



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 31, 2019

Silverton Police Department  
Jeff Fossholm, Chief of Police  
306 S. Water St.  
Silverton, OR 97381

To: Valley Media Agencies

From: Tim Hein, Traffic Officer

Date: October 31, 2019

**Subject: 2019 - 2020 Oregon Impact/ODOT PSE Grant Award Release & Public Service Announcement**

The Silverton Police Department was awarded a pedestrian safety enforcement grant through Oregon Impact and ODOT. The city continues to have several pedestrian related crashes or near misses and receives numerous complaints on a weekly basis about drivers not yielding to pedestrians in crosswalks. As an effort to reduce those occurrences, officers will be conducting random crosswalk enforcement during the next twelve (12) months.

The enforcement will use officers and citizen volunteers who will cross streets at crosswalk locations throughout the city watching for violations. Signs will be posted in advance to notify the community of our education and enforcement operations as required by the Grant.

Oregon law requires all drivers to stop for pedestrians who are crossing the street in a marked or unmarked crosswalk. Drivers are required to stop if a pedestrian is either in the lane in which the driver's vehicle is traveling or in a lane adjacent to the lane in which the driver's vehicle is traveling. Marked crosswalks at or between intersections are recognized by solid or dashed white lines. Oregon law also states that every intersection should be considered to have a crosswalk, whether marked or not. Additionally, a vehicle may not legally pass another vehicle that is stopped at a marked or unmarked crosswalk for a pedestrian. Failing to yield to a pedestrian in a crosswalk and passing a stopped vehicle at a crosswalk are class B violations and carry a fine of \$265.