



**For Immediate Release
January 3, 2018**

Judge Jenkins' Statement on Crossing Guard Funding

The safety of schoolchildren is of the utmost importance. Dallas County Schools (DCS) is a separate entity and not a part of Dallas County government. DCS has historically provided bus service. Currently DCS provides crossing guards to DISD and Richardson ISD only. DCS does not provide crossing guards to any other school district. With DCS's dissolution, various parties are working to ensure a good transition.

Dallas City councilmembers and staff discussed during their briefing agenda today asking Dallas County to impose a new countywide fee on vehicle registrations and turn over that money to the cities. The money would be spent on the City of Dallas' statutory responsibility to provide crossing guards. Currently, cities must meet this obligation out of city taxes. Since 2012, in the City of Dallas and Richardson this responsibility has been offset by taxes collected for DCS. Unfortunately, taxpayers will continue to pay a DCS tax for several years to pay down the debt of that dissolving agency.

There is not support on the Commissioners Court at this time to impose a new fee on car registrations. The county remains committed to continuing to work with the DCS dissolution committee, the cities, and all our partners to ensure an effective transition from DCS to new service providers.

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