



## New Speed Legislation Explained: A Conversation with OSTA

September 21st from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Although we will have time during the Coffee and Conversation for questions from attendees, we want to make sure all questions are answered. Please email Melissa Evans ([melissa.evans@uconn.edu](mailto:melissa.evans@uconn.edu)) in advance with any questions you may have for OSTA about the new legislation.

In order to join us you will need to **register in advance** through Zoom. Below is the registration link.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwvdeGrrz0iHtz94webIE-REkH54CGksjL4>

*After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.*



**From:** Connecticut Department of Transportation <WebMaster.ConnDOT@ct.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 8:56 AM  
**To:** Roger Krahn  
**Subject:** CTDOT eAlert: News from the Connecticut Department of Transportation



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Connecticut  
**Department of Transportation**

## Connecticut Department of Transportation Launches Campaign to Alert Residents of New Pedestrian Laws

Posted on September 8 , 2021

The Connecticut Department of Transportation Office of Highway Safety is raising awareness about a new statewide pedestrian safety law that takes effect on October 1, 2021.

The *Pedestrian Rules* campaign, which launched in August, is educating residents about the new pedestrian safety laws. The new pedestrian safety laws expand the circumstances under which drivers must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians at marked and unmarked crosswalks that are not controlled by traffic signals or police officers.

“Across the country, we are seeing increased pedestrian fatalities and injuries,” said Connecticut Department of Transportation Commissioner Joseph Giulietti. “Nationally, we saw an unprecedented 55 percent increase in pedestrian deaths between 2009 and 2018. And although we are seeing a small recent decrease, pedestrian fatalities recorded in 2018 and 2019 have not been this high since 1990.”

Currently, a driver must yield to a pedestrian, slowing or stopping as necessary, if the pedestrian has stepped off the curb or into the crosswalk. Under the new law, a driver must slow or stop as necessary if the pedestrian (1) is within any portion of the crosswalk; (2) steps to the curb at a crosswalk’s entrance and indicates intent to cross by raising a hand or arm to oncoming traffic; or (3) indicates intent to cross by moving any body part or extension of a body part into the crosswalk entrance, including a wheelchair, cane, walking stick, crutch, bicycle, electric bicycle, stroller, carriage, cart, or leashed or harnessed dog.

“This new pedestrian safety law is an important step to keep everyone safe, and ultimately save lives,” added Giulietti.

As under existing law, drivers who fail to yield at a crosswalk when required are subject to a \$500 fine.

Also taking effect beginning October 1, the act of dooring will be illegal. This new law prohibits a person from causing physical contact between a vehicle door and moving traffic by (1) opening the door, if the moving traffic is traveling at a reasonable speed with due regard for the safety of people and property, or (2) leaving it open longer than needed to load or unload passengers.

To learn more about the new pedestrian laws, please visit [www.thepedestrianrules.com](http://www.thepedestrianrules.com).

[Read on CT.gov](http://CT.gov)

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