What is a Traffic Impact Analysis?

A Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) is a professional study prepared by licensed traffic engineers to evaluate how a new development may affect traffic in surrounding areas. It looks at current conditions, future growth, and identifies improvements needed to maintain safe and efficient traffic flow.

Why was a Traffic Impact Analysis required for Alderete Middle School?

The City of El Paso requires a Traffic Impact Analysis for projects of this size to ensure that nearby streets and intersections can safely handle additional traffic from students, parents, staff, and buses. The goal is to identify and address potential traffic concerns before the school opens.

Who prepared the Traffic Impact Analysis?

The study was prepared by **Walter P. Moore and Associates**, an independent engineering firm, on behalf of the project team. The analysis followed City of El Paso standards and nationally recognized traffic engineering guidelines.

What area was studied?

The study evaluated key intersections and roadways surrounding the campus, including:

- Resler Drive
- Cimarron Canyon Drive
- Cimarron Park Drive
- Northern Pass Drive
- Paseo del Norte Drive
- Trade Center Avenue
- Loop 375 frontage roads

These roads represent the primary routes used by school traffic and the surrounding community.

How was traffic evaluated?

Traffic engineers:

- Collected real traffic counts during the busiest morning and afternoon hours
- Projected traffic for the school's opening year (2027) and five years later (2032)

- Accounted for background growth unrelated to the school
- Applied City of El Paso performance standards to determine whether intersections would continue operating acceptably

How much traffic will the school generate?

At full enrollment (approximately 1,000 students):

- About **670 vehicles** are expected during the morning peak hour
- About **150 vehicles** are expected during the afternoon peak hour

These numbers are consistent with traffic generated by a middle school of this size and are spread across multiple roadways rather than concentrated on one street.

Will traffic get worse in the area?

Most intersections studied are expected to continue operating at acceptable levels. A small number of intersections may experience increased delays during peak AM/PM hours as the area grows. These impacts were anticipated and evaluated as part of the study.

What improvements are being recommended?

To address future traffic conditions, the study recommends:

- Installation of new traffic signals at select locations along Resler Drive as traffic volumes increase
- Traffic signal timing adjustments at existing intersections
- Clearly defined entrance-only and exit-only driveways at the school
- On-site vehicle stacking to prevent traffic from backing up onto public streets

These measures are designed to improve safety and reduce congestion.

Are these improvements only because of the school?

No. Some improvements are related to overall regional growth, not just the school. In those cases, costs are shared proportionally in accordance with City of El Paso policies. Improvements directly tied to school access are the responsibility of the project.

Will school traffic go through nearby neighborhoods?

No. The school is designed so that parent drop-off, bus traffic, and staff parking occur **on campus**, using Resler Drive and Cimarron Canyon Drive. Emergency access points exist

but are not intended for daily traffic. There are no planned public access routes through residential neighborhoods.

What is the overall conclusion of the study?

The Traffic Impact Analysis concludes that:

- The roadway network can support the new school
- Traffic impacts are manageable and localized
- Planned improvements will maintain safe and efficient traffic flow
- The project meets City of El Paso traffic standards

Will traffic be monitored after the school opens?

Yes. The District and its partners will continue working with the City of El Paso to monitor traffic conditions and implement improvements as needed to ensure ongoing safety for students, families, and the surrounding community.