

STAMFORD STREET SMART PROGRAM

November 19, 2014

Enforcement:

Concentrated enforcement campaign of distracted and aggressive drivers (September with grant), 250+ violation tickets in 3 weeks.

Continued enforcement campaign commensurate with available funding.

Engineering:

New/improved "no turn on red" signage.

Addition of "Yield to Pedestrian" stanchions, initially at 13 locations.

Review of signage for consistency and visibility.

Planned review and implementation of traffic signal synchronization.

Signed agreement with ConnDOT and Riverbend Center to rebuild/upgrade the Riverbend rail crossing.

Continued painting of crosswalks.

Support of Complete Streets program.

Education:

Education targeted to all segments of the population.

Promotion of AAA driver certification for seniors in conjunction with Senior Center and Senior Services.

Working with AITE students to develop "messaging" on traffic, pedestrian & biking safety targeting high-school students.

Refining pedestrian safety materials for elementary school students with BOE and Health Department.

Safety Pledge Campaign modelled on New Haven's successful program.

Meeting with bicycle advocates to propose initial bike routes. To be followed up with a Bicycle/pedestrian plan—grant request pending.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Office of the Mayor

September 3, 2014

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Mayor and City Leaders Launch Stamford Street Smart Initiative
Public Safety & Awareness Campaign

STAMFORD, CT – Mayor David Martin, joined by city leaders, launched the Stamford Street Smart Initiative, a major initiative focused on improving pedestrian, driver and cyclist safety and awareness throughout the City of Stamford. The initiative, coordinated through the Mayor's Office, will involve several city departments and collaboration with community organizations, and focus on enforcement, engineering and education. The initiative is the first cohesive effort to improve pedestrian, driver and cyclist safety throughout the city in many years.

"I am proud to launch the Stamford Street Smart Initiative and bring together city departments, community organizations and residents to champion safer streets throughout the city. There is no single silver bullet that will solve these issues, which is why we are taking a multi-faceted approach through the Street Smart Initiative," said Mayor David Martin. "In the coming weeks and months we will be pursuing a number of projects to improve safety and raise awareness of pedestrian, driver and cyclist safety throughout the community."

In advance of the announcement, the Mayor held multiple planning meetings with Office of Public Safety, Health & Welfare; Office of Operations; Board of Education; Grants Office and others. The Mayor also conducted an analysis of city traffic data, met with independent traffic engineers and conducted independent research to explore possible solutions and find best practices.

Although Stamford's overall rate of pedestrian injuries over the past several years compares favorably to other Connecticut cities, residents, elected officials and community groups have all voiced concerns over pedestrian and driver safety in recent months. Year to date, Stamford has experienced three pedestrian fatalities, an increase from prior years.

"There are 130,000 people who live in Stamford. In addition, there are tens of thousands of people who drive to Stamford on a daily basis to work, shop and enjoy our great city. We need to practice safety on our roadways and I am fully supportive of this initiative," said Police Chief Jon Fontneau.

Ted Jankowski, Director of Public Safety, Health & Welfare, made a direct appeal to residents, stating "Whether you are a driver, cyclist, or pedestrian, the Office of Public Safety urges you to be Street Smart, to be focused and attentive, to obey the rules of the road, and to be vigilant. Safety is all of our responsibility. Your actions may be the difference between life and death."

Specific steps being taken as part of the Stamford Street Smart Initiative include:

Engineering

- Reviewing all intersections to ensure signage is clearly mounted and visible for drivers and pedestrians
- Improving crosswalk visibility throughout the city
- Synchronizing the city's traffic signals
- Supporting the implementation of a Complete Streets Ordinance

Education

- Working with the Board of Education and Health Department to educate residents and students on pedestrian, driver and cyclist safety
- Supporting the Safe Routes to School Program
- Hosting a Google Hangout to review in greater detail key statistics and to provide a more in depth discussion of the actions being undertaken
- Working in collaboration with community organizations to build awareness

Enforcement

- Anti-Distracted Driving Campaign (month of September)
- Enforcement operations of the Police Department's Traffic Enforcement Unit (DUI, seatbelt violations, speeding, etc.)
- Crackdown on jaywalking throughout the city
- Focus on school bus safety; catching drivers who drive past stopped buses

The first component of the initiative, the Stamford Police Department's Anti-Distracted Driving Campaign, began this morning. During today's enforcement, the Police Department issued 43 handheld electronic device tickets, 10 red light tickets, and 2 failure to wear seat belt tickets.

Additional components of the initiative will be announced on an ongoing basis. More information can be found at www.StamfordCT.gov/StreetSmart.

The Stamford Street Smart Initiative official logo is attached.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Office of the Mayor

November 20, 2014

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City Unveils Street Safety Improvements

STAMFORD, CT – Mayor David Martin and City officials today unveiled several improvements designed to enhance road safety in Stamford. The announcement came as part of the Stamford Street Smart Initiative, a program launched by the Mayor in September to promote pedestrian, driver and cyclist safety throughout the city.

Improvements unveiled include 12 new road stanchions, backlit “no turn on red” signs, signal strobes at midblock intersections, painted curb extensions and new solar-powered signage at crosswalks. The Mayor instructed City engineers to propose a set of improvements that could be implemented immediately to improve visibility at key intersections throughout the City. Long term solutions are also being evaluated.

“The City engineering team and highways department worked together to come up with a suite of immediate and cost effective actions that would improve the safety of our streets. These improvements will undoubtedly make our neighborhoods and high traffic areas safer and more welcoming for pedestrians and drivers alike. This is especially timely as we head into the winter months with less daylight and less accommodating weather conditions,” said Mayor Martin. “It was important that the City simultaneously pursue not only larger, more long term solutions, but look to what could be done in the short run to make progress.”

A description of each improvement and affected areas is listed below.

New Road Stanchions

Road stanchions are being placed at 12 locations throughout Stamford, selected by the City based on vehicular and pedestrian traffic volume. The new stanchions are intended to improve visibility of pedestrian crosswalks and make motorists more cautious when traveling through our neighborhoods. A map of newly placed road stanchions is attached.



Mid-Block Signal Strobes

Mid-block strobes are intended to improve visibility for drivers at mid-block intersections. They are installed or scheduled to be installed at the following locations:

1. Washington Boulevard in the vicinity of Bell Street
2. Gateway entrance to Train Station on North Street in the vicinity of UBS.
3. Atlantic Street in the vicinity of Landmark Square.



Backlit “No Turn On Red” Signs

Backlit “No Turn On Red” signs are being installed at high traffic intersections to improve visibility for motorists. Signs are now being installed on the horizontal bar near the traffic signal to maximize visibility. They are installed or are scheduled to be installed at the following locations:

1. Intersection of Washington Blvd. and Tresser Blvd.
2. Intersection of Atlantic Street and Tresser Blvd.
3. Intersection of Washington Blvd. and Broad Street (UCONN).



Painted Curb Extensions

Painted curb extensions extend the sidewalk to narrow the roadway and provide additional pedestrian space at key locations. They enhance pedestrian safety by increasing pedestrian visibility, shortening crossing distances, slowing turning vehicles, and visually narrowing the roadway. They have or will be painted at the following locations; additional intersections will be painted in Spring 2015:

1. Bedford Street at Hoyt Street,
2. Bedford Street at Oak Street
3. Bedford Street at First Street
4. Bedford Street at Second Street
5. Bedford Street at Third Street
6. Bedford Street at Fourth Street
7. Summer Street at Oak Street
8. Summer Street at First Street
9. Summer Street at Fourth Street
10. Summer Street at Sixth Street
11. Forest Street at Greyrock Place
12. Roxbury Road. at Den Road
13. Halpin Avenue. Between High Ridge Road & Oaklawn Avenue
14. Foxwood Road. at Foxridge Road.
15. Turner Road at Sherwood Road

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City of Stamford Proposed Yield to Pedestrian Stanchion Locations



- Stanchion
- Municipal Districts

