

Children's Safety Program

The Tucson Department of Transportation's (TDOT) Traffic Safe Kids Program is teaching children about staying safe on Tucson's streets. The program presented to local elementary school children is a high-energy,

30-minute show using magic and humor. Whether they are walking or taking the bus to school, riding their bike or scooter, or playing ball in their neighborhood, we want to help children remember important safety tips.

An educational activity book accompanies the Traffic Safe Kids Program. The lessons in the book are geared for children in elementary school and use fun characters to have a lasting impact. Zack Rabbit, a trusty fellow with a floppy ear, and Lenny Lizard, Zack's mischievous partner, are TDOT's honorary safety messengers. These characters teach some important lessons for young kids that include:

- Look both ways before and while crossing the street and watch for turning cars.



- Obey the school crossing guard.
- Ask an adult to show you a safe route to walk to school.
- Wear safety protective gear when riding your bike or scooter.
- Don't play in or near the street.
- Buckle up for safety - and remind everyone else to buckle up too!

Special Pedestrian/Bicycle Beacon Signals

Every corner is a crosswalk, marked or not, where the driver must yield. Some have beacon signals for special circumstances. Remember to act responsibly and look out for children.

"If you have people engaging in activities that put lives at risk, engineering countermeasures can only go so far. Convincing people to change their behavior will have the most lasting effects. However, this may be the most difficult thing to do in order to ensure pedestrian safety."

Federal Highway Administration

CROSSINGS

Special Pedestrian/Bicycle Beacon Signals



Safety is TDOT's number one priority. For a free kid's traffic safety activity book that features Zack Rabbit and Lenny Lizard, call 791-4371.

Learn more about how bicyclists, motorists and pedestrians can SHARE the ROAD legally and safely in the Tucson Region with free guides. Contact 791-4372 for guides and other information.

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



A community service of the
Tucson Department of Transportation



**City of Tucson
Department of Transportation**

PELICAN Crossing: Pedestrians Activate

The PEDESTRIAN LIGHT CONTROL Activation (PELICAN) system provides a safe, two-stage crossing for pedestrians. The crossing incorporates the median island refuge between the two stages. These crossings can be easily identified by artwork displayed on the median. The PELICAN is placed mid-block on major streets, and minimizes the potential for stops, delays, and accidents.

A pedestrian uses the crossing by pressing a button to activate the first signal. When the light turns red, a "WALK" signal prompts them to proceed to the median. The pedestrian then walks a short distance along the median to activate the second signal. A second "WALK" indication appears when the traffic signal turns red.

The PELICAN uses a standard Red-Yellow-Green signal for motorists and remains green unless activated by a pedestrian. Bicyclists should yield to pedestrians, dismounting if necessary.



TOUCAN Crossing: Bicycle and Pedestrian

"Bike Boulevards." An added benefit to the TOUCAN signal system is that motorized traffic is not allowed to proceed through these signals, decreasing the number of cars on neighborhood streets, and enhancing the neighborhood's quality of life.

A TOUCAN can be activated only by bicyclists or by pedestrians. Both use a push button to activate the signal. Bicyclists respond to an innovative bicycle signal and use a special lane when crossing. Pedestrians get a standard WALK indication and have a separate, adjacent crosswalk. The system uses a standard signal for motorists.

The Two GroUps CAN cross (TOUCAN) system was designed to provide a safe crossing for two groups — pedestrians and bicyclists. TOUCAN systems are placed at locations of heavy bicycle and pedestrian crossing activity and along roadways that are prioritized for non-motorized uses, sometimes known as



HAWK Crossing: "Watching over the Pedestrian like a Hawk"

The High Intensity Activated Cross Walk (HAWK) is one of the newest crossing systems in use. It is based on a European design and resembles the American school bus "children present" warning. The HAWK consists of a Red-Yellow-Red signal format for motorists. The signals remain off until a pedestrian activates the system by pressing a button. First, a FLASHING YELLOW light warns motorists that a pedestrian is present. The signal then changes to SOLID

YELLOW, alerting drivers to prepare to stop. The signal then turns SOLID RED and shows the pedestrian a "WALK" symbol. The signal then begins ALTERNATING FLASHING RED and the pedestrian is shown a flashing "DON'T WALK" with a countdown timer. Drivers are allowed to proceed during the flashing red after coming to a full stop and making sure there is no danger to pedestrians. In school zones, drivers must wait until the children and crossing guard are completely out of the crossing before proceeding. Bicyclists are advised to yield to pedestrians and dismount if necessary.

