



**TOWN OF LOS GATOS**  
**COMPLETE STREETS AND**  
**TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

MEETING DATE: 12/12/2024

ITEM NO.: 4

---

DATE: December 5, 2024  
TO: Complete Streets and Transportation Commission  
FROM: Nicolle Burnham, Parks and Public Works Director  
SUBJECT: AB413 (No Parking Near Crosswalks) Implementation

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Receive an informational report from the Parks and Public Works Department staff on AB413 California Daylighting Law and the Town's implementation plan.

**BACKGROUND:**

According to the California Office of Traffic and Safety (OTS), California's pedestrian fatality rate is almost 25% higher than the national average. [Assembly Bill 413 \(AB 413\)](#) (Attachment 1) known as the California Daylighting Law, was enacted to enhance pedestrian and bicycle safety at intersections. The law encourages the removal of visual obstructions, such as parked vehicles, near crosswalks and intersections, allowing drivers and pedestrians to see each other more clearly. This practice, known as "daylighting," involves creating a minimum clear sight distance by restricting parking within 20 feet of crosswalks. Attachment 2 demonstrates how the new law would benefit visibility in advance of a crosswalk. Research from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) demonstrates that daylighting can reduce pedestrian-related crashes by up to 30%. Daylighting has been proven to reduce collisions, increase visibility for all road users, and promote safer, more pedestrian-friendly communities. Implementing AB 413 in Los Gatos aligns with the Town's Connect Los Gatos Plan by promoting enhancements to provide safer bicycle and pedestrian mobility alternatives. While the safety benefits are well-supported, this report evaluates the practical implications of AB 413 and identifies an outreach strategy, implementation plan, and enforcement efforts.

**ANALYSIS:**

**PREPARED BY:** Gary Heap  
Town Engineer, Parks and Public Works

---

AB413 would prohibit the stopping, standing, or parking of a vehicle within 20 feet of the vehicle approach side of any unmarked or marked crosswalk or 15 feet of any crosswalk where a curb extension is present and does not require the installation of red curbing or signage to prohibit parking. This is the approximate length of a large truck or vehicle and would typically require the removal of one parking space. Attachments 2 and 3 show how the new law would impact Downtown and residential parking areas. This new law applies to all local jurisdictions unless overridden by municipal exemptions or modifications. While red curbing is not required by this new law, Parks and Public Works (PPW) and Los Gatos-Monte Sereno Police Department (PD) staff believe it will be important to install red curbing at high pedestrian locations to both educate the public and support enforcement of the parking restriction. This could have a significant impact to parking when implemented.

An evaluation of parking impacts of AB413 implementation in the Downtown Area, including Santa Cruz Avenue, University Avenue, and Main Street would remove fifty-two (52) existing parking spaces. This “letter of the law” evaluation considered crossing locations at both marked and unmarked locations. Implementation in the residential neighborhoods could also create a significant loss of parking spots near intersections, where parking may already be limited.

### **Outreach**

Prior to implementation of AB413 and the installation of red curbing, staff will need to conduct significant outreach to the community and the areas impacted by the recommended phased red curbing installation approach. This will include education and outreach through various means including the creation of an AB413 web page for the Town’s website, social media outreach, and a potential media release. There are several good examples of AB413 web pages to use as examples including those on the Livermore, Oxnard, Oceanside, Pinole, and Monterey web sites. Planning for this outreach is on-going, and staff proposes to create an AB413 web page for Los Gatos over the next several weeks and upload it to the Towns web site by the end of January. The social media campaign would begin once the web page is created.

### **Implementation Plan**

PPW staff plans a phased approach to applying AB413 parking restrictions through the Town. This is supported by the PD and is consistent with the implementation efforts occurring in our surrounding communities, including Campbell. Public Works plans to complete its evaluation and begin the installation of required red curbing in the Downtown area starting in early February 2025. This will provide time for outreach efforts to occur prior to removal or parking. For this first phase, staff is considering the Downtown area to include Santa Cruz Avenue between Wood Road and Blossom Hill Road, University Avenue between Main Street and Blossom Hill Road, and Main Street between Bayview Avenue and Jackson Street. PPW will first

install red curbing in the Downtown area in advance of existing marked crosswalks. This would require installation of red curbing and removal of parking at fifteen (15) locations in advance of existing crosswalks. Staff would continue to monitor the unmarked crossings in the Downtown and work with PD to provide necessary red curbing at additional locations of high pedestrian crossings or pedestrian collisions. After the Downtown locations are addressed, staff will next focus on areas around schools, parks, and other high pedestrian facilities including senior residential areas.

### **Enforcement**

Through discussions with Sergeant Kalipo Kauwelo, the Police Department (PD) is aware of AB413 (Daylighting Law) which will make changes to VC 22500 as it relates to parking near crosswalks. He indicated that one of PD's traffic safety goals is to reduce property damage, injuries and deaths due to vehicles collisions and they recognize the state's efforts to increase pedestrian safety by creating a larger visual field for drivers approaching crosswalks. According to Sgt. Kauwelo, the PD is prepared and capable to enforce this new vehicle code in a similar way they view most other vehicle code violations. The PD incorporates the five E's into their overall traffic safety model (engineering, education, encouragement, enforcement and evaluation). Parking and patrol officers have the authority to enforce the vehicle code using their discretion based upon the circumstances at the time. Generally, an officer can consider the following when witnessing a violation: verbal warning, written warning and citation. It's an escalating process each officer can consider when balancing the "spirit of the law" and the "letter of the law."

### **Next Steps**

#### **1. Outreach Followed by Phased Implementation**

- Develop and distribute educational materials to raise public awareness about the new rules and their rationale.
- Begin enforcement in high-priority areas (e.g., Downtown intersections with high pedestrian traffic or collision history) to maximize safety benefits while minimizing disruption.
- Next consider implementing AB413 requirements around school zones, parks, and other high pedestrian areas including around senior facilities.

## **2. Improved Markings**

- Install clear curb markings at daylighted zones to reduce ambiguity and ensure consistency.
- Install red curbing in advance of existing marked crosswalks.
- Monitor unmarked crosswalk locations and install curb markings as necessary.

## **3. Monitor and Adjust**

- Conduct regular evaluations of safety outcomes, public feedback, and enforcement effectiveness to refine the implementation approach over time.

## **Conclusion**

AB 413 presents an opportunity to enhance pedestrian safety and reduce traffic collisions, aligning with California's broader goals for sustainable urban development. However, the legislation's impact on parking availability and the challenges associated with enforcement highlight the need for thoughtful implementation and ongoing adjustments. Proactive measures will be critical to balancing safety objectives with the practical needs of Los Gatos.

## **FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is some cost associated with the implementation of AB413 requirements. Efforts to install needed red curbing, to conduct follow-up evaluations of the implementation's effectiveness, and additional enforcement will all be in addition to staff's current workload. According to language within AB413, the California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. At this time, however, cost associated with these activities will be managed within current programs.

## **Attachments:**

1. Assembly Bill 413
2. Visibility Benefits of AB413
3. Downtown Compliance Diagram
4. Neighborhood Compliance Diagram