



Public Comment &lt;publiccomment@mcpsmt.org&gt;

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## Urgent Need for Traffic Safety Measures on Phillips Street

**Shannon Hathaway** <shannon.colleenbelle@gmail.com>

Wed, Jun 11, 2025 at 8:48 AM

To: melsone@ci.missoula.mt.us, SavageJ@ci.missoula.mt.us, becerram@ci.missoula.mt.us, farmers@ci.missoula.mt.us, jonesg@ci.missoula.mt.us, CarlinoD@ci.missoula.mt.us, sherrilla@ci.missoula.mt.us, NugentM@ci.missoula.mt.us, andersons@ci.missoula.mt.us, campbellb@ci.missoula.mt.us, vaseckas@ci.missoula.mt.us, JordanK@ci.missoula.mt.us, rcooper@mcpsmt.org, publiccomment@mcpsmt.org, mhill@mcpsmt.org

In light of three recent accidents involving drivers hitting children on Phillips Street, the proposed solution—to require students and parents to walk an extra block to reach a single crossing guard—is deeply concerning and ultimately unacceptable. This response fails to address the core issue: the safety of children and other vulnerable road users.

The delayed response from MCPS, coupled with the City's continued inaction regarding the significant increase in traffic on this residential street, cannot be remedied by simply inconveniencing families. Phillips has long served as a major cut-through to the Northside, and while discussions about roundabouts are ongoing, those of us living here need immediate, tangible safety measures.

Currently, children are entering the school at a busy intersection that now includes a bus stop, but lacks basic traffic safety infrastructure. Directing students to cross further down the street does not adequately mitigate the risks. At a minimum, a crossing guard should be stationed at this intersection during drop-off and pick-up times. Additionally, assigning officers to monitor traffic on Phillips and Scott would be a meaningful step toward preventing further accidents and ensuring community safety.

The speeding and reckless behavior of motorists on these streets pose a serious danger and demand immediate action.

Shannon McCann Hathaway  
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**Subject: Urgent Need for Traffic Safety Measures on Phillips Street****Danny Hathaway** <daniel.hathaway@gmail.com>

Wed, Jun 11, 2025 at 9:00 AM

To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org

Cc: melsone@ci.missoula.mt.us, SavageJ@ci.missoula.mt.us, becerram@ci.missoula.mt.us, farmers@ci.missoula.mt.us, jonesg@ci.missoula.mt.us, CarlinoD@ci.missoula.mt.us, sherrilla@ci.missoula.mt.us, NugentM@ci.missoula.mt.us, andersons@ci.missoula.mt.us, campbellb@ci.missoula.mt.us, vaseckas@ci.missoula.mt.us, JordanK@ci.missoula.mt.us, rcooper@mcpsmt.org, publiccomment@mcpsmt.org, mhill@mcpsmt.org

I am writing as concerned member of the community regarding the recent accidents involving children struck by motorists on Phillips Street. These incidents are deeply alarming, and the proposed response—requiring students and parents to walk an additional block to a single crossing guard—is simply not an acceptable solution.

This approach does not address the immediate safety risks facing our children. Delayed action by MCPS and the City, coupled with a lack of response to the significant increase in traffic on Phillips, continues to put residents—especially our most vulnerable—at serious risk. Phillips Street has long been used as a cut-through to the Northside, and while future traffic-calming measures such as roundabouts are being discussed, our community needs immediate, practical interventions now.

Currently, large groups of students are entering the school at an intersection that now also includes a bus stop—but without any dedicated traffic safety infrastructure. Redirecting children to cross farther down the street fails to protect them and adds unnecessary hardship to families.

At a minimum, I urge the immediate placement of a crossing guard at this intersection during drop-off and pick-up times. I also believe that assigning Police Officers to regularly monitor Scott and Phillips Streets during peak hours would significantly improve safety and demonstrate proactive commitment to this neighborhood.

The unsafe speeds and dangerous behavior of drivers on these roads pose a clear and present danger. We urge you to act swiftly and decisively to protect the safety and well-being of our community.

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Danny Hathaway

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## Urgent Need for Traffic Safety Measures on Phillips Street

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sarah hickey <sarahchickey@gmail.com>

Wed, Jun 11, 2025 at 11:47 AM

To: melsone@ci.missoula.mt.us, SavageJ@ci.missoula.mt.us, becerram@ci.missoula.mt.us, farmers@ci.missoula.mt.us, jonesg@ci.missoula.mt.us, CarlinoD@ci.missoula.mt.us, sherrilla@ci.missoula.mt.us, NugentM@ci.missoula.mt.us, andersons@ci.missoula.mt.us, campbellb@ci.missoula.mt.us, vaseckas@ci.missoula.mt.us, JordanK@ci.missoula.mt.us, Rae Cooper <rcooper@mcpsmt.org>, mhill@mcpsmt.org, publiccomment@mcpsmt.org

In light of three recent accidents involving drivers hitting children on Phillips Street, the proposed solution—to require students and parents to walk an extra block to reach a single crossing guard—is deeply concerning and ultimately unacceptable. This response fails to address the core issue: the safety of children and other vulnerable road users.

The delayed response from MCPS, coupled with the City's continued inaction regarding the significant increase in traffic on this residential street, cannot be remedied by simply inconveniencing families. Phillips has long served as a major cut-through to the Northside, and while discussions about roundabouts are ongoing, those of us living here need immediate, tangible safety measures.

This area includes one of the busier parks in Missoula, meaning pedestrian activity is high and the risk of vehicle collisions is even greater. In the past year alone, I have personally witnessed three pedestrian-versus-vehicle accidents, further underscoring the urgent need for intervention.

Additionally, **visibility on Phillips Street is dangerously poor** due to its narrow layout and the availability of on-street parking on both sides. These factors significantly limit motorists' ability to see pedestrians—especially children—and react in time to prevent accidents. This issue is compounded by increased traffic flow, making it clear that existing conditions create an unsafe environment for everyone.

Currently, children are entering the school at a busy intersection that now includes a bus stop, but lacks basic traffic safety infrastructure. Directing students to cross further down the street does not adequately mitigate the risks. At a minimum, a crossing guard should be stationed at this intersection during drop-off and pick-up times. Additionally, assigning officers to monitor traffic on Phillips and Scott would be a meaningful step toward preventing further accidents and ensuring community safety.

The speeding and reckless behavior of motorists on these streets pose a serious danger and demand immediate action.

Thank you for your time.

Sarah Hickey

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