

NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC SAFETY

NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC SAFETY PROGRAM



Citizens frequently express their concerns regarding traffic speeds and pedestrian safety in residential neighborhoods. The City's Public Works and Police Departments are working together to

address these concerns.

What can you do to make the streets safer?

As a Driver...

Know and obey the speed limits!

The most common concern expressed to the City is about speeding traffic in residential neighborhoods. Speeding traffic is a concern to all of us.

The California Vehicle Code sets the prima facie speed limit in residential districts at 25 MPH. Prima facie limits are considered by law to be safe and prudent under normal conditions. This lower speed limit allows for a greater reaction time and

shorter necessary stopping distance to avoid a hazard in the roadway. A residential district is determined by the width of the roadway and the density of adjacent residential development. (Please refer to the Speed Limit Brochure for more details).

Watch for and yield to pedestrians in the roadway

Pedestrians are commonly present in residential neighborhoods. A pedestrian has the right-of-way in marked or unmarked crosswalks at an intersection as long as they have used due care for their safety.

Plan your trips

Combine your trips into a single trip with several destinations to reduce congestion and the urge to drive fast.

As a Parent...

Set a good example for your children

Children often learn by watching and imitating their parents. Your actions as a driver, pedestrian or bicyclist should always set a good example.

Do not encourage your children to play in the street

Instead, encourage them to use their own yard, a neighbor's yard, or a nearby park.

Instruct children in the proper way to cross the street.

Teach your children this simple rhyme:

- ✓ Stop, look and listen
- ✓ Before you cross the street.
- ✓ Use your eyes,
- ✓ Use your ears,
- ✓ And then use your feet.
- ✓ Tell children not to dawdle, but to cross quickly when safe to do so, and to continue watching for traffic until they are safely on the curb at the other side.

Teach your children the safest route to school

Some School Districts have prepared "Suggested Route to School" maps that indicate the best routes for your children to take. These routes take advantage of signalized crossings and adult crossing guards. Copies of the routes can be obtained from the School Districts or the City.

As a Resident...

Get involved

Talk with your neighbors about traffic safety. Be aware of existing

conditions and notify the City when situations seem to create a problem. Think about ways in which these situations might be changed prior to contacting the City. Report damaged, faded or missing traffic signs and help maintain good visibility by trimming landscaping. Especially important is sight distance at intersection corner lots.

What can the City do to help?

TRAFFIC SIGNS

The City installs traffic signs to regulate parking, regulate speeds and to warn of traffic hazards. Residents can request that warning or regulatory signs be placed at appropriate locations to warn of hazards or regulate parking.

HELP MAINTAIN THE ROADWAY SYSTEM

Report damaged sidewalk or streets, as well as missing or old signs. The City has maintenance crews that will repair damages to the infrastructure.

RADAR TRAILER

The City has a radar trailer that is used as a monitoring device. The

trailer is equipped with a radar gun, a digital speed display, and a speed limit sign. The trailer is placed on the street facing traffic and will show Speed Limit 25, and Your Speed. The radar gun will measure the speed of the oncoming vehicle and show that speed on the display. To request the radar trailer for your area, please call the Public Works Department at (760) 777-7075.

ENFORCEMENT

In working with City staff, the City's Police Department can target specific areas for increased enforcement for a short period of time. Use of this targeted enforcement during appropriate times of the day has demonstrated a reduction in traffic violations as well as a greater awareness of driving habits.

REQUESTS AND INQUIRIES

If you have questions, requests or suggestions concerning traffic safety, please call the Public Works Department at **(760) 777-7075**, visit our website at www.la-quinta.org or submit a request using our GORquest system via the web or free downloadable app:

www.la-quinta.org/your-government/public-works/report-an-issue

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City of La Quinta

Public Works Department
City of La Quinta
78-495 Calle Tampico
La Quinta, CA 92253