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PEDESTRIANS AND DRIVERS: PAY EXTRA ATTENTION THIS WEEK

The Missoula Police Department reminds drivers and walkers to use extra care this week during Bike Walk Bus Week, which brings more pedestrians than usual to Missoula streets.

Both roles carry responsibilities, said Sgt. Greg Amundsen. Drivers should stop when pedestrians are waiting to cross a street at a crosswalk. Every intersection constitutes a crosswalk. Pedestrians should always cross at intersections. They should never step in front of a vehicle if it is close enough to pose an immediate danger.

A central, ongoing goal of the Missoula Police Department is to increase safety for pedestrians, bicyclists and drivers within the City of Missoula. Officers work to remind everyone that they are not alone on Missoula's roadways. The streets of Missoula are heavily used by many forms of transportation, including motor vehicles, bicycles, walking and wheelchairs, and everyone needs to be aware of their surroundings as well as others sharing the road. Police officers enforce this reminder with education efforts and enforcement action when appropriate. This effort will periodically take the form of extra enforcement patrols through the spring and into the summer, when pedestrian traffic increases throughout Missoula.

Any questions regarding pedestrian laws and responsibilities can be directed to the Missoula Police Department Traffic Office.