



Enforcement activities aim to reinforce safe behaviors. Enforcement is not exclusively for law enforcement officers. Communities can play an important role in enhancing traffic safety by helping to improve driver, pedestrian, and cyclist behaviors in several ways.

Types of active transportation enforcement activities include:

SAFETY PATROL

Students and parent volunteers all play an important role in neighborhood patrols. Safety Patrols consist of students who, after training and under supervision, assist other children with traffic safety at school. Students in Safety Patrols are important role models for other children, often demonstrating and teaching important traffic safety concepts. Dedicated groups of parent volunteers posted at key street corners increase adult presence and can watch over children as they walk and bicycle to school.

NEIGHBORHOOD SPEED WATCH

Neighborhood Speed Watch programs provide residents with hand-held radar guns and ask them to record speeds, makes, models, and license plate numbers of vehicles that are speeding in the neighborhood. Local law enforcement then sends warning letters to owners of the offending vehicles, advising them of the posted speed limits and neighborhood concerns with speeding. Advantages include the potential for reducing the number of law enforcement responses to complaints of speeding and the involvement of the community in local traffic safety recommendations. For more information, go to <https://www.pedbikeinfo.org/>.

CROSSING GUARD PROGRAMS

Adult school crossing guards (parent volunteers, school staff or paid personnel) can play a key role in promoting safe driver and pedestrian behaviors at crosswalks near schools. Crossing guards help children safely cross the street at key locations, remind drivers of the presence of student pedestrians, and help children develop

the skills to cross streets safely at all times. The presence of adult school crossing guards can also lead to more parents feeling comfortable about their child walking or riding a bike to school.

IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS:

Enforcement of safe road behaviors is often most effective at reducing pedestrian and bicycle-related injuries and fatalities when applied in combination with engineering, education (e.g. media), and evaluation strategies.

Unsafe roadway behaviors, including vehicular speeding above posted speed limits, or unpredicted pedestrian and bicycling crossings, are often the result of a combination factors. Factors such as roadway design, surrounding land use, public awareness of laws (and the legal consequences of breaking those laws), prevailing social norms around 'sharing the road,' and the regular visibility of enforcement personnel or technologies can not only influence road behaviors, they can/should determine what level of enforcement is warranted.

In considering enforcement strategies, it is important to determine if a strategy will disproportionately represent an added burden on disadvantaged communities.

“What Communities Can Do to Enforce Laws”
(for more information, visit
<https://www.pedbikeinfo.org>**)**

These definitions are provided as a resource for planning or implementing a non-infrastructure (NI) project. For questions, please contact us at ATSP@cdph.ca.gov.