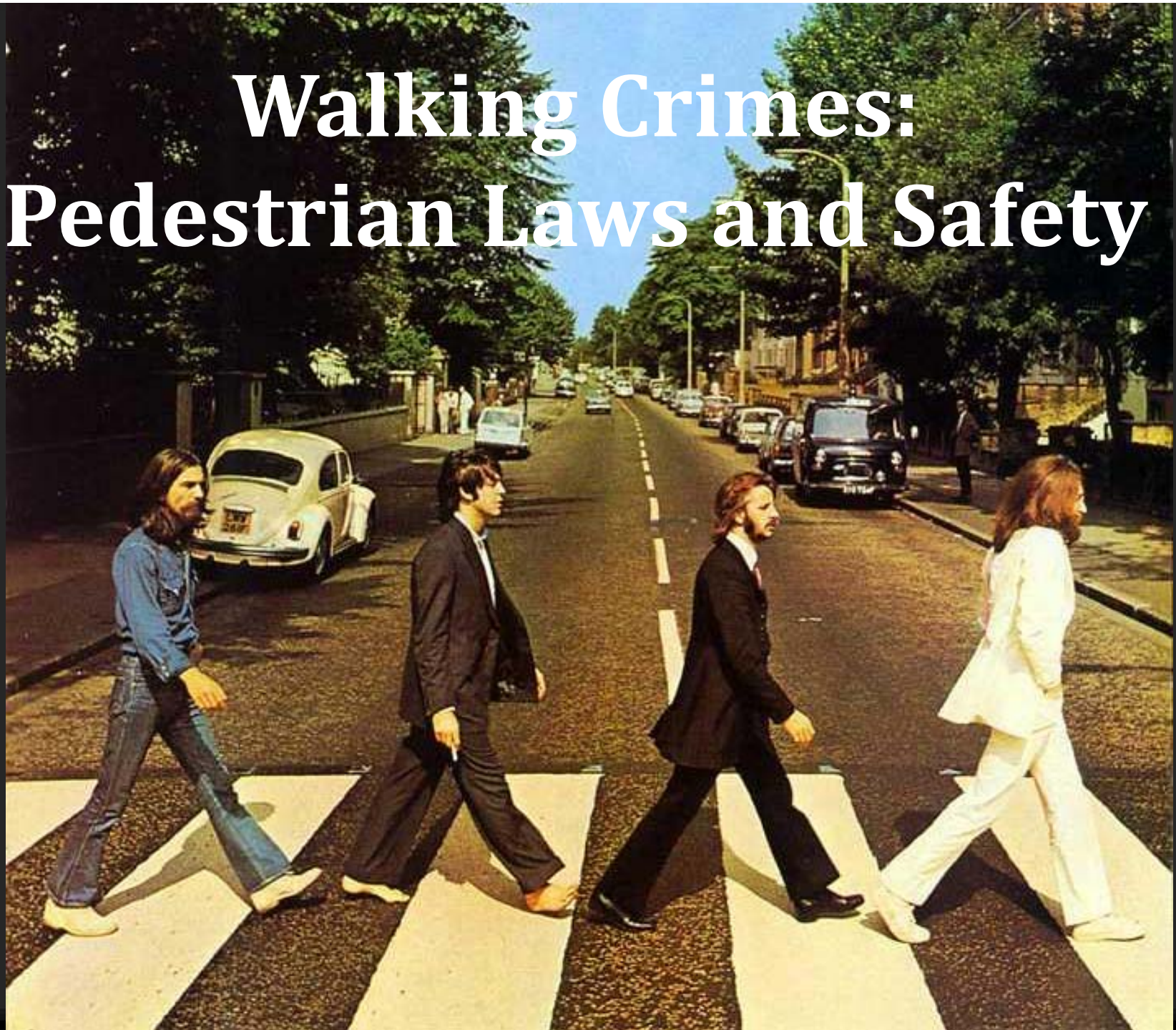


Walking Crimes: Pedestrian Laws and Safety



Pedestrian Laws are relevant
because

- 1 Health and Safety**
- 2 It's the Law**
- 3 Resources Diverted**

OBJECTIVES

**Identify Pedestrian laws as a
Municipal Court Issue;**

**Discuss community safety related to
Pedestrian laws;**

Name one **resource particular to
Pedestrian regulation.**

Focus on Safety

Reasons for pedestrian fatalities

- o Inattentive drivers
- o Intoxicated pedestrians
- o Distracted pedestrians

Pedestrian Fatalities

by the numbers

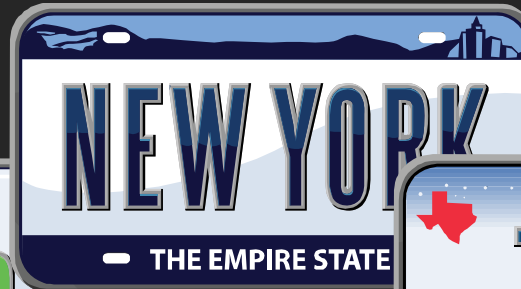
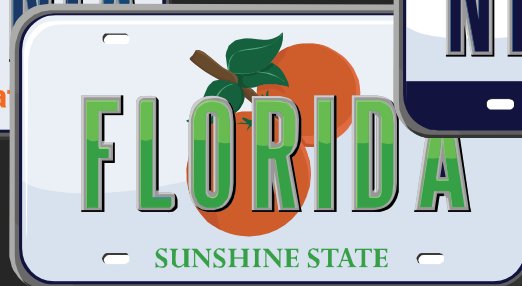
NATIONALLY:

- o Pedestrians accounted for 12% of all deaths in motor vehicle traffic crashes**
- o 4,092 pedestrians were killed nationally**
- o 59,000 pedestrians were injured nationally**
- o Children accounted for 25% of all injured**

Pedestrian Fatalities

by the numbers

41% of pedestrian fatalities
occurred in 4 states:



Pedestrian Fatalities

by the numbers

TEXAS:

- o 344 pedestrians died in traffic crashes**
- o 11% of all traffic fatalities in Texas**
- o 8% of all pedestrian fatalities nationally**

What is the TEXAS Data ?

DFW 2011

Bic - 12

Ped - 35

Austin 2011

Bic - 20

Ped - 41

San Antonio 2011

Bic - 14

Ped - 55

Houston-2011

Bic - 15

Ped - 40



Walking is Dangerous



Distracted Walking is More
Dangerous

Distractions While Walking

- o Texting**
- o Talking on cell phones**
- o Looking at smart phones**
- o Listening to an iPod or music device**

What is Being Done to Make
the Roadways Safer?

Is

ggs?

POPSCI

THE FUTURE NOW

[Login/Register](#) | [Newsletter](#) | [Digital Editions](#)

GADGETS  CARS 

GALLERIES /// VIDEOS /// COLUMNS 

 Like <76  +1 <0  Tweet <0  DIGG  Submit   submit

Video: Phone App For Distracted Pedestrians Detects When You're About to Get Hit By a Car

By Clay Dillow Posted 11.28.2011 at 2:08 pm  9 Comments



WalkSafe WalkSafe uses vision learning to figure out which direction cars are facing and establish whether any of them are threats to a distracted user who might unwittingly wander into traffic while talking on the phone.



UNREGISTERED :)
downloadhelper.net

WalkSafe:

a pedestrian safety app for
mobile users who walk and
talk while crossing roads

Tianyu Wang, Giuseppe Cardone,
Antonio Corradi, Lorenzo Torresani,
Andrew T. Campbell

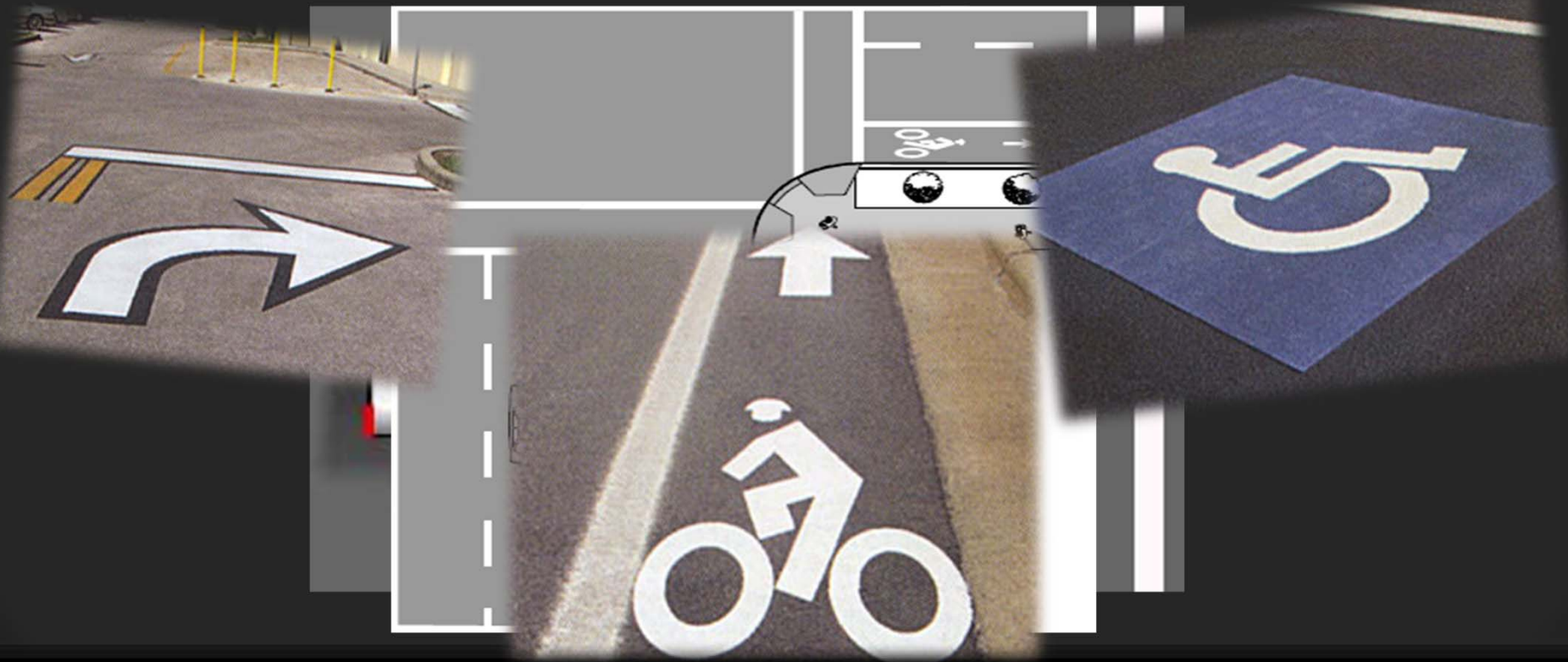
Dartmouth College

University of Bologna

Data Application

1. Traffic Engineering (Road Construction)

- crosswalk stop lines moved back
- diagonal parking
- preventive markings painted on pavement





Data Application

2. Training and Education

“Willy the Whistle”

Street crossing program for kindergarten Look L-R-L

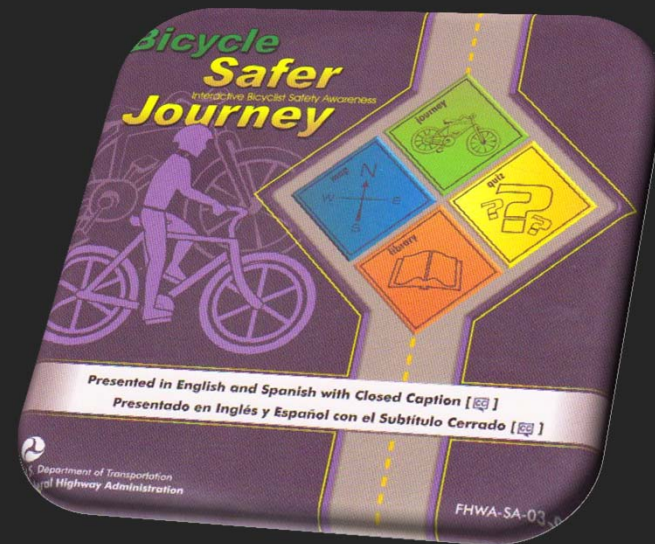
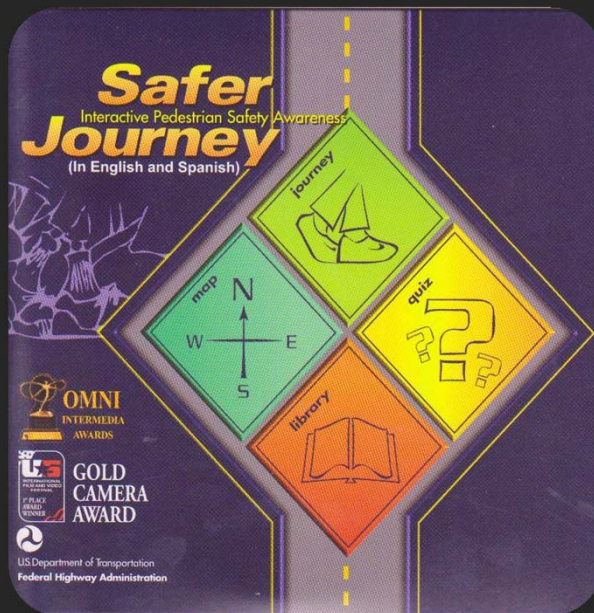


https://www.nysdot.gov/about-nysdot/kids-corner/repository/sss_kids/walk_here.html



John's "Virtual" Journey

<http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/saferjourney/>



Data Application

3. Enforcement – Traffic Safety Regulations

1969 study - enforcement focused on drivers not the relationship between driver and pedestrian.

15,000 crashes each year
100 fatalities



Another Focus Area

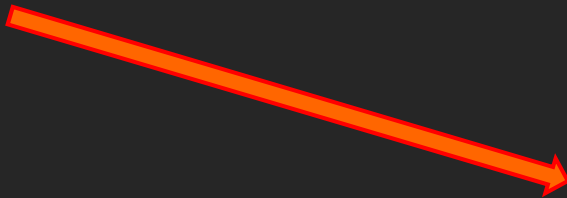


Who would focus on this data ?

- Fed Hwy Admn
- NTSA
- TxDOT
- DPS
- Cities



1. Safety
2. Law
3. Resources



Diverted Resources?



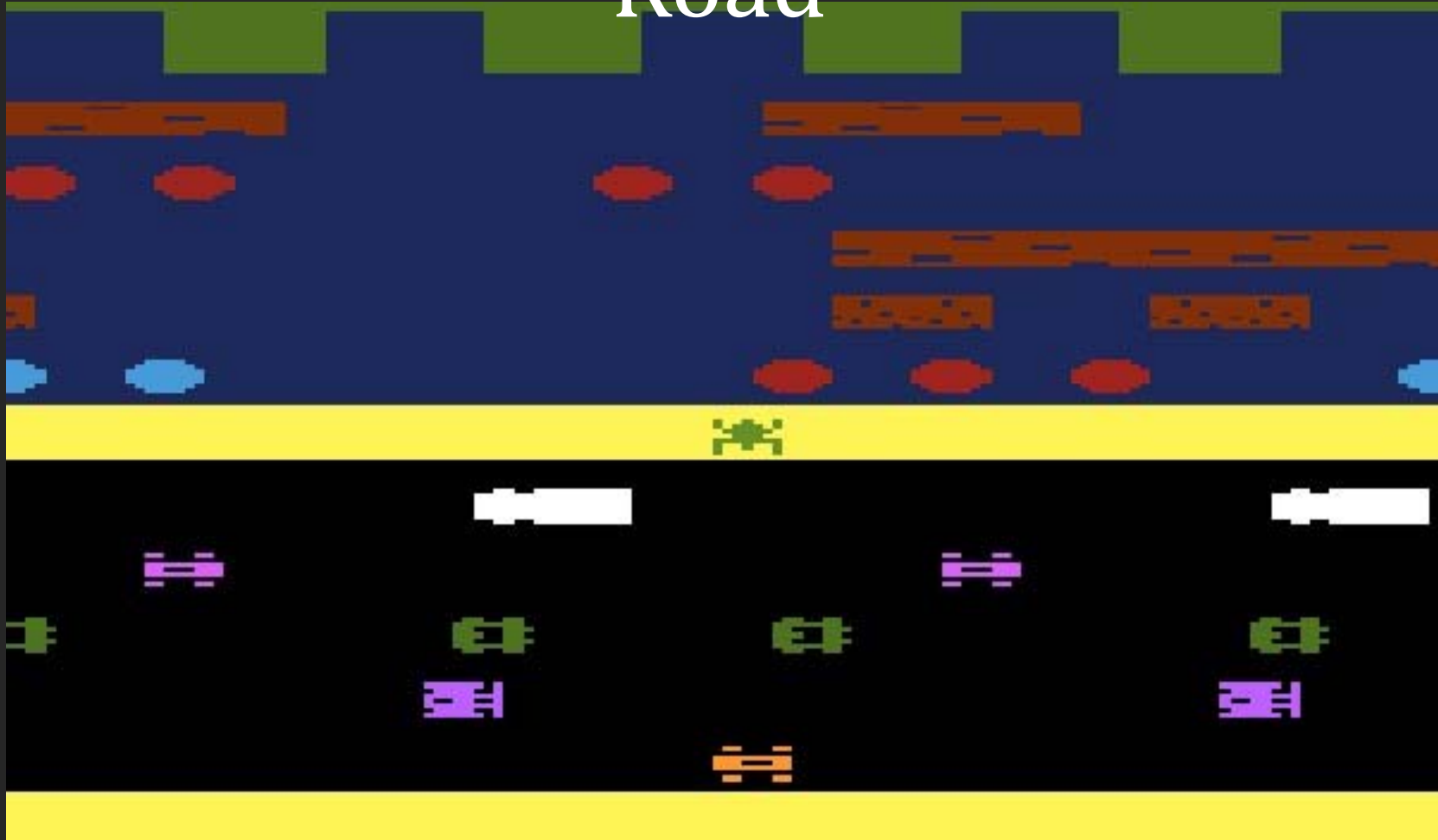
Pedestrian Research -1998



Pedestrian Research - 1998



WHERE ! Did the Frog Cross the Road





<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bikeped/publications.htm>



<http://www.nhtsa.gov/Pedestrians>

<http://www.nhtsa.gov/Bicycles>



<http://www.biketexas.org/>

<http://www.biketexas.org/en/education/educational-resources>



<http://www.txdot.gov/safety/tips/bicycles.htm>

<http://www.txdot.gov/safety/tips/pedestrians.htm>

Texas Law

Walk this way...

Pedestrian defined:

- o A person on foot
- o Section 541.001(3), TC

Pedestrian laws:

- o Most in Chapter 552, TC



It's the LAW

Transportation Code

552 (Ped) & 551

(Bike)

Texas

Pedestrian: A person on foot

541.001 (3)

Must follow traffic signals

552.001

Walk on available sidewalk

552.006 or

Left side / shoulder, facing traffic

552.006

Crosses generally at crosswalks

552.005

Ped X-ing Crash



It's the law...

Obey pedestrian control signals

Pedestrians must follow pedestrian control signals if provided

- o Walk on “Walk”**
- o Do not walk on “Don't Walk” or “Wait”**
- o Proceed to sidewalk or safety island if only partially across if “Don't Walk” or “Wait” is displayed**



Walking Points...

Where to Walk?

- o On a sidewalk if one is provided and accessible
- o If no sidewalk:
 - o On the left side of the road or
 - o On the shoulder facing oncoming traffic



Walking Points...

Where to Cross?

- o At a marked crosswalk, in a pedestrian tunnel, or on an overhead pedestrian crossing, if provided
- o At an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection
- o On the right half side of the crosswalk



Walking Points...

Where to Cross?

- o **Between adjacent intersections with operating traffic control systems, ONLY in a marked crosswalk**
- o **NOT diagonally across an intersection unless authorized by a traffic control device**



It's the Law...

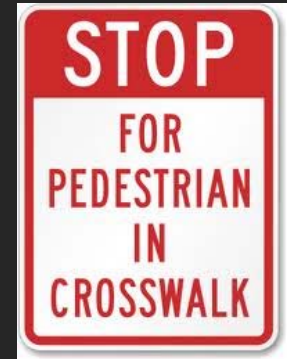


Who has the right of way?

Where did the Chicken cross the Road (and what was there) ?



It's the Law...



Vehicle shall yield ROW to pedestrian:

- o when pedestrian is crossing at a crosswalk facing a “Walk” signal**
- o if there is no traffic control signal and pedestrian is already crossing in the vehicle’s half of roadway or close to vehicle’s half of roadway**
- o when vehicle is entering or emerging from an alley, building, private road, or driveway and pedestrian is crossing entrance on sidewalk**

Vehicles shall exercise due care to avoid hitting a pedestrian

Honk the horn to warn if necessary

Exercise proper precaution when seeing a child or a confused/incapacitated person on a roadway





A pedestrian may not suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and proceed into a crosswalk in the path of a vehicle so close that it is impossible for the vehicle operator to yield

Protected Pedestrians...

Blind or Disabled Pedestrians

- o a vehicle approaching an intersection or crosswalk where a pedestrian guided by an assistance animal or carrying a white cane is crossing shall take necessary precautions to avoid injuring or endangering the pedestrian**



It's the Law...

Pedestrian shall yield ROW to vehicle:

- o when pedestrian is crossing a roadway somewhere other than in a crosswalk or where a pedestrian tunnel / overhead crossing is provided**

Protected Pedestrians...

Blind Pedestrians

- o increased penalty for causing serious bodily injury or death to a blind person
 - o must be shown at trial (alleged in charging instrument)
 - o fine increased to maximum \$500
 - o and 30 hours of CS to organization that primarily serves blind or disabled persons, including sensitivity training

Protected Pedestrians...

Blind or Disabled Pedestrians

- o increased penalty for causing serious bodily injury or death to a blind or disabled person
 - o must be shown at trial (alleged in charging instrument)
 - o fine increased to maximum \$500
 - o and 30 hours of CS to organization that primarily serves blind or disabled persons, including sensitivity training

Protected Pedestrians...

Children (especially school age)

o no specific laws in Chapter 552

but see

o Passing a School Bus

**o Offenses Committed in
School Zone**



Leapfrog...

Passing Other Stopped Cars

- o a vehicle approaching from the rear another vehicle stopped for a pedestrian crossing at a crosswalk may not pass the stopped vehicle



Other Pedestrian Laws...

Solicitation By Pedestrians

- o may not stand in the road to solicit a ride, contribution, employment, or business from a vehicle**
- o may solicit a charitable contribution if authorized by local authority**
- o may not stand on or near road to solicit the watching or guarding of a parked vehicle**

Court Issues:

What are the fines for pedestrian offenses?

VARIES depending on the offense

- o generally \$1-\$200 general penalty**
- o note the higher penalty for SBI/death to blind/disabled pedestrian**
- o different fines for passing a school bus**

WHY

Safety issues

Laws are mostly traffic **Name 1 resource**

Diverted Resources

We are all about to

WALK out of here

WALK to our cars

WALK across the street

Cathy Riedel
Program Director, TMCEC
riedel@tmcec.com