

Resources

PEDESTRIAN HAZARD REPORT

Report obstacles or hazards that may inhibit bike or pedestrian travel by using the RTC's Online Hazard Report.

<http://www.sccrtc.org/hazard>

These reports are forwarded to the appropriate local jurisdiction for action. Reports may be submitted at any time.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT (831 AREA CODE)

Call 911 in the event of an emergency

City of Santa Cruz PD	471-1131
City of Capitola PD	471-1141
City of Watsonville PD	471-1151
City of Scotts Valley	440-5670
UCSC PD	459-2231
County Sheriff (unincorporated area)	471-1121
CHP (unincorporated Co/Highways)	796-2160

The mission of the Pedestrian Safety Work Group is to help ensure safe and accessible pedestrian travel throughout the county for the benefit of all residents.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

(831) 460-3200 www.sccrtc.org



What
Pedestrians

and

Motorists

want

**Each Other
to Know**

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

**The Elderly & Disabled Transportation
Advisory Committee**



Brochure developed by the Pedestrian Safety Work Group, a subcommittee of the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission's Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee

What Pedestrians Want Motorists to Know



Sometimes pedestrians do have the right-of-way!

- Drivers are required to yield to pedestrians crossing in intersections with or without a marked crosswalk.
- Blind pedestrians, who are using a white cane or a guide dog, always have the right-of-way when they enter the street, regardless of the state of crosswalks or traffic signals. Respect their best efforts to cross safely.



Not all pedestrians behave as you'd expect!

- Watch out for shorter pedestrians including children and those using wheelchairs, scooters or strollers.
- One speed does not fit all! Pedestrians have varying physical abilities and may move slower or quicker than motorists expect.
- Blind pedestrians may not make eye contact with motorists, but may try to figure out what the motorist is doing by listening to traffic movement and engine noise.
- Be patient. Some pedestrians may need more time to make decisions. Those with some disabilities may be more easily intimidated or overwhelmed.



Watch and be aware of pedestrians!

- Pedestrians may encounter hazards when crossing the street, such as tripping over railroad tracks. Don't assume they'll be out of your lane when you get there.
- Pedestrians may not hear your hybrid or electric vehicle.
- When you notice blind pedestrians, use your voice rather than your horn to let them know you're there.
- Look before making right turns. Always yield to pedestrians.
- If the sidewalk is blocked or inaccessible, pedestrians may be forced into the street. Watch for pedestrians, including those using mobility devices in the bike lane.
- Please allow pedestrians a clear path. Don't block the crosswalk or the sidewalk.



Operate your vehicle with care!

- Don't pass or go around another vehicle that may be stopped for a pedestrian.
- Remember that most cars weigh 20 times the average person and even at very slow speeds, a car can easily injure or kill a pedestrian.
- Put away your electronic devices. Distracted driving is especially hazardous for pedestrians.

What Motorists Want Pedestrians to Know



Learn and obey traffic laws!

- Please don't jay walk. Motorists are expecting you to cross at intersections or in marked crosswalks.
- Be extra cautious when using a mid-block crosswalk. Motorists may not be expecting to stop.
- At signalized intersections, only walk when the walk signal is on.
- Do not cross a street where it is prohibited.



Vehicles can't stop as fast as you think!

- Motorists may not be able to react to unpredictable or sudden moves, like darting out from between cars or starting to cross where visibility is limited.
- It takes about 11 car lengths or 150 feet for an average vehicle traveling at 25 mph to stop, including the driver's reaction time.
- Know where you have the right-of-way but make smart choices. You are still responsible for your own safety. Never forget that in a collision the pedestrian will be the loser!



Don't assume that every motorist sees you!

- Wear reflective and visible clothing, especially at night. Carry a flashlight or add lights to backpacks.
- Make eye contact or turn your head in motorists' direction.
- Stop, look and listen before you enter a street.
- Stay predictable when crossing the street. Don't turn around, stop or back up.



Stay focused!

- Put away your electronic devices. Distracted walking is especially hazardous for pedestrians.

