

How To Make Your Crosswalks Safe:

A Free Pedestrian Safety Kit For Missouri Communities

Over the past 10 years, the number of pedestrians killed has skyrocketed across the nation. Missouri communities tragically lost more than 100 residents in 2022 alone.

One may argue that there is not much that can be done, because many of these crashes involve pedestrians “jaywalking,” crossing a major roadway at random places.

However, a stark reality is that most of our car-centric infrastructure does not offer sufficient and safe crossing opportunities. Another problem is that many drivers may not yield to pedestrians in crosswalks.

A program has been developed in Missouri to assist with this problem. The SafeAcross program is a comprehensive pedestrian safety campaign that trains drivers to notice crosswalks and yield. The SafeAcross program uses the neon yellow “Mr. Walker” statue installations and crosswalk compliance studies to help normalize yield behavior.

The SafeAcross toolkit offers extensive resources to educate the public and help pedestrians regain confidence in crosswalks. The campaign also includes resources for traffic safety education for schools, crosswalk enforcement, engineering solutions and more.

The creation of SafeAcross was funded by the Missouri Department of Transportation. The Save MO Lives initiative has set aside \$15,000 to help Missouri communities implement the SafeAcross program. The funds help pay for the Mr. Walker statues and educational outreach and there is no local match required!

SafeAcross is based on Springfield’s SGF Yields program. Since the



Crosswalk and compliance studies help normalize yield behavior.

program launched in 2017, local driver compliance at crosswalks has increased 100% and pedestrian crash numbers have stabilized in Springfield. SGF Yields was recognized with a 2021 Missouri Municipal League Innovation Award and has been recognized by the U.S. Department of Transportation as a noteworthy Safe System Approach practice. Springfield staff is glad to share

their safety program with you - just go to www.safeacross.com and submit an interest form.

Together, we can reduce traffic fatalities in Missouri. Visit www.safeacross.com or scan the QR code below to learn more about the SafeAcross program.



Above: Scan the QR code to learn more about SafeAcross. Right: Mr. Walker statue.



FOCUS. COMMITMENT. EXPERTISE.

Experts dedicated to the practice of municipal law.



LAUBER MUNICIPAL LAW

Serving those who serve the public

LauberMunicipalLaw.com | 816-525-7881

The choice of a lawyer is an important decision and should not be based solely on advertisements.