

Safer Streets in San Francisco

A Guide for Drivers

San Francisco....

This is a vibrant and diverse city. It's home to people of all kinds, and people visit this great city from all over the world. Many people who live in SF or visit the City are seniors or people with disabilities. It's important that drivers and pedestrians, alike, keep in mind that the streets belong to all of us. This means that keeping San Francisco's streets as safe as possible is everyone's responsibility.

Street safety entails a lot more than just paying attention to traffic lights. There are some facts every driver should keep in mind, when navigating the city streets. We've prepared a short list of these facts, which will help you be a safer driver and, in turn, may keep San Francisco's streets safer for everyone.

What every driver needs to know

- There are many people with hidden disabilities. Just because someone doesn't "look like" they have a disability, it doesn't mean that they don't. Many pedestrians cannot hear a traffic signal or oncoming traffic, or may not be able to see traffic signs or physical barriers. Just because you can hear or see something, do not assume everyone else can. If you spot a hazard, report it. In San Francisco, you can call 311.
- Many drivers are people with disabilities. Don't assume that another driver on the road can hear a honking horn or get in and out of their car quickly.
- People come in all sizes, and many people use wheelchairs or scooters to get around. It's important to remember that not every pedestrian is a person who walks or is of average height. Be aware of your surroundings. It's your responsibility to look.
- Curb cuts are for wheelchair users and others to navigate the streets safely. Blocking a curb cut poses a safety hazard. Likewise, don't block or illegally park at blue zones, which are reserved for people with disabilities.

For more information on what you can do to make San Francisco streets safer, check out the Vision Zero Initiative:

www.sfmta.com/projects-planning/projects/vision-zero

To report any street hazards you encounter, dial 311

The independent Living Resource Center San Francisco's mission is to ensure that people with disabilities are full social and economic partners, both within their families and in a fully accessible community.

We actively engage pedestrians and drivers in the effort to make San Francisco streets safer for everyone.

If you're a pedestrian or a driver with a disability who wants to get involved, call us, or check us out online.

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