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Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety is an Equity Issue

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Safety for Drivers vs. Safety for Pedestrians
Equality vs. Equity
Pedestrian and Bicycle Survey Results

Sponsored by:
Texas Department of Transportation
How often do you walk on public roads/side walks?

- Over 60% walk at least once per week
- Nearly 87% walk at least a few times a month
What are the primary reasons you walk?

Who are we designing the pedestrian system for?
How often are the following pedestrian safety features found along the roads near where you live?

However, we know these things are not evenly distributed. Where do we find/not find them?
Inequities in Safety Features
Which of these is an obstacle to you walking more often?

- Weather (e.g., temperature, rain): 60.0%
- Driver behavior: 49.4%
- Time to get to destination: 41.4%
- Poor lighting (e.g., no lights, lights not...): 40.4%
- Poor roadway/sidewalk conditions (e.g.,...): 37.0%
- Lack of sidewalks: 36.6%
- Lack of crossing signals/signs: 34.0%
- Convenience (e.g., easier to drive): 33.4%
- Hard to navigate with a disability (e.g.,...): 23.9%
- Other sidewalk users: 14.5%
- Other: 2.4%
Driver Behavior

Yielding at Crosswalks

- Overall lower driver yielding at mid-block locations
  - Always – 66.9% Intersections vs. 53.1% Mid-block
  - Very Often & Sometimes – 25.1% vs. 39.8%
Inequities in Obstacles

- Weather: 67.7% (Urban), 59.6% (Rural)
- Driver behavior: 49.7% (Urban), 42.1% (Rural)
- Time to get to destination: 44.9% (Urban), 40.9% (Rural)
- Poor lighting: 44.9% (Urban), 40.2% (Rural)
- Poor roadway/sidewalk conditions: 37.1% (Urban), 36.3% (Rural)
- Lack of sidewalks: 63.0% (Urban)
- Lack of crossing signals/signs: 43.1% (Urban), 33.4% (Rural)
- Convenience: 38.1% (Urban), 32.9% (Rural)
- Hard to navigate with a disability: 24.1% (Urban), 17.3% (Rural)
- Other sidewalk users: 15.0% (Urban), 5.8% (Rural)
- Other: 4.0% (Urban), 5.4% (Rural)
58.4% reported being at least moderately familiar with pedestrian and bicycle related laws

What about the 18.1% who reported not being familiar with the laws?
Inequities in Familiarity

% that reported being unfamiliar

- Rural: 26.3%
- Urban: 17.7%

- White: 13.2%
- Black: 32.6%
- Hispanic: 14.1%
- Asian: 3.7%
- Other: 19.0%