

## Pedestrian safety tips

- ⇒ Always look both ways before crossing, even in a crosswalk giving you the right of way.
- ⇒ Check for turning vehicles; a motorist may not see you stepping off the curb and may be behind you.
- ⇒ Cross the street as quickly and as safely as possible.
- ⇒ **Be alert.** Avoid using mobile devices during crossing.
- ⇒ Avoid crossing where signs tell you it's restricted or prohibited.



Richardson Dr

## Please Drive Carefully!

Public safety is our highest priority, but we all need to cooperate in keeping our streets safe for everyone. Annually, the Transportation Division investigates hundreds of requests, suggestions and complaints as quickly as possible. We value your input and appreciate your patience and understanding while addressing your concerns and answering your questions. We are proud to serve the citizens of Placer County and help make our County a safer place to live and work.



## Department of Public Works and Facilities

Transportation Division

3091 County Center Drive, Suite 220

Auburn, CA 95603

530.745.7579

[PublicWorks@placer.ca.gov](mailto:PublicWorks@placer.ca.gov)



The Department of Public Works and  
Facilities—Transportation Division:

## Stop Signs and Crosswalks



## Crosswalks

### **What is a crosswalk?**

A crosswalk is the area of a roadway where pedestrians have designated right of way. Crosswalks may be “marked” or “unmarked.” Most people are familiar with the marked crosswalks that have white or yellow stripes painted on the pavement of an intersection. However, a crosswalk does not have to be marked for a pedestrian to have the right of way. If painted white or yellow lines on the pavement of an intersection do not exist, the crosswalk is considered unmarked.

Under the California Vehicle Code, crosswalks exist at all intersections. They extend across the street from corner to corner, or from roadway edges designated by painted lines. Some intersections may have signs directing pedestrians not to cross. In this case it is unlawful for any pedestrian to cross at that location.

### **Are marked crosswalks safer than unmarked crosswalks?**

Studies indicate that marked crosswalks can give pedestrians a false sense of security and may even add to the number of collisions. Marked crosswalks are used to designate a location to cross where pedestrians have the right of way. It is always the responsibility of the pedestrian to check to see if it's safe to cross before entering the crosswalk.



Sample photo caption.

Horseshoe Bar Rd

## Stop Signs

### **Why are stop signs posted?**

Stop signs are posted to reduce right of way conflicts and to ensure that traffic flows smoothly and predictably. Stop signs are not typically used for traffic calming purposes, such as speed control for example.

### **What are the drawbacks of stop signs?**

Studies have shown that poorly placed or unwarranted stop signs can have negative effects such as; motorists are less inclined to obey stop signs, increased speed between controlled areas and increased braking and acceleration noise. The number of rear end collisions may increase in areas where new stop signs are installed, due to inattentive drivers who are used to travelling through a previously uncontrolled intersection. Studies show that motorists tend to not complete a stop (i.e. roll through) if no opposing vehicle/pedestrian/bicycle is typically present.

### **Who decides where stop signs are placed?**

County traffic engineers evaluate locations where stop signs may be needed and follow state and federal guidelines to ensure proper placement. The following factors are studied:

- \* *Collision history*
- \* *Pedestrian and bicycle traffic*
- \* *Amount of traffic typically on the street*
- \* *Visibility at the intersection*
- \* *Adjacent land uses*
- \* *Effects to existing traffic patterns*



E Weimar Cross Rd