

Update on Building Entrance Security Discussion

From: M Bret Blackford (bret_blackford@yahoo.com)

To: mxelders@mcknightcrossings.org; jmcglawn@mcknightcrossings.org; aowens@mcknightcrossings.org

Date: Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 08:03 AM CDT

Guys,

Last night we discussed the physical security of our building entrances. After reviewing three options—

1. **No change,**
2. **Use of a planter or other heavy object,** and
3. **Installation of removable or collapsible pipe bollards—**
we were unanimous in selecting **Option 1: No Change.**

Our decision was based on the low perceived probability of risk and the fact that our entrances are not easy targets for a vehicle ramming attack. While such an event could cause some structural damage, the potential for personal harm appears limited. In reality, if someone intended to force entry, it would likely be easier to break the glass doors than to attempt to breach them with a vehicle.

The Elders remain aware that houses of worship continue to face targeted violence nationwide, and we are committed to maintaining a thoughtful, reasonable safety posture. We continue to have a **Safety Team present during worship**, utilize **upgraded security cameras**, and periodically review our procedures.

Following our discussion, I also reached out to **Chief Bryan Eckles** at the **Rock Hill Police Department** to request any guidance they might offer and to invite occasional patrols through our parking lot on Sundays or midweek. A copy of that correspondence is attached for your reference, along with the initial **Vehicle Attack Mitigation Options** summary that supported our review.

— Bret

Attachments:

1. *MX_Vehicle_Attack_Mitigation.docx*
2. *10.07.2025 – Rock Hill Police Safety Inquiry.pdf*

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: M Bret Blackford <bret_blackford@yahoo.com>

To: MXElders MX <mxelders@mcknightcrossings.org>; Jeff McGlawn <jmcglawn@mcknightcrossings.org>; Andrew Owens <aowens@mcknightcrossings.org>

Sent: Wednesday, October 1, 2025 at 08:21:23 AM CDT

Subject: Re: consider adding pipe bollards to church entrances

Attached is my initial investigation. No rush - we can discuss and consider next steps at one of our next Elder meetings.

On Tuesday, September 30, 2025 at 06:55:45 AM CDT, **M Bret Blackford** <bret_blackford@yahoo.com> wrote:

Brothers,

A pipe bollard at each entrance may be worth considering. I'll start looking into cost and options (removable vs. stationary) so we have some data to discuss.

--- Bret

On Monday, September 29, 2025 at 10:07:07 PM CDT, **Steve Walker** <swalker@mcknightcrossings.org> wrote:

Steve Jones sent this text. I'm sure you are all aware on the shooting incident at a church in Michigan this past Sunday. A shooter drove his truck into a church and shot and killed four people.

From S. Jones

"Do you think any consideration should be given for some steel concrete filled posts at our two glass door entrances? This is in light of the drive in smash/crash and killing in Michigan church. Something to at least discuss in elder meeting."



10.01.2025-VehicleAttackMitigation.docx
124.1 KB



10.07.2025-RockHillPolice-SafetyInquiry.pdf
83.2 KB

October 1, 2025

Physical Security Considerations – Vehicle Attack Mitigation

ISSUE

Although rare, there is a potential threat that someone could use a vehicle to crash into the church building.

OPTIONS

Depending on our risk tolerance, the church may consider the following:

1. No Change
- Make no modifications, acknowledging the limited vehicle access to the North and South entrances.
 - The East and West entrances are already inaccessible due to stairs.
2. Planter or Other Heavy Object
- Place a large planter or barrier at the North and South entrances.
 - Prevents a vehicle from ramming the building.
 - Drawback: Difficult to remove when access is needed (e.g., moving large items for elections).
3. Removable or Collapsible Bollards
- Install bollards at the North and South entrances.
 - Consider aesthetics; paint or coverings may be needed to blend with church appearance.
 - Options range from fold-down (surface-mounted) to fully removable (set in cement).

PRODUCT OPTIONS

#	Description	Est. Price ¹ (each)	Website	Notes
<u>1</u>	ULINE Fold-Down Safety Bollards (hinged)	\$140.00	https://www.uline.com/BL_2317/Fold-Down-Safety-Bollards	Allows vehicle access when needed. Bright yellow—may need painting.
<u>2</u>	POST GUARD Collapsible Bollard (hinged)	\$280.00	https://www.postguard.com/product-category/bollards/collapsible-bollards/	Similar to #1 above.
<u>3</u>	POST GUARD 4" x 36" Removable Bollard	\$484.95	https://www.postguard.com/product-category/bollards/removable-bollards/	Requires cutting hole + cement pour. More permanent than fold-down.
<u>4</u>	GLOBAL 4" x 36" Removable Bollard	\$285.95	https://tinyurl.com/38fxvx2x	Similar to #3 above.
<u>5</u>	TRAFFORD 4" x 36" Removable Bollard	\$349.95	https://tinyurl.com/4b64cctk	Similar to #3 and #4.

ONLINE RESOURCES

CISA – Vehicle Ramming Mitigation: <https://www.cisa.gov/topics/physical-security/vehicle-ramming-mitigation>

CISA – Mitigating Attacks on Houses of Worship: https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/Mitigating%2520Attacks%2520on%2520Houses%2520of%2520Worship%2520Security%2520Guide_508_0.pdf

CISA – Physical Security Performance Goals for Faith-Based Communities: <https://www.cisa.gov/resources-tools/resources/physical-security-performance-goals-faith-based-communities>

Church Security 101 – Vehicle Ramming: <https://churchsecurity-101.com/vehicle-ramming/?srsltid=AfmBOorCGuvP4NJBvaw-nAGNSzkMm1c1yCIVv2e3Cac5BjItNf2eZHb5>

McKnight Crossings Church – Safety and Security Inquiry

From: Sys Admin (bblackford@mcknightcrossings.org)
To: beckles@rockhillmo.net
Cc: bblackford@mcknightcrossings.org; bret_blackford@yahoo.com
Date: Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 07:18 AM CDT

City of Rock Hill, Missouri
Rock Hill Police Department
Bryan Eckles, Police Chief
bEckles@RockHillMO.net
314-968-1410

Chief Eckles,

I serve on the leadership team of **McKnight Crossings Church**, located at the corner of Litzinger and McKnight Roads. As incidents of violence against houses of worship continue to rise, we want to ensure we are taking appropriate steps to protect our congregation. While the physical security of our building is important, our primary concern is the safety of our members and their ability to gather and worship freely each Sunday.

We recognize that no level of investment can completely eliminate risk. However, we want to take **reasonable, proactive precautions** and would greatly value any guidance or recommendations you and your department might offer.

At present, we have installed multiple security cameras covering the main interior areas and parking lots. During worship services, a designated individual monitors these cameras while another walks the premises to remain alert for anything unusual.

If there are other measures you suggest we consider, please let us know. We would also welcome it if your department could **periodically drive through our parking lots on Sunday mornings**—and at other times during the week as convenient. The visible presence of a patrol vehicle alone can serve as a strong deterrent.

Thank you for the ongoing work your department does to protect our community. We appreciate your service and would welcome any future conversation or partnership on how we can strengthen the safety of our church.

May God bless and protect you and your officers,

Warm regards,
M. Bret Blackford
bblackford@mcknightcrossings.org
McKnight Crossings Church
2515 South McKnight Road
St. Louis, MO 63124
314-962-7026