

Pedestrian Safety: Focus on People with Disabilities and Our Aging Population

Presented to the City of Columbia
Pedestrian Safety Task Force
September 15, 2015

The Demographic

- Approximately 1 in 5 Americans have an ADA-covered disability (19%)
- Over 56 Million Americans (U.S Census Data, 2010)
- The number will continue to rise rapidly
 - 77 million Baby-Boomers
 - Effects of war
 - Medical advances

The Environment

- Extremely trail-friendly community
- Effective and engaged staff in Public Works, Code Enforcement, Parks and Rec., etc.
- Model Street Standards
- Cooperative Approach with MODOT
- Active and talented community members
- Diverse community

Vision Zero

- Engineering
- Enforcement
- Education

Engineering

UNIVERSAL DESIGN APPROACH

Development of products and environments that are usable by the widest range of people, to the greatest extent possible, without need for adaptation or specialization

Engineering

UNIVERSAL DESIGN APPROACH

There is only ONE population,
comprised of individuals representing
diverse characteristics and abilities

Engineering

UNIVERSAL DESIGN APPROACH

Shift from narrow code compliance to proactive, inclusive design

Democracy: Equity with public funding

Removal of stigma – *Quality of life*

Engineering

UNIVERSAL DESIGN APPROACH

Consistency

Research-Based Approach

Efficiency and effectiveness: Good Faith Effort

Engineering

SIDEWALKS

- Model Street Standards, “Complete Streets”
- Condition of sidewalks
- Holistic planning and development
- Prioritization: Dense populations of PWD











Engineering

UNIVERSALLY DESIGNED
PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS

Engineering

- Sufficient transportation services PWD
- Avoidance of brick surfaces in accessible route
- Separation (distance) between pedestrians and traffic
- Pedestrian alternatives for travel other than adjacent to streets
 - Accessible and thorough trail networks for non-motorized transportation

Engineering

- Effective street markings
- Effective lighting
- Safe bus stop design
- Communication/Signage/Alternative routes for pedestrians during construction periods

Education

EXPRESSIVE AND RECEPTIVE COMMUNICATION

- Drivers using blinkers, appropriate use of horns, awareness of pedestrians, etc.
- Pedestrians communicating through clothing and supports
 - Bright clothing in dark
 - Vests for service animals
 - White cane
 - Visibility of wheelchairs





Education

- Classes/Education opportunities for user groups
 - Bicyclists
 - Wheelchair users
 - Hikers/Runners
 - Students of all ages
- Interactions with Service Animals - Campaign
- Public service announcements

Education



WHITE CANE
WEEK™ 2015

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kvZr_tKA4xU

Cape Coral Florida Educational Video

Enforcement

Local Ordinances

- Snow removal
- Vegetation control/tree trimming
- Sidewalk requirements for new development











Missouri “White Cane Law”

Chapter 304 Traffic Regulations (304.080)

- “The driver of a vehicle approaching a person with a visual, aural or physical disability who is carrying a cane predominantly white or metallic in color, with or without a red tip, or using a guide dog, hearing dog or service dog shall yield to such pedestrian, and any driver who fails to take such precautions shall be liable in damages for any injury caused such pedestrian and any injury caused to the pedestrian's guide dog, hearing dog or service dog”

Missouri “White Cane Law”

- 304.110: “Any person who violates any provision of sections 304.080 to 304.110, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof be fined not exceeding twenty-five dollars and costs of prosecution, and in default of payment thereof, shall undergo imprisonment not exceeding ten days”

Enforcement

Traffic and Pedestrian Laws

- Respect for the crosswalk
- Unsafe pedestrian practices
- Other general safety enforcement



Resources

- Public Rights of Way Accessibility Guidelines
- 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design
- United States Access Board
- City of Columbia Disabilities Commission
- Great Plains ADA Center
- Services for Independent Living
- MODOT