Pedestrian Safety

Safety is a shared responsibility

Pedestrians—people who travel by foot, wheelchair, stroller, or similar means—are among the most vulnerable users of the road. In Tucson, nearly 1 in 4 persons killed in traffic collisions is a pedestrian.

The City of Tucson Pedestrian Safety Program aims to reduce pedestrian injuries and provide pedestrians and motorists with information to keep everyone safe on our roadways.

According to Arizona state law:

- **Drivers must yield to pedestrians in a crosswalk, including unmarked crosswalks.**
- **Drivers cannot pass a vehicle stopped at a crosswalk.**
- **Drivers “must exercise due care” to avoid hitting a pedestrian.**

What is a crosswalk?

**Marked crosswalks:**
Marked crosswalks are marked with either two parallel white lines or a white (or yellow) ladder pattern across the road.

**Unmarked crosswalks:**
There is an unmarked, legal crosswalk across any intersection (unless signs prohibit pedestrians from crossing). Motorists are obligated to yield to pedestrians in unmarked crosswalks just as they are obligated to yield to pedestrians in marked crosswalks.
What should motorists do at a HAWK crossing?

A High-Intensity Activated Crosswalk (HAWK) is a yellow-red beacon that is activated by a pedestrian or bicyclist.
1) Flashing yellow light warns motorists that a pedestrian or bicyclist is present.
2) Solid yellow light alerts motorists to prepare to stop.
3) Solid red means motorists must STOP and stay stopped.
4) Flashing red indicates the motorists must come to a FULL STOP and can proceed if the pedestrian or bicyclist has crossed and there are no other pedestrians or bicyclists trying to cross.

Tips for Pedestrians

- Don’t assume motorists see you in a crosswalk. Even if one motorist stops, the driver of a vehicle in an adjacent lane might not see you. Make sure every lane is stopped or clear before you cross.
- Watch for turning vehicles. Make sure the driver sees you before crossing.
- Be alert. Headphones and cellphones can be dangerous distractions to crossing safely.
- Be visible at night. Many pedestrians don’t realize how hard it is for motorists to see them at night. Wear light colored clothing and/or carry a flashlight.

EVERYONE IS A PEDESTRIAN

Additional safety information is available for motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists. Contact 791-4371 for informational guides and other resources.

Para recibir esta información en español, llame al 791-4371.