### CROSSING THE STREET AT UNSIGNALIZED LOCATIONS

When crossing the street, you should only cross at corners or at mid-block crosswalks that are marked by painted lines on the street. Before entering, follow these **safety tips**:

- 1. Stop at the curb (or edge of the road).
- 2. Look left.
- 3. Look right.
- 4. Look left again.
- If you see any vehicles, wait until the drivers go by or the drivers have made eye contact with you, stopped, and have motioned for you to cross first.
- Look left and right again and step into the street when you have determined that all drivers are aware of your intentions and it is safe, and walk across the street (continuing to look left and right until you have made it to the other side).

If you are trying to cross where a vehicle is parked, make sure that there is no driver in the vehicle and then follow Steps 1-6, listed above.

State law indicates that drivers must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians crossing the street in a marked or unmarked crosswalk at intersections or designated mid-block crossings (that are marked). However, a pedestrian must also take due care for his or her own safety. Pedestrians cannot suddenly enter the street and walk or run in the path of a moving vehicle, especially when entering the street will cause an immediate hazard. Also, while in the crosswalk, pedestrians cannot unnecessarily stop or delay traffic.



#### CROSSWALKS WITH FLASHING BEACONS OR IN-ROADWAY LIGHTS

Pedestrians should still use extreme care when crossing the street where flashing beacons are in place. The City has placed these at intersections that meet federal requirements for their installation. In most cases, pedestrian visibility was very poor and the number of people crossing the street is high. Drivers entering the area where a flashing beacon has been installed should move forward with extreme care, particularly looking for young people and persons traveling in wheelchairs.

The City of Pasadena is also installing crosswalks with in-roadway flashing lights to alert motorists that a pedestrian is at the crosswalk. Although the intersection gives a warning to drivers that pedestrians would like to cross the street, pedestrians should still follow the safety tips for crossing the street. **Do not assume that vehicles will stop**. Remember, you as a pedestrian are also responsible for your safety.

## MOTORIST RESPONSIBILITIES WHEN APPROACHING A CROSSWALK

The State Legislature has passed several laws regarding pedestrian safety and requires that both drivers and pedestrians act responsibly. The exact language of these laws can be found in the **California Vehicle Code (CVC)**. Following is a summary of three sections that are used to cite drivers when they violate the pedestrian right-of-way.

The **first section** (CVC 21950a) requires a driver to yield to a pedestrian in the crosswalk when the pedestrian is close enough to constitute a hazard.

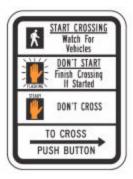
The **second section** (CVC 21950c) states that motorists are required to slow their vehicle as they approach an occupied crosswalk. This means that even if the pedestrian has already crossed the path of the motorist, motorists must slow down as they approach the crosswalk.

The **third section** (CVC 21951) prohibits drivers from overtaking and passing any vehicle that is stopped for a pedestrian in a crosswalk. This section protects pedestrians who are crossing a multi-lane street, whose visibility may be blocked by a stopped vehicle and may not be seen by other approaching vehicles.

These laws apply to marked crosswalks, as well as unmarked crosswalks that are present at any intersection of two or more streets.

#### CROSSING THE STREET AT SIGNALIZED LOCATIONS

Here are a few **safety reminders** when you cross at signalized crosswalks:





- **1.** Press the pedestrian indication button when one is available.
- 2. Only walk when the pedestrian light for your direction of traffic says WALK (or a walking pedestrian symbol is displayed). The symbol indicates that you can begin crossing but it is important that you check traffic to make sure all drivers at the intersection see you (especially drivers making a right turn from the corner -- who may also have a green light).
- 3. A flashing DON'T WALK (or an upraised hand symbol) means it is too late to safely start crossing the street, but you should finish crossing the street if you are already in the intersection. If you reach the flashing DON'T WALK or upraised hand symbol before crossing the street, push the pedestrian button (if one is available) and wait for the next cycle of pedestrian signals. If the pedestrian signal has a countdown timer, the timer will let you know how much time remains before the solid DON'T WALK or upraised hand symbol is displayed.

Note: If the lights for vehicular traffic are green and the pedestrian signal says DON'T WALK or displays an upraised hand symbol, do not start walking across the street.

## DIAGONAL CROSSWALKS

Old Pasadena. there are intersections that allow pedestrians to cross diagonally thereby reducing pedestrian wait time when crossing more than one approach. When WALK is displayed at these traffic signals, only pedestrians are allowed to move through the intersection at that time. These intersections also provide benefits to drivers in that right and left turns are not hindered by pedestrian traffic flow. Therefore, pedestrians should not enter the intersection when DON'T WALK is displayed even if they are going in the same direction as the traffic flow. It is beneficial to both drivers and pedestrians if pedestrians wait for the WALK indication.



#### Other PDOT Traffic Information Brochure:

- Speed Limits
- Traffic Signals

#### Future PDOT Traffic Information Brochures:

- School Zones
- Left Turn Indications

#### For more information contact us:

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# PEDESTRIAN SAFETY



Take the Time to Cross Safely.

# PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

Walking is great exercise and in Pasadena there are many beautiful historic landmarks that can be seen along your journey. However, before you take that first stride, the City of Pasadena offers the following helpful tips that can make your walking adventure safe and enjoyable.

Always walk on the sidewalk. If there is no sidewalk and you must walk on the road, face traffic while walking instead of having it come up behind you.

Dress to be seen. Bright colored clothing is more visible during the day and light colors are more visible during the evening and nighttime hours. You may also want to wear clothing or shoes that have reflective strips sewn in the fabric for better visibility when walking at night. (Caps, bands and vests with reflective strips are also recommended.)

Here are some pedestrian safety tips:



