

CITY OF CHULA VISTA ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
276 Fourth Avenue
Chula Vista, CA 91910
(619) 691-5021

CHULA VISTA POLICE DEPARTMENT
315 Fourth Avenue
Chula Vista, CA 91910
(619) 691-5151

www.chulavistaca.gov

BE ALERT!

*Pedestrian safety
is everyone's
responsibility.*

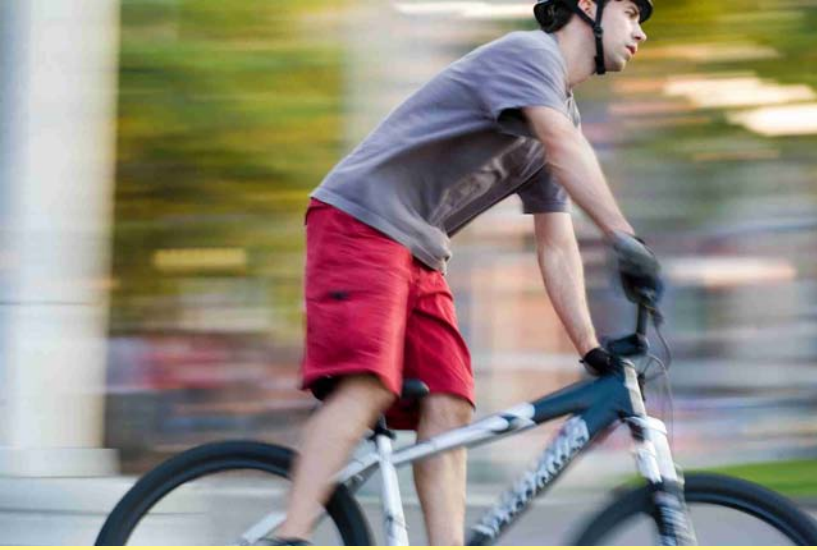


Funding for this program was partially provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Admin.



A joint effort from the City of Chula Vista's
ENGINEERING and
POLICE DEPARTMENTS

Accidents happen fast.



Share the road.

Pedestrian injuries represent the second largest category of motor vehicle-related deaths. In crashes with cars, pedestrians are almost always injured—even at slow speeds! A pedestrian hit at 20 mph will suffer serious injuries and has a 15% chance of being killed. At 40 mph, the pedestrian's death rate jumps to 85%!

ADVICE FOR DRIVERS:

- Always drive at a speed that allows you to stop for a pedestrian at an intersection. Watch out for children who may dart out in front of you. Under some conditions, the posted speed limit may be too fast to allow you to stop in time.
- Children are often the least predictable pedestrians and the most difficult to see. Take extra care to look out for them near schools, bus stops, playgrounds, and parks. When backing up your vehicle, remember to look through the rear window; don't rely on rearview mirrors alone. Before backing in or out of a driveway when children are near, get out of your vehicle and check behind it.
- Elderly pedestrians need more time to cross the street.
- Pedestrians crossing at intersections always have the right-of-way whether the crosswalk is marked or unmarked. (California Vehicle Code Section 21950) Do not try to ease your car forward to "hurry them along." Always stop behind the crosswalk line, and never block a marked or unmarked crosswalk or sidewalk with your vehicle. (California Vehicle Code Section 21970)



- Do not pass stopped vehicles! If a vehicle has stopped at a crosswalk to allow a pedestrian to cross the roadway, other approaching drivers should never overtake and pass the stopped vehicle. (California Vehicle Code Section 21951)
- ALWAYS look right for pedestrians before turning right.

ADVICE FOR PEDESTRIANS:

- ALWAYS use a marked crosswalk when one is available. The bright white lines of a crosswalk remind motorists to look out for pedestrians.
- STOP at the curb and look both ways before entering the street.
- OBEY the "DON'T WALK" signal! LOOK left, right, and left again, and if it's clear, begin crossing, even if you have a "WALK" signal. Keep watch for traffic in all directions, especially for vehicles turning right at a red light.
- Don't assume that drivers see you! If there is traffic, make eye contact with the driver(s) so they see you and understand your intention. Again, always STOP before you start to cross.
- Don't take those "NO TURN ON RED" signs for granted. Always check for turning vehicles before stepping off the curb because motorists can make mistakes too.



MYTHS AND FACTS:

Myth: You are safe in a crosswalk.

FACT: You may cross at a crosswalk, but before you do, stop at the curb. Obey the crossing signal. Look LEFT-RIGHT-LEFT for cars, even when you have a "WALK" signal. When it is clear, cross and keep alert.

Myth: If you see the driver, the driver sees you.

FACT: As mentioned above, the driver may not see you. If the driver appears to be looking your way, they could actually be looking PAST you at oncoming traffic.

Myth: Drivers will stop if you're in a crosswalk.

FACT: The driver may not be paying attention or their view could be blocked by a parked vehicle or other obstruction. The driver may also run a traffic light illegally or turn without looking for pedestrians.

Myth: Wearing white at night makes you visible to drivers.

FACT: Even if you wear white clothes, drivers will have a difficult time seeing you at night. Carry a flashlight, wear reflective clothing and always walk facing traffic.