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March 14, 2025

McFarland Area School District  
Jeff Mahoney, Director of Business Services  
5101 Farwell Street  
McFarland, WI 53558

RE: Unusually Hazardous Transportation Plans

Mr. Mahoney,

Statement on Unusually Hazardous Transportation Plans

In accordance with Wisconsin State Statute 121.54(9) and Wisconsin Administrative Code PI 7.01, it is the responsibility of the school district to review areas that may be potentially hazardous and determine if an unusual hazard exists. According to PI 7.01, "An unusual hazard is an existing condition which constitutes more than ordinary hazard and which seriously jeopardizes the safety of pupils in their travel to and from school. It is recognized that all traffic situations through which pupils must travel present some degree of hazard. That degree of hazard often depends on the age of the pupils concerned. When such hazards reach a degree of danger which is unacceptable to the community in which they exist, the school board, with its combined judgment reflecting the safety interests of the community, may identify such hazards as unusual for the purpose of proposing a plan to remove or diminish them."

If an unusual hazard exists, the school district shall develop a plan to address the hazard that includes:

- Maps,
- An explanation of the unusual hazards to pupil travel, and
- Propose a plan or transportation if such transportation is necessary which will provide proper safeguards.

A copy of the completed UHT plan shall be filed with the sheriff.

Upon receipt of a completed UHT plan the sheriff (DCSO) will review the plan, investigate the site(s), make suggestions to the plan if necessary, and make a determination if an unusual hazard exists which cannot be corrected by local government. DCSO will send our findings to the school district and state superintendent.

In developing your UHT plan, DCSO encourages school districts to follow the suggested criteria / conditions for making an unusual hazard declaration that are mentioned on the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) website. DCSO encourages school districts to use their local police department and public works department as a resource. If DCSO is the primary law enforcement agency in an area where a UHT plan is being developed, we will act as resource while the school district develops their plan.

If a person is not satisfied with a school district's UHT plan (i.e. failure of a school district to designate a particular area as unusually hazardous) or is not satisfied with the sheriff's review of the UHT plan, the person should appeal to the state superintendent following the procedures in Wisconsin State Statute 121.54(9).

#### Current UHT Plan Review

On March 13, 2025, Sergeant Nate Jacobsen of the McFarland Police Department and I reviewed the UHT plan submitted by the McFarland Area School District. Sgt. Jacobsen had no further recommendation beyond what has been submitted by your school district.

#### Conclusion

I have reviewed your plan and investigated the sites. I agree with the analysis and recommendations brought forward in the Tadi Traffic Analysis & Design Inc. study completed for the school district.

Respectfully,

  
Sgt. Matthew Meyer

Dane County Sheriff's Office  
Traffic Safety Coordinator