

SRTS Crosswalk at Saliman & Damon for Seeliger ES

The crosswalk at Saliman Rd and Damon Rd, at the northeast corner of the Seeliger ES campus, is the most heavily used at the school, and is staffed with an adult school crossing guard. Current management of the crosswalk appears to be moderately safe.

The east end of the crosswalk does not have sufficient wait space due in part to the wide corner radius. Students spill out onto the street while waiting, which is a direct danger to them, and exerts pressure on the crossing guard to cross quickly. At a minimum, the corner radius should be reduced so as to provide some more wait space. Negotiation or purchase of an easement from the private property owner at this corner could create a much larger wait space than can be created by changing the corner radius.



The west end of the crosswalk has sufficient wait space, provided by a decomposed granite surface adjacent to the sidewalk. However, the crosswalk terminates in a street drain, right in the middle of the crosswalk. Moving the drain out of the crosswalk would be quite expensive. As an alternative, it is proposed to shift the west half of the crosswalk to the north by installing an offset crossing or refuge island. Moving the crosswalk termination does slightly decrease the wait space on the west end. This can be mitigated either by installing an eight foot sidewalk along the west side of Saliman from Shady Oak to the buss loop, a distance of about 40m.



An offset crossing or refuge island should be installed with this crosswalk to increase the safety of the crossing and to provide general traffic calming on Saliman which benefits the entire school zone. The crossing guard provides an important measure of safety and should remain at this crosswalk after installation, unless an array of additional traffic calming techniques are implemented to bring all traffic with safe bounds.



School drop-off and pick-up traffic which has turned northbound into the turn lane on Saliman would be forced to wait and merge back into the travel lane before reaching the intersection and crosswalk, rather

than the current practice of merging as it passes through the crosswalk, which presents an extreme hazard for pedestrians and the crossing guard.

The island will provide a safer crossing for not only students, but for all pedestrians, 24x7. The school grounds receive quite a bit of neighborhood use by kids and families off school hours, and also provides a safe pass through route to the neighborhood Sonoma Park.

The loss of turn lanes for Damon Rd and Shady Oak Dr should not significantly impact area traffic flow since Saliman is a low volume street other than at school drop-off and pick-up times. The turn lane is probably not safe in this location in any case since vehicles turning onto either street can come into conflict with each other in the short turn lane distance.

The installation of the island does not preclude further traffic calming on Saliman, if needed, including the narrowing or removal of travel lanes, and it does not restrict bicycle lane traffic in any way.

Two crossing islands already existing on Saliman Rd, at the high school and at the crossing of the Linear Park multi-use path near Fremont ES.

References for Crossing or Refuge Islands:

- Crossing Island (Traffic Calming: 25. Crossing Island), Federal Highway Administration, <http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/saferjourney/Library/countermeasures/25.htm>, accessed 2008-12-19
- Safe Routes to School Guide (Tools to Reduce Crossing Distances for Pedestrians, Crossing Islands), National Center for Safe Routes to School, http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/guide/engineering/tools_to_reduce_crossing_distances_for_pedestrians.cfm, accessed 2008-12-19
- Crossing Enhancements: Crossing Islands, Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center, <http://www.walkinginfo.org/engineering/crossings-enhancements.cfm#crossing-islands>, accessed 2008-12-19

Crosswalk at Saliman Rd and Damon Rd for Seeliger ES

Shady Oak Dr

EXISTING

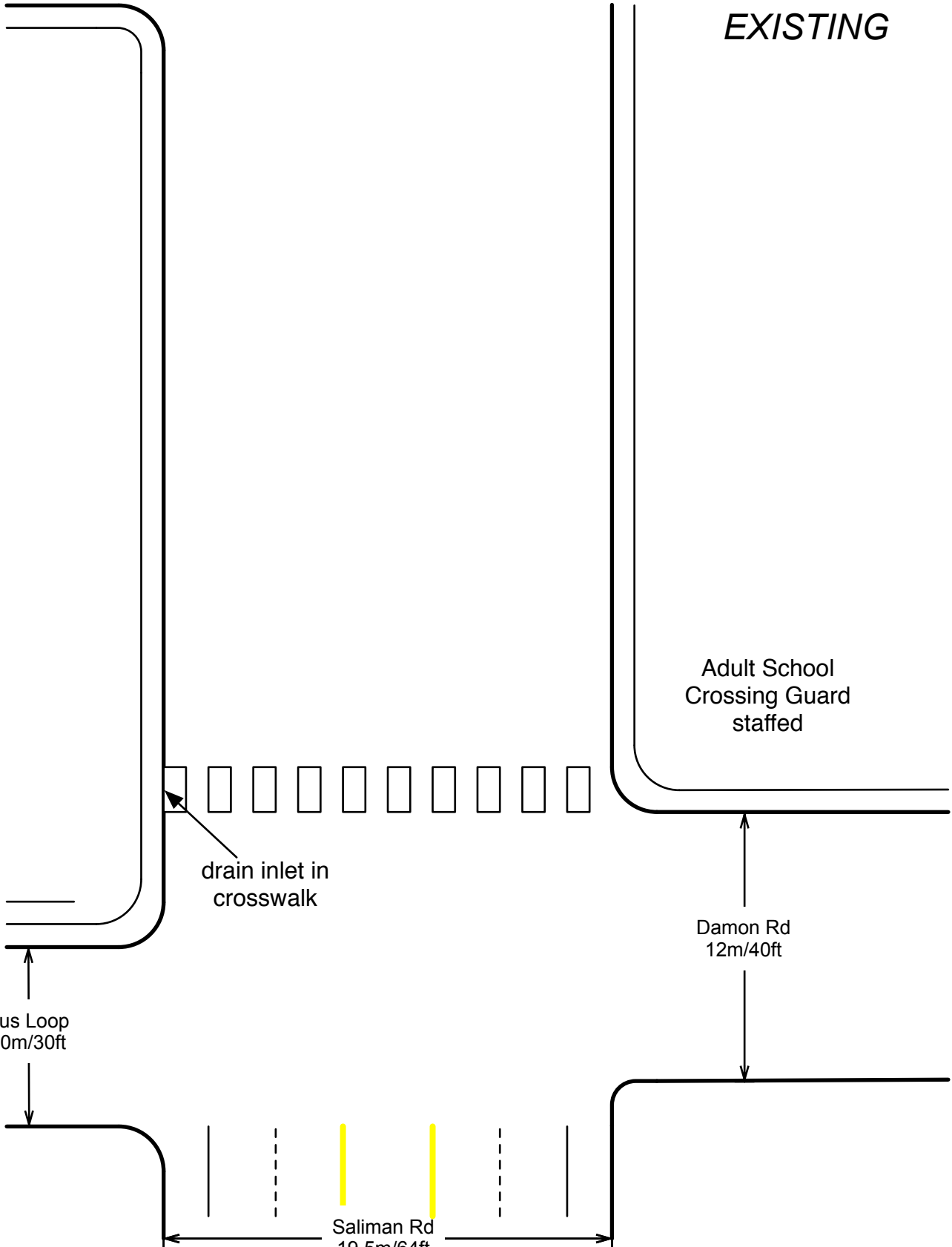
Adult School
Crossing Guard
staffed

drain inlet in
crosswalk

Damon Rd
12m/40ft

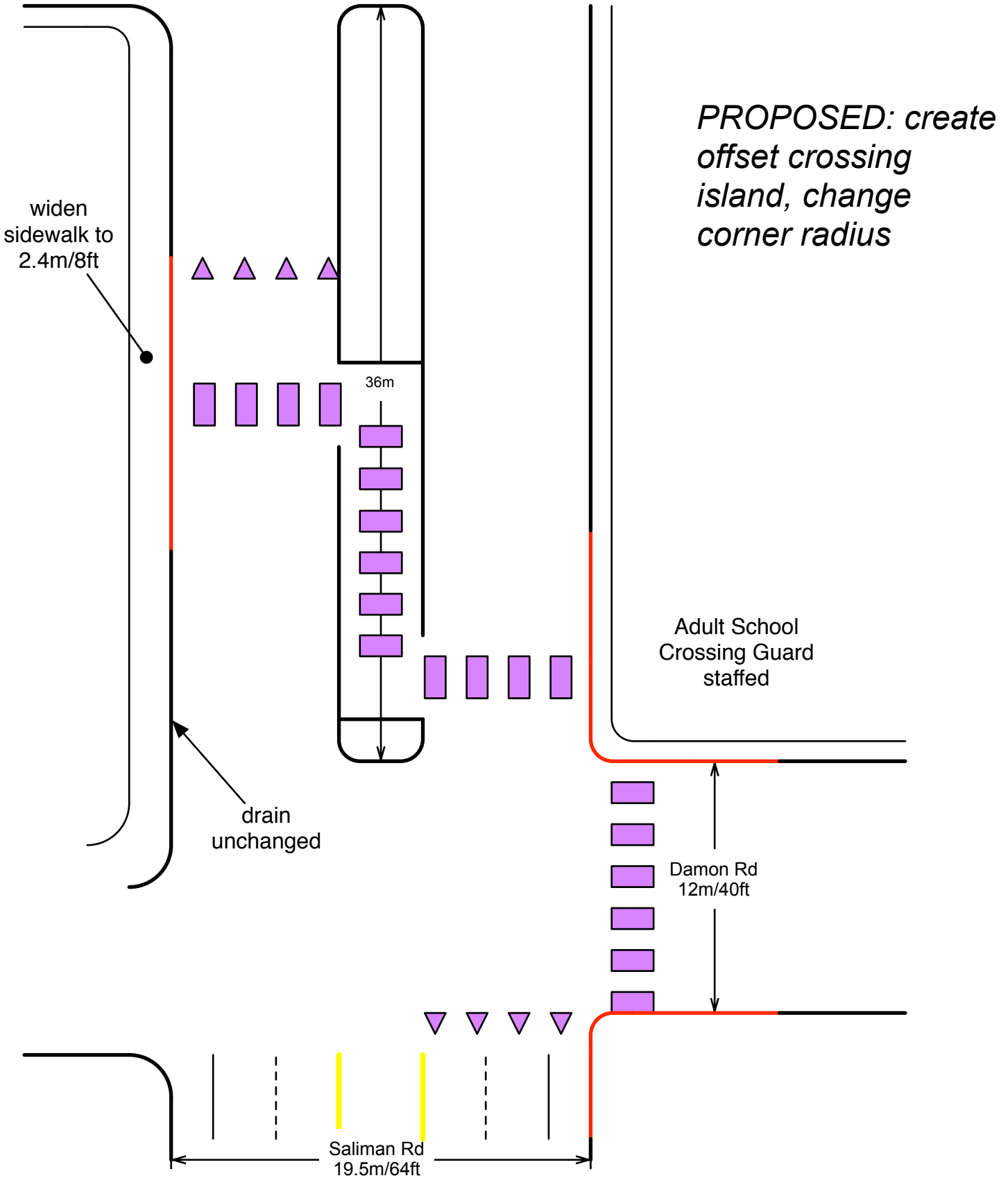
Bus Loop
10m/30ft

Saliman Rd
19.5m/64ft



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Shady Oak Dr



*PROPOSED: create
offset crossing
island, change
corner radius*

Adult School
Crossing Guard
staffed

Damon Rd
12m/40ft

Saliman Rd
19.5m/64ft