

Other Traffic Safety Education Brochures

- Neighborhood Pace Car Program
- Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program
- Driving: Best Practices
- Parent's Guide to Child Bicycle Safety
- Adult Bicycle Safety Tips



For more information, please contact:
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City Of San Leandro

Engineering & Transportation Department

Pedestrian Safety is a Two-Way Street



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Pedestrian Safety is a Two-Way Street

Pedestrian Safety

Every year, approximately 30 to 40 pedestrians in San Leandro are involved in collisions with vehicles. Regardless of fault, the pedestrian always receives more serious injuries. Provided in this brochure are tips for both pedestrians and motorists on how to improve pedestrian safety. After all, no one wants to hit someone or be hit.

Tips for Pedestrians

Follow these rules for the safest way to cross the street:

When possible, cross the street at a signalized intersection.

- Push the pedestrian button for the direction you are traveling. At most intersections, this will give you more time to cross the street. Remember that the signal can't tell if you are waiting to cross. You have to push the button.
- Wait for the white figure or the words **WALK** to appear in the pedestrian light. Before stepping off of the curb, look to your left for right-turning vehicles and red light runners. 
- If the red hand begins flashing, it does not mean that you have to stop or even hurry. The flashing hand tells you that there is plenty of time to finish crossing. But if you are just arriving at the crosswalk, you do not have time to begin crossing. 
- The solid red hand means that the traffic signal is going to change and that you need to be out of the street.

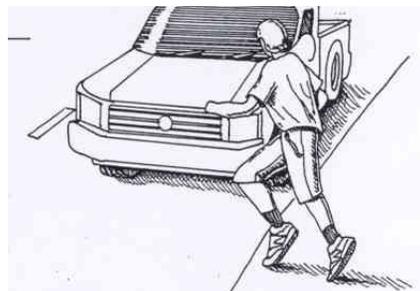
Tips for Pedestrians, continued

- Cross at the corners of an intersection. All intersections, whether they have a painted crosswalk or not, are legal places for you to cross the road. The only exception is when there is a sign specifically prohibiting crossing at that location. Intersections are usually the best places to cross the street. Motorists look for cross-traffic, including pedestrians, at intersections. So they are better prepared to look for you! When you cross the street at an unmarked location that is not an intersection, you run the risk of being at fault if a vehicle were to hit you. Never cross the street from between parked cars.

Look to the left, the right, and the left again before stepping off of the curb, and remember to keep looking as you cross the street.

Tips for Motorists

As motorists, we should always try to drive defensively, including watching out for the unexpected pedestrian. No motorist wants a pedestrian collision on his/her conscience. In addition to following the rules of the road, here are a few tips to avoid a pedestrian collision:



- Don't run red lights. Not only could you cause an accident with another vehicle, but you risk hitting pedestrians who have already begun to cross the street.
- Look for pedestrians before making a right turn on red. Look to the right to make sure that a pedestrian hasn't stepped into a crosswalk.
- When stopping for a stop sign or traffic signal, stop your vehicle in advance of the crosswalk markings or the stop bar, particularly if you plan to make a right turn on red. On multi-lane roadways, other stopped vehicles may prevent you from seeing a pedestrian in the crosswalk.
- When cars are stopped as you drive down the street, do not assume a vehicle is stopped to make a left turn. You must slow down to make sure there is not a pedestrian crossing before passing the vehicle.
- Be especially careful when you see a bus ahead of you. There may be someone in a hurry to catch a bus that may not be as careful as he/she should be.
- Don't exceed the speed limit, especially in residential areas and near schools. Look for children playing near the road that may dart out into the roadway. Be especially defensive in your driving when in residential and school areas where children are most likely to cross the street. (Parents, please do not allow your children to play in the street.)



**Keep your eyes on the road!
This can be your best defense
for avoiding crashes.**