

Share streets safely

Every road user has a responsibility to obey traffic laws and behave in a safe manner on streets and sidewalks. This is especially important during the COVID-19 pandemic, as more people are walking and biking in their communities to get active outside. Here are some tips to stay safe when driving in these situations:

- Always obey posted speed limits and stay aware of your driving speed, especially in areas with reduced traffic
- Don't drive distracted – put your phone away, avoid eating or drinking while driving, and stay alert
- Watch for pedestrians and bicyclists practicing physical distancing, as they may be distracted or enter the street to maintain a safe distance from others
- Plan your route before you go to avoid areas with increased street closures and road work



As you take time to be physically active outdoors, make sure you stay safe by following traffic laws and keeping aware of your surroundings. This is a great opportunity to refresh your own knowledge and teach kids how to be responsible road users when walking or biking:

- If walking, stay on sidewalks when possible and walk facing traffic if there is no sidewalk
- Cross streets at crosswalks or intersections where drivers expect pedestrians – if you need to cross outside of expected areas, look for traffic in all directions and only cross when no vehicles are present
- Avoid distractions and make eye contact with drivers before crossing in front of them – always cross in well-lit areas
- Bicyclists should use designated bike lanes when available, follow stop signs and other traffic signals, and always wear helmets
- Wear high visibility clothing whenever you go outside at dusk or at night – when biking, make sure both you and your bike are well illuminated

As restrictions are lifted and people return to work, remember your responsibility to keep roadways safe now and in the future.