

Red Rover for Keeps

A White Paper Project Presented by:

Tom Ray, Dave Morales, Renee Drake, & Kevin Scott

Introduction

The intent of this project, Red Rover for Keeps, is to improve safety for student pedestrian traffic at busy intersections throughout the county as targeted by both group members and local educators. Group members on this project include:

Tom Ray	Principal at Washington Elementary
Dave Morales	School Resource Officer at Warsaw Community High School
Renee Drake	Account Receivable Manager at Biomet, Inc.
Kevin Scott	Business Unit Controller at CTB, Inc

Having close ties to education within the group generated discussion centered on how best to positively impact students in the county. This discussion led us to focus on the volume of walk-to-school students who must cross at the intersection of Hwy 15 and Kincaide to reach primarily Washington Elementary and Edgewood Middle School. Factors making this a particularly dangerous intersection include speed of traffic, distance from a stoplight in either direction, width of the road because of the state highway, incline of the approach from the north coupled with a curve making visibility of pedestrians poor for southbound traffic, and the volume of children walking to school. While there may be a few high school students who cross the highway in the same general vicinity, for purposes of our traffic research the focus was on younger students.

Before and after school there is a crossing guard stationed at this location meant to provide a margin of safety for the students. Her effectiveness is hampered however by all of the factors listed above. Furthering the problem is the heavy number of before and after school activities requiring students to cross at times when no guard is present, frequently in darkness

A future concern is that the traffic pattern at this intersection will be complicated by planned changes to the road layout around the schools. Current planning would have Kincaide extended to open up on Logan Street. The intent is to add improved access to the high school but it will also add additional cars trying to turn onto Kincaide and making it even more difficult to cross the road on foot.

Solutions – Specific Site

Early discussions touched on several solutions that would address that one intersection. District traffic engineer Ben Shaffer with the Indiana State Highway Department in Ft. Wayne was very helpful in terms of ideas and assistance. One idea dismissed fairly quickly was to install an overhead walkway. While such a walkway would completely take students out of harms way it was not feasible due to cost, permit issues, and ramp space in terms of length required to comply with handicap accessible requirements.

Ongoing discussion with Mr. Shaffer focused on installation of a stoplight that would be activated by pedestrian traffic pushing a button on the either side of the highway. The state recognizes safety concerns with this intersection, and has received many calls and letters in the past both in terms of the hazard to pedestrian traffic and accident history. The state did a traffic volume study in August 2001. Information collected at that time did not meet standards required to install a traffic signal. However if current pedestrian numbers are high enough, the state may be inclined to take action. Tom Ray of our group supplied Mr. Shaffer a recent pedestrian movement count (Appendix I), which recorded 70+ students on the day checked. The state came and also took a count of their own at

the intersection, which we believe was unusually low due to adverse weather conditions on that day. Their intent is to complete several more surveys to further verify numbers and provide a better picture of what constitutes a normal movement pattern. The state indicated this review will be complete at the end of April in best case and thus this potential solution will not be concluded by the due date of this project (April 22, 2003). Our group will work to completion of this portion of our effort. The positive impact is that at the prompting of our group the state is taking action, if only in the beginning stages as of this writing.

A third option to address the concerns of this particular intersection is also possible. Road level lights (Appendix II) laid in a series of rows on both sides of the intersection can be pedestrian activated and flash to alert approaching motorists of the pedestrian crossing. The cost of this system is a fairly pricey at roughly \$30,000 but it has proved effective in its application. A future KLA group would have the opportunity of pursuing grant money and working with state and local authorities to install this equipment.

Solution - County Wide

For school crosswalks throughout the county our focus was on what specific improvements could be made that are practical, effective, and inexpensive to implement. After interviewing a few crossing guards the focus centered on making the guard more visible. Crossing guards walk with the children out into the street and generally have a sign or wand to alert motorists.

Our group recommends that all crossing guards be provided with common reflective vests coupled with an attached strobe light and a high visibility wand. Additionally,

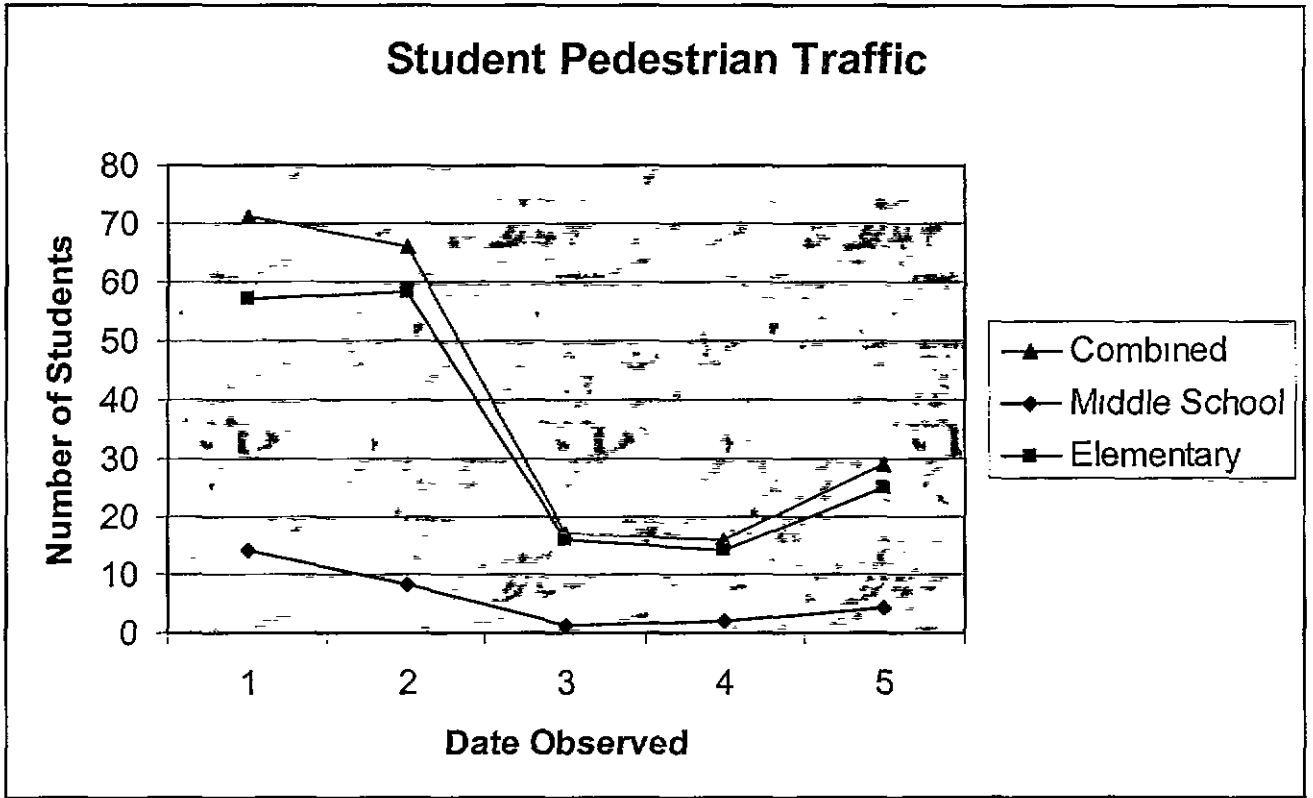
crosswalk intersections of concern would also be reviewed for potentially improved signage intended to alert motorists to the presence of children and to slow drivers down. Our group has applied for grants to provide this equipment to interested schools. Examples of proposed gear are included as Appendix III.

Conclusion

As stated in the introduction, the intent of our efforts was to improve safety for student pedestrian traffic at busy intersections throughout Kosciusko county. We offered solutions for both a specific problem intersection that is of concern for Tom's Washington Elementary students, as well as offered a way to improve safety in school zones at other interested schools in the county. We also provided a future KLA group with a suggestion for taking our beginning efforts a step further.

In the process, we built relationships, gained knowledge of the community, and hopefully met our goal of improving safety for students in our county. We would like to express our appreciation for the opportunity we have been given and look forward to the accomplishments of future classes.

Appendix I



Appendix II



Appendix III

UNIFORM APPAREL --- RAINWEAR



**Only
\$69⁹⁹**



Pulls off with quick one hand movement

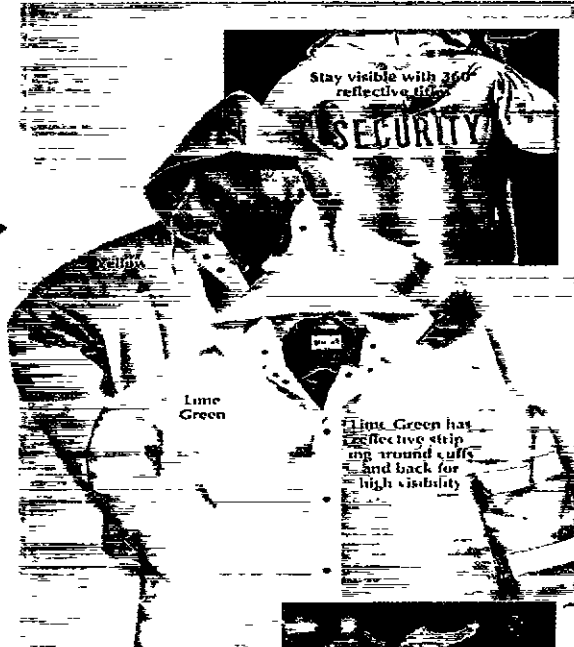
Tactical Poncho Allows Quick and Easy Removal

Whether you're on a SWAT team or directing traffic, you'll be able to move comfortably in this lightweight poncho.

- Full cut fits easily over tactical gear in duty coats for full protection
- Exclusive breakaway tab lets you pull poncho off with one quick movement
- Made of water- and stain-resistant oxford weave nylon coated with polyurethane
- One size fits all
- BLACK
- Made in USA

#Q RW040 (List \$74.95)

\$69.99



Stay visible with 360° reflective strips

Lime Green

Lime Green has reflective striping around cuffs and back for high visibility



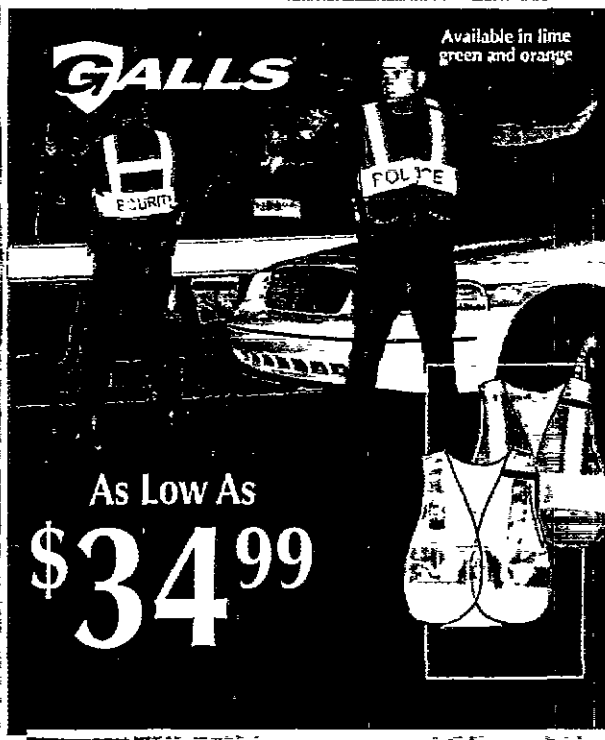
Lime green only reflects at night

**As Low As
\$13⁹⁹**

Stay Dry and Identified with Screenprinted Titles on Your Rain Jacket

- 30" Rain Jacket with sealed seams keeps you dry on rainy days
- Ventilated back and underarms
- Pass-through pockets
- Seams front and sleeve closure
- Imported
- See sizing information at top of facing page. Specify size and plain or choice of screenprinted title (see above facing page)

Item	Type	Price
Yellow	Plain	\$13.99
#Q RW039	With Titles	\$15.99
Lime Green	Plain	\$12.99
#Q-RW092	With Titles	\$14.99



ANSI Class I Mesh Safety Vest

Class I vests are ideal for workers in occupations that allow full and undivided attention to approaching traffic not exceeding 25 mph. Reflexive Brilliance Series meets ANSI/ISEA 107 1999 requirements. Vest is made of a cool nylon-coated mesh for durability and easy cleaning. Reflective wet or dry. Abrasion-resistant. Adjustable vest has an 8" Velcro™ side strap and front closure. Generous length. Front mic holder. Orange or lime green. Specify color, size and title. (Titles above.)


Item	Size	Price
#Q-HS172	Universal	\$34.99
	2X	\$36.99

ANSI Class I Custom Safety Vest

The vest above with up to two lines personalization on front and back, 12 characters/spaces per line. Minimum order requirement of 8 vests per color, size and title (must be same on front and back). Specify size, color and personalization. Allow 4 weeks for delivery.

Item	Size	Price
#Q-HS173	Universal	\$38.99
	2X	\$40.99

Customize vests with department, town/city/county or profession.



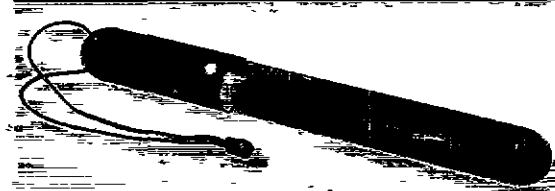
TRAFFIC CONTROL



Lightman™ Xenon Strobe

Impact and weather-resistant, with push button operation. Kit includes Xenon strobe, belt/visor clip, suction cup, magnet mounting adapters and drawstring pouch. Two AA batteries (sold separately below) provide up to 15 continuous hours (8-20 hours battery life of operation). 3 1/2" H x 3 1/2" W x 3 1/2" D. 3 1/2 oz. Specify red, blue, amber, green or clear.

#Q-FL190	\$22.99
#Q-FL110 AA Batteries	\$1.59/2pk



Baton Brite

Weather-resistant traffic direction baton has an LED that provides two flash modes: steady burn and flashing. Uses two AA batteries, sold separately below. 2" H x 14" L. Hi-visibility red.

#Q-HS001	\$24.99
#Q-FL110 AA Batteries	\$1.59/2pk



Galls Traffic Flashlights

Durable ABS plastic with snap-on/snap-off wand to make directional signals easy to see. Spare bulb included. Specify red or yellow wand.

Item	Cells	Height	CP	Price
(A) #Q-FL338	2-D	14"	7,000	\$8.99
(B) #Q-FL339	3-D	16"	10,000	\$9.99
#Q-FL109 D Batteries				\$2.49/2pk
#Q-BU055 Replacement Bulb				\$2.99



School Zone Flare-Lite

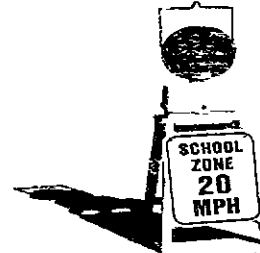
Empco-Lite®

The Flare Lite is ideal for school zone safety use. It transports easily and sets up quickly. With it's bright flashing yellow LED, the Flare-Lite attracts the attention of approaching motorists more effectively than ordinary school zone barricades.

Protect School Children



Protect Crossing Guards



Folding Legs Make
Storage & Transportation E-Z



School Loading Zone Protection

Over 30 years of experience in the traffic safety industry has gone into the design and manufacture of the Empco Flare-Lite. The Flare-Lite is a non-pyrotechnic light that is highly visible (1000 feet in daylight and over one mile at night), rugged, safe, cost effective, and energy efficient.

The high intensity light output is from 12 LEDs (light emitting diodes). Unlike an incandescent bulb or strobe xenon tube, an LED is a solid state device with a life of over 100,000 hours. There are no fragile filaments to burn out or breakable glass tubes. The LEDs are very energy efficient giving over 1000 hours of operation from two 6 volt spring terminal industrial batteries.

The Flare-Lite is lightweight with carrying handle for ease of use. The legs of its barricade type structure fold for easy storage and adjust for all types of terrain.

Empco-Lite

909 Grace Street

Elgin IL 60120

800 548 5483

fax 847 931 2454

www empco-lite.com

sales@empco-lite.com

Red Rover for Keeps

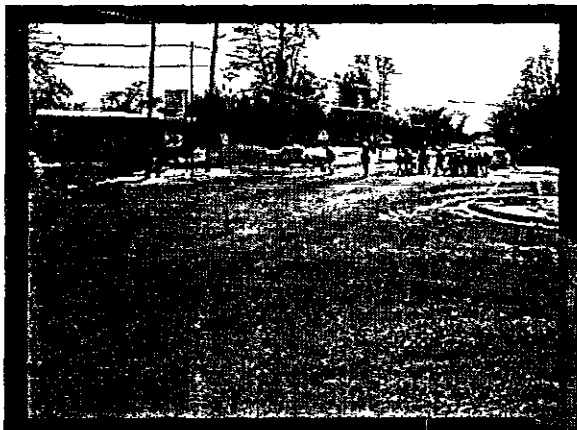
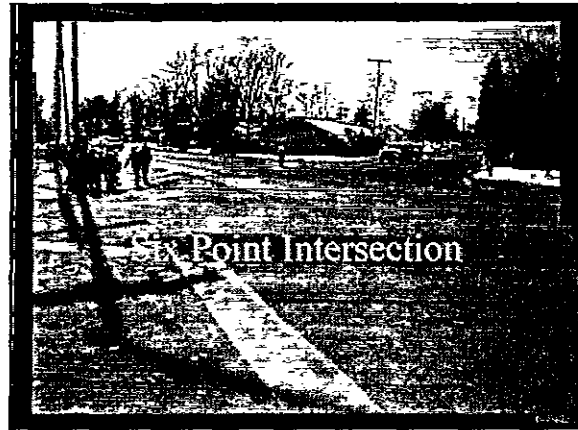
Presented by:
Kevin Scott
Tom Ray
Dave Morales
Renee Drake

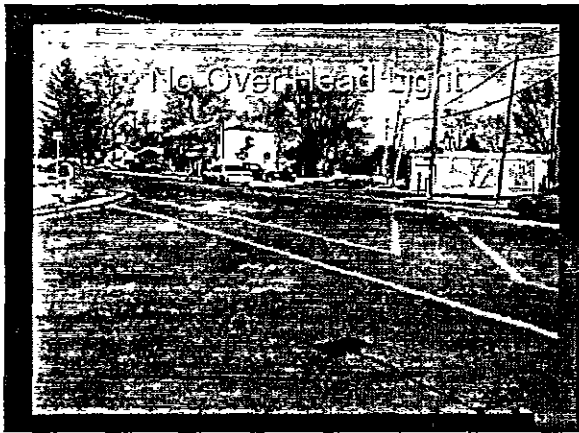
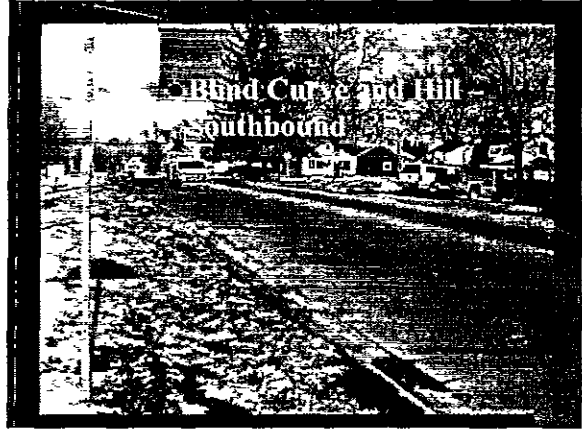
Introduction

- Overview
 - The goal
 - Specific problem intersection
 - Broader concern
- Relevance - What if it was your child?
- Why our group relates well to this issue

The Specific Problem Intersection

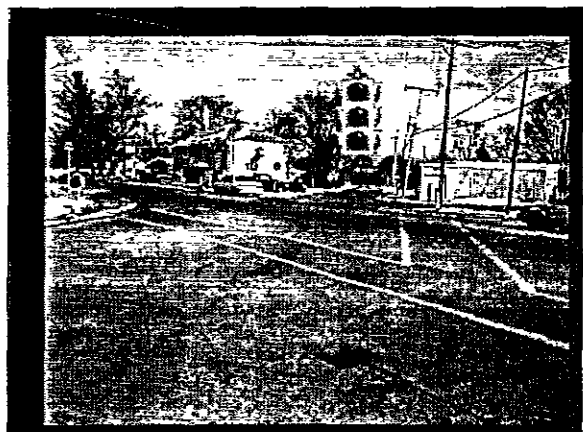
- 70 + students may cross in 1 hr.
- Issues with this intersection
- Photos to give you a frame of reference:

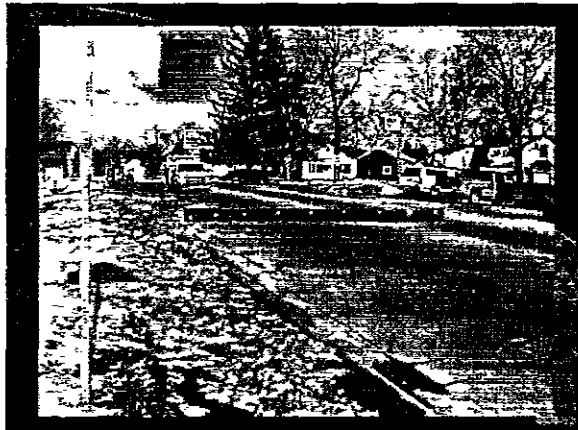




Solutions – Kincaide and Hwy 15

- Overhead activated light
- Road mounted approach lights
- Increased visibility for crossing guard
- Ongoing State review





Solutions – County Wide

- Schools that are interested
- Specific equipment

GALLS

ANSI Class I Mesh Safety Vest

As Low As **\$34.99**

ANSI Class I Custom Safety Vest

Only **\$69.99**

ANSI Class I Custom Safety Vest

Only **\$13.99**

UNIFORM APPAREL

Only **\$69.99**

Only **\$13.99**

ANSI Class I Custom Safety Vest

TRAFFIC CONTROL

Lightman Xenon Strobe

Baton Brute

Gall's Traffic Flashlights

GALLS

School Zone Flore-Lite

Empco-Lite

School Zone Flore-Lite

Empco-Lite

Conclusion

- ◉ Safe School Crossings in Kosciusko Co.
- ◉ Traffic Signals at High Risk Areas
- ◉ Equipment for Crossing Guards
- ◉ Grants
- ◉ PTO Organizations Involvement
- ◉ Where we go from here
- ◉ Red Rover For Keeps