



CITY OF ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Crosswalk ordinance amendments affect both pedestrians and motorists

ANN ARBOR, Mich., September 7, 2010 — As summer draws to close and students make their way back into Ann Arbor for the school year, the city would like to remind everyone of recent pedestrian ordinance changes. With the amended ordinance, motorists must fully stop for pedestrians in or approaching marked crosswalks in locations with no traffic control signals or with traffic control signals that are not in operation. This change strengthens the previous ordinance language which required drivers to yield rather than stop, and only required them to do so for pedestrians already in crosswalks.

The ordinance change comes out of the concern for the safety of all pedestrians including the nearly 15 percent of Ann Arbor residents who walk to work or school. In addition to the new privileges granted to pedestrians, there are also additional clearly defined responsibilities for them. The new ordinance requires that pedestrians do not suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into a path of a vehicle that is impractical for the driver to respond in a timely fashion.

Ann Arbor residents rely upon all forms of transportation including walking, bicycling, public transit, and driving. It is essential that all users of our streets and sidewalks act politely and respectfully and are mindful of local rules adopted to ensure safe and efficient passage for everyone. For more information about transportation safety in the City of Ann Arbor, please visit our Walk, Bike, Drive: Our Safety Depends on You website at www.A2gov.org/walkbikedrive.

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Ann Arbor has 114,000 residents, spans 27.7 square miles, and is frequently recognized as a foremost place to live, learn, work, thrive and visit (www.a2gov.org/news). To keep up with City of Ann Arbor information, subscribe for e-mail updates (www.a2gov.org/subscribe), follow us on Twitter (<http://twitter.com/a2gov>) or become a city fan on Facebook (www.facebook.com/thecityofannarbor). The city's mission statement reads: The city of Ann Arbor is committed to providing excellent municipal services that enhance the quality of life for all through the intelligent use of resources while valuing an open environment that fosters, fair, sensitive and respectful treatment of all employees and the community we serve.