

Traffic Safety Update October 2019

Brought to you by The Gladstone Police Department



Citation Stats August – September 2019

- **107 Violations issued**
- **375 Total traffic contacts made**
- **Top Five Citations**
 - **Driving While Suspended 13**
 - **Driving Uninsured 12**
 - **Prohibited Parking 8**
 - **Improper Display of License 7**
 - **Expired Tags 5**

Speed Signs



Location: East Gloucester Street

Parking Related Issues



Parking around the baseball fields

Harvard and Nelson Intersection





Traffic Safety and Traffic Control Frequently Asked Questions



FAQ'S:

- **What is the right-of-way rule?**

The right-of-way rule states that: when a motorist approaches an uncontrolled intersection (an intersection without any traffic safety control device) they must yield to any driver on their right who approaches the intersection, regardless of which vehicle reaches the intersection first. (Reference: ORS 811.275)

- **Why not use stop signs to control speeding?**

The City receives regular requests from residents to install stop signs as a speed control measure. Several studies have shown that using stop signs to control speeding does not bring about the desired results. When stop signs are used to slow speeding, drivers tend to increase their speed between signs or intersections to compensate for the lost time due to stopping at stop sign. Studies also indicate that some drivers will accelerate rapidly after a stop, which exacerbates an already unsafe condition.

- **What happens when stop signs are improperly placed?**

Too many stop signs can cause motorists to ignore the right-of-way rule or just plain ignore the stop sign itself. Erecting stop signs in a neighborhood can also result in increased levels of pollution and noise. Placing stop signs in one location can cause adverse impacts on nearby streets since many drivers will seek new routes to avoid the stop signs. This can lead to new traffic problems and complaints in adjacent neighborhoods.

- **Why aren't crosswalks recommended in the middle of a block?**

Research studies suggest that marked crosswalks give pedestrians a false sense of security and decreases their safety awareness. Pedestrians often step off the curb into a crosswalk assuming that the approaching vehicle will stop. Although drivers must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians at crosswalks, it is the pedestrians responsibility to be cautious and alert before entering the crosswalk.

At mid-block crosswalks, traffic is not controlled by stop signs or traffic signals. Additionally, mid-block crossing frequently have reduced visibility due to elevation or curves within the road. These marked crossings may not always be readily apparent to drivers from a safe stopping distance.

Upcoming 2020 Meeting Dates:

- **February 24**
- **April 27**
- **June 22**
- **August 24**
- **October 26**
- **December 28**