



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**October 20, 2009**

**NEW CROSSING GUARD ADDED NEAR FRICK MIDDLE SCHOOL**

*Part of Overall Plan to Hire More Crossing Guards for Oakland Elementary  
and Middle Schools*

*Oakland* – Mayor Ron Dellums today announced that the City of Oakland has hired a new crossing guard at the intersection of 64<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Foothill Boulevard, near Frick Middle School. This is the site where an 11-year-old girl was killed by a hit and run driver late last week.

The crossing guard will start Thursday and be available during school pick-up and drop-off hours.

“My heart goes out to the family and friends of Alana Williams. We can only imagine how painful it is for the family of Ms. Williams and the students at Frick Middle School to lose such a young and vibrant person,” said Mayor Dellums. “We want to address the safety needs of our Oakland school children and we are determined to prevent this loss of life through pedestrian accidents. Our immediate response is to use state grants to hire crossing guards and help ensure that no one has to experience the level of tragedy of Ms. Williams’ family. We will continue to explore longer-term traffic safety options, such as installing a stoplight at that intersection.”

Last month, the State of California announced that Oakland would receive \$491,305 from the Bicycle Car Safety Grant from the Office of Traffic and Safety. The city’s goal is use these additional funds to help provide crossing guards for all Oakland elementary and middle schools. The city is in the process of hiring and placing additional crossing guards for other schools in the district. This is in addition to the ongoing Safe Routes to School program that addresses student pedestrian safety at schools throughout Oakland.

Oakland Police and Oakland Crime Stoppers of Oakland are offering a reward of up to \$10,000 for information leading to the driver's arrest. Call Officer Greg Bellusa at 510-777-8648 or Crime Stoppers at 510-777-3211 with any information.

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**For more information on Mayor Ron Dellums and the City of Oakland, please visit and bookmark the following Web accounts:**

: <http://www.youtube.com/ronalddellums>

: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Ron-Dellums/98961200747>

: <http://www.twitter.com> “Mayor Dellums”

<http://www.nualerts.com/clubs/mayordellums/>

