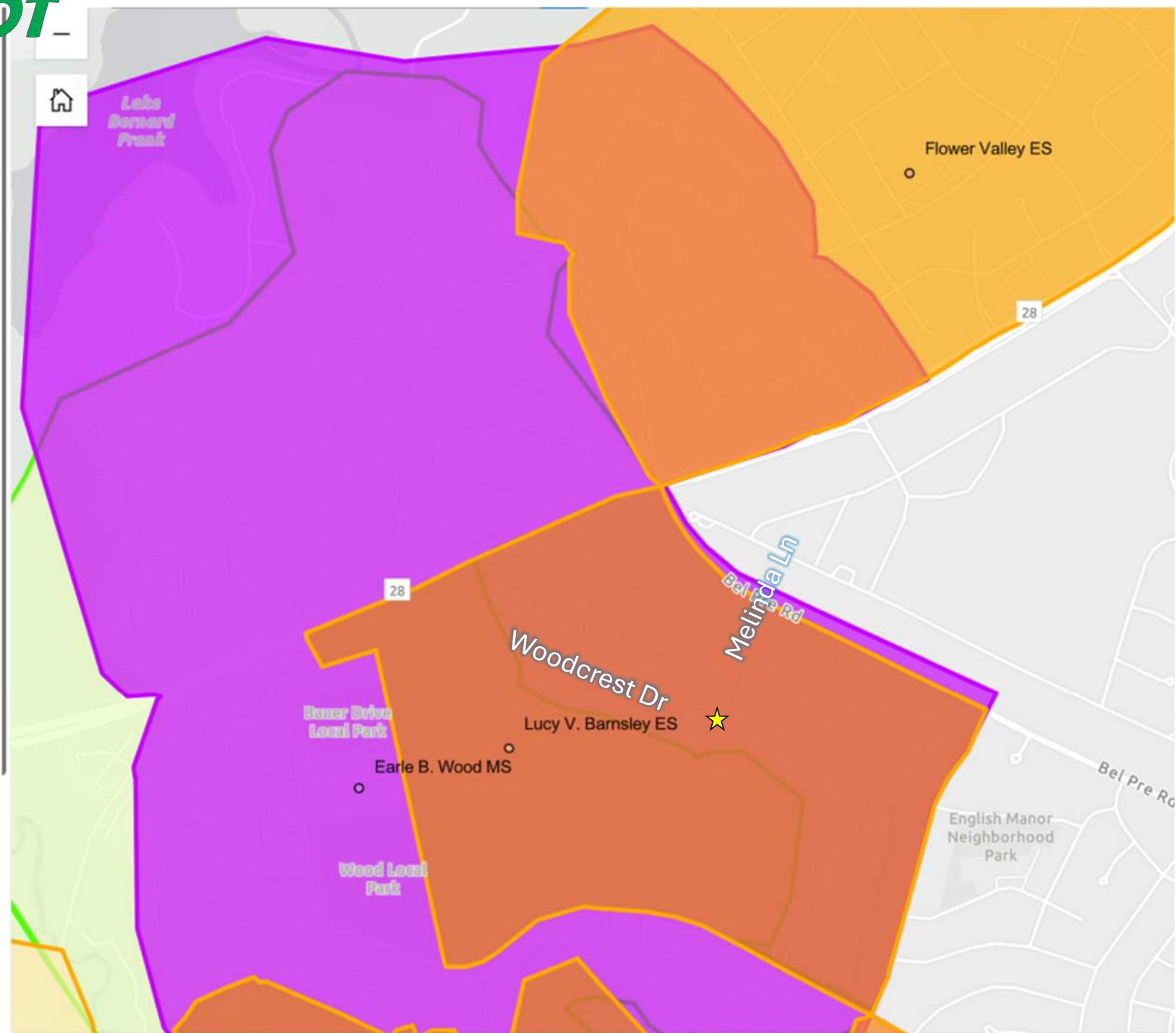


Figure 4 – School Walk Zone Map

★ Crash Location