



SOUTHWEST PRECINCT PUBLIC SAFETY NEWSLETTER

March 4, 2008

Dear Community Friends,

The T9 Traffic Squad focuses on aggressive drivers. They drive the Dodge Charger Police cars. The T9 Squad, along with other members of the Traffic Section, issued the following school zone citations between September 01, 2007 through February 11, 2008:

- ❑ **Arbor Heights - total - 94**
65 Speed, 1 Pass School Bus, 28 other -
- ❑ **Highland Park - total - 540**
363 Speed, 4 Pass School Bus, 1 R/W Ped, 172 other
- ❑ **Holy Family - total - 245**
189 Speed, 1 Pass School Bus, 55 other
- ❑ **Sanislo - total - 56**
47 Speed, 9 other -
- ❑ **Total - 935**

Last week the T9 Squad started working the school zone at Gatewood Elementary in 7000 block of Fautleroy. Yesterday Officer Cavin stopped a driver traveling 45 mph while using the center turn lane to pass 6 other cars in the 20 mph school zone. The driver said he was late getting to the Ferry Terminal. He was cited for Reckless Driving.

Pedestrian Safety Reminders for Everyone Pedestrian Issues and Safety Tips:

1. Always walk on the sidewalk. If there is no sidewalk and you must walk in the roadway, always walk FACING traffic.
2. Dress to be seen. Wearing bright/light colored clothing helps drivers see you. Reflective clothing is best.
3. Cross streets only at marked crosswalks or intersections.
4. If a car is parked where you're trying to cross, look for a driver who may pull out and not see you as he is looking for traffic.
5. Remember telephone poles, utility boxes and parked vehicles block on-coming drivers ability to see you.
6. Look LEFT -RIGHT- LEFT prior to entering the street.
7. Give drivers ample time to stop prior to entering the crosswalk.
8. Crossing at locations that have traffic signals help motorists see you.
9. Turn off headphones while crossing the street, so you can hear approaching traffic.
10. Always hold a child by the hand while crossing the street. And remember, WALK...don't run!

Vehicular Safety tips:

1. Never pass/overtake a vehicle that is stopped at a crosswalk.
2. Headlights on at all the time--helps pedestrians and other motorists see you.
3. Do not drive with distractions (cell phones, eating, etc.).
4. Pay attention to and abide by all speed limits.
5. Look ahead for potential dangers or people in the roadway/crosswalks, shift your attention well ahead of your hood.
6. When school is out—be alert for an increase in children playing close to the roadway.
7. STOP for pedestrians in all crosswalks: on a two lane road, the pedestrian must be completely across the roadway. On a multi-lane road, you must stop for pedestrians when they are WITHIN ONE LANE OF YOUR DIRECTION OF TRAVEL.
8. Pedestrians have the right of way at *all intersections*, whether in a marked crosswalk or not.
9. Always yield to pedestrians upon making turns at intersections.
10. NEVER DRINK AND DRIVE.
11. Know your surroundings while you drive, be a good defensive driver. 'Think outside your car.'
12. On bright days wear sunglasses or use your sun visor to minimize bright glares.
13. Don't let your passengers interfere with your driving.
14. Always have ample driving time, try not to be in a rush--'a patient driver is a safe driver.'

Traffic Circle Maintenance

As spring weather approaches, neighbors join together to spruce up neighborhood traffic circles. Please remember that no rocks, boulders, posts, bricks, fences, political signage or other obstructions may be placed in traffic circles. Traffic circles are designed to allow emergency vehicles to drive over them, when necessary, if vehicles are parked to closely to intersection. You may refer to the following web pages for more information:

<http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/trafficcircles.htm#participate>
<http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/trafficcircles.htm#landscape>

Police Blotter, Megan Sheppard, West Seattle Herald

<http://www.westseattleherald.com/news/police%20blotter/>

This web page is update every week on Wednesday.

West Seattle Blog, Tracy Record, Editor

http://westseattleblog.com/blog/?page_id=4988

This web page is update multi-times a week.

Seattle Police Department main web page

<http://www.seattle.gov/police/>

Southwest Precinct Web-page

<http://www.seattle.gov/police/Precincts/Southwest/default.htm>

Seattle Police Crime Statistics

<http://www.cityofseattle.net/police/crime/stats.htm>