

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2023-1206

TITLE: Resolution Addressing the Need for a Crosswalk Across Southwest 2nd Ave Between Southwest 3rd Street, Southwest 2nd Terrace, and/or Southwest 2nd Street

AUTHOR(S): Senator Navya Nair, Senate President Oscar Santiago Perez

SPONSOR(S): Senator Anghelo Gangano, Senate President Pro Tempore Nathan McGinnis, Minority Party Leader Simone Liang

WHEREAS, pedestrian safety has been an important effort for the University of Florida and Gainesville community; and,

WHEREAS, the University of Florida Student Senate has approved multiple resolutions, including SSB 2023-1154, 1171, and 1180, advocating for the development of crosswalks around campus and near student populations [1]; and,

WHEREAS, there are no pedestrian crosswalks at the intersections of Southwest 3rd Street, Southwest 2nd Terrace, and Southwest 2nd Street with Southwest 2nd Avenue; and,

WHEREAS, these streets are found in downtown Gainesville a road adjacent but not limited to student apartments, entertainments centers, restaurants, and other community gathering spaces; and,

WHEREAS, popular establishments such as the How Bazar can see over 1,200 people over one weekend [2], and students and members of the Gainesville community need to cross the road in order to reach these spaces; and,

WHEREAS, the intersections of Southwest 3rd Street, Southwest 2nd Terrace, and Southwest 2nd Street with Southwest 2nd Avenue are City of Gainesville roads and under the Gainesville

City commission jurisdictions; and,

WHEREAS, pedestrian crosswalk visibility enhancements have been proven to be effective at reducing the pedestrian crash risk, with “[h]igh-visibility crosswalk markings [being] shown to reduce pedestrian crashes by up to 48%” [3]; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes the need to continue to expand traffic safety efforts within the Gainesville community and especially in areas with high student populations.

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate supports the installation of visibly painted crosswalks across Southwest 2nd Ave along at least one of the following streets: Southwest 3rd Street, Southwest 2nd Terrace, and/or Southwest 2nd Street, to allow for the safe crossing of pedestrians as they participate in the local Gainesville community throughout the day and night.


THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate will uphold its commitment to supporting pedestrian safety measures by advocating for increased protective measures with the aim of reducing preventable accidents.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to President Ben Sasse, Vice President of Student Life Heather White, Student Body President Olivia Green, Nightlife Navigators Agency Head Conor Lynch, Department Head for City of Gainesville Public Works Philip Mann, City Manager Cynthia Curry, Mayor Harvey Ward, Gainesville City Commissioner Casey Willits, and former Senator and Author Nima Aria.

[1] <https://sg.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/2021-1002-School-Zone-Safety-Act.pdf>

[2] <https://www.alligator.org/article/2023/08/how-bazar-block-party>

[3] <https://trec.pdx.edu/sites/default/files/Peter%20Eun%20FHWA%20STEP.pdf>


Oscar Santiago Perez
Senate President

9/15/23
Date