

A Resolution to Improve Pedestrian Visibility on the East Side of College Road at The Oval

Francesco Migliore (for himself) introduced the following resolution to the Health and Safety Committee where it passed. Then, to the Steering Committee where it passed, and to the floor where it passed/failed.

* * *

Whereas the Undergraduate Student Government represents all undergraduate students at The Ohio State University; and

Whereas pedestrian safety is a critical issue on campus, particularly at crosswalks that lack adequate visibility or warning systems; and

Whereas OSU’s campus has several pedestrian crosswalks, many of which are equipped with pedestrian hazard lights, better known as Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB); and

Whereas studies by the U.S. Department of Transportation: Federal Highway Administration demonstrate that RRFBs can reduce pedestrian crashes by up to 47% as well as increase motorist yielding rates to pedestrians by up to 98% ¹; and

Whereas The U.S. Department of Transportation: Federal Highway Administration explains “Poor lighting conditions, obstructions such as parked cars, and horizontal or vertical roadway curvature can reduce visibility at crosswalks, contributing to safety issues” ²; and

Whereas The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s National Center for Statistics and Analysis reports that 32% of all pedestrian fatalities occur between 8 p.m. and 11:59 p.m., when visibility is most compromised ³; and

Whereas the east side of The Oval on College Road features three heavily trafficked crosswalks, all located on a horizontal curve that reduces the visibility of both pedestrians and oncoming vehicles; and

Whereas the crosswalk nearest Page Hall presents particularly significant hazards, as students crossing from the east side of College Road are frequently obscured from motorists until they are already in the crosswalk; and

¹ [U.S. Department of Transportation RRFBs](#)
² [Federal Highway Administration OFFICE OF SAFETY Proven Safety](#)
³ [AAA Pedestrian Safety Tips](#)

Whereas The Ohio State University has a responsibility to ensure that its campus infrastructure minimizes risks to student safety, particularly in high-traffic areas; and

Whereas the installation of RRFBs at similarly hazardous crosswalks on campus has proven effective in reducing safety risks and enhancing pedestrian visibility.

Therefore, Let it Be Resolved that the Undergraduate Student Government affirms its dedication to improving pedestrian safety for all members of the Ohio State community; and

Let it Further Be Resolved that the Undergraduate Student Government strongly urges The Ohio State University to prioritize the installation of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) at the three crosswalks on the east side of The Oval along College Road; and

Let it Further Be Resolved that the Undergraduate Student Government recommends additional measures, such as improved lighting and signage, to further enhance visibility and ensure pedestrian safety in this high-risk area.

Floor Vote: Aye: 24 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0 Present: 24

Bobby McAlpine
President

George Bernard
Speaker of the 57th General Assembly

Date Adopted: 12/4/2024