



# Following Five Points

## October 2024

### Your Update to the Five Points Transportation Study

[Visit the Study Website](#)

#### Working Group Meeting Reminder

**Monday, October 28, 2024**

**Hybrid Meeting – Cape Henlopen High School Library and via Zoom**

The next meeting of the Five Points Transportation Study Working Group will be held on Monday, October 28, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. Like previous Working Group meetings, this will be a hybrid meeting.

The Project Team will provide an update on the status of the Five Points Transportation Study Implementation Plan. Other discussion topic(s) include:

- Area Construction Updates
- SR 1 Congestion Management and Traffic Operations

- SR 1 Low-Stress Bikeways Study Update

[Please click here](#) to view the agenda and for Zoom meeting access information.

**We hope to see you on October 28!**

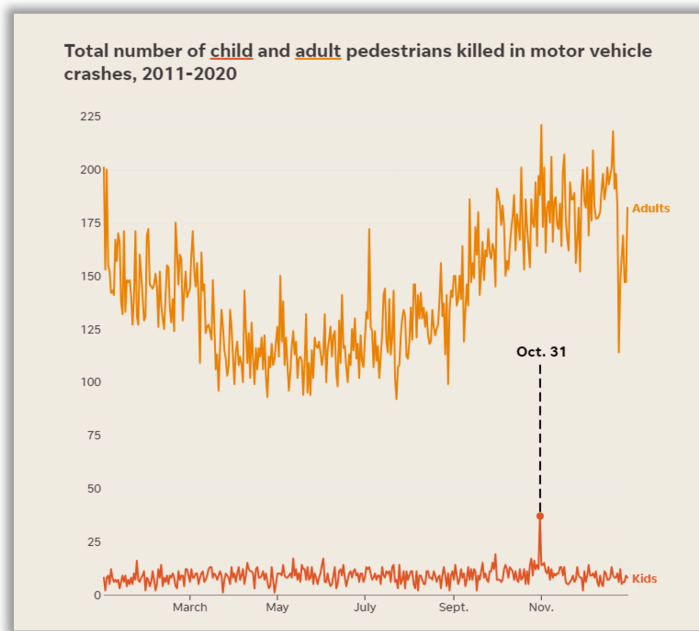
**Please note: Working Group meetings are open to the public, however, due to space limitations, members of the public are encouraged to attend via Zoom. Zoom access information will be provided on the day of the meeting on the Five Points Transportation Study website.**

### **October is Pedestrian Safety Awareness Month**

Delaware began celebrating Pedestrian Safety Awareness Month in 2017 after, earlier that year, the Governors Highway Safety Association published a report that named Delaware as the deadliest state for pedestrians per capita. National increases in pedestrian fatalities led the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to declare October 2020 as the first National Pedestrian Safety Month.

There are several reasons why Pedestrian Safety Month is held in October:

- Pedestrian fatalities tend to spike in October as daylight hours become shorter, making pedestrians more vulnerable on the roads.
- International Walk to School Day is celebrated on the first Wednesday of October.
- White Cane Day is held on October 15th to raise awareness about the safety of individuals with visual impairments.
- Halloween is the deadliest day of the year for child pedestrians, and one of the most dangerous for adult pedestrians. This graph from NHTSA shows data from 2011 to 2020. The dark orange line is for child pedestrian fatalities which shows a sharp increase on October 31, while adult pedestrian deaths on Halloween represented by the lighter orange line, are nearly as high as on New Year's Day.



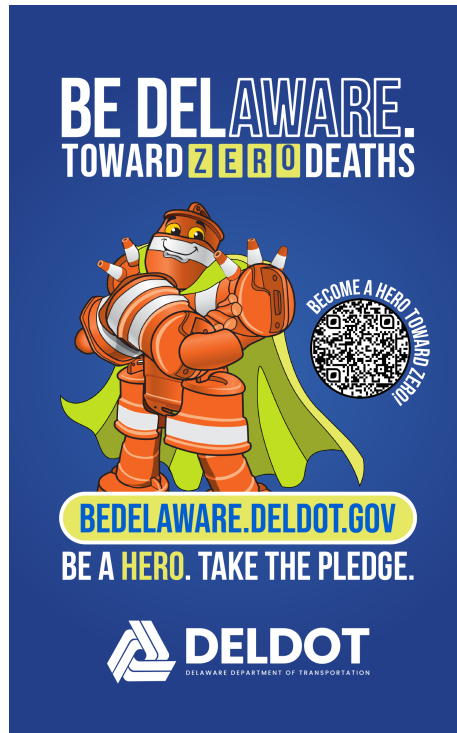
Source: NHTSA

Pedestrian safety is an important initiative for DeIDOT. Since 2017 per capita pedestrian fatalities on Delaware roadways have consistently been higher than national averages. As a result, DeIDOT has several initiatives underway to make walking safe, accessible, and convenient.

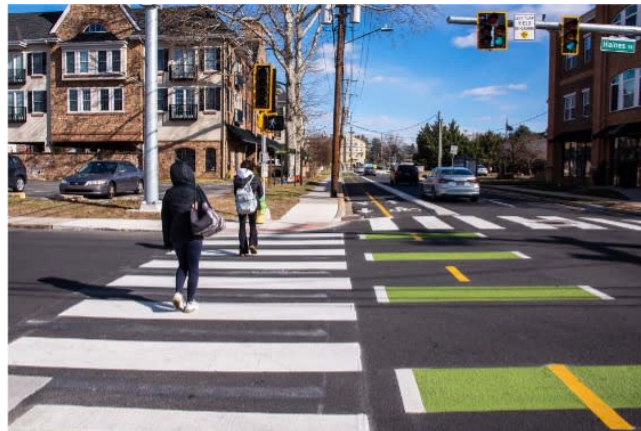
- The [Delaware Pedestrian Action Plan](#) lays out strategies for DeIDOT to develop safe, accessible, connected, and equitable transportation facilities for all. Phase 1 of the plan, published in October 2022, reviewed existing DeIDOT pedestrian-related planning documents, policies, programs, and initiatives. It also analyzed statewide pedestrian crash data to identify potential crash clusters and gaps in connectivity. Phase 2, released in October 2024 to coincide with Pedestrian Safety Awareness Month, builds on these findings. It proposes specific items and updates to programs and policies aimed at achieving the goals outlined in Phase 1.



- The [Strategic Highway Safety Plan \(SHSP\)](#) is a comprehensive transportation safety plan with a goal of reducing fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads. The Plan provides a framework for the effective use of engineering, education, enforcement, and emergency medical services strategies for improving transportation safety. The SHSP includes targeted recommendations and solutions for reducing pedestrian-involved crashes and fatalities.
- In April 2023 DeIDOT launched the [“Be DelAware” safety campaign](#) to raise awareness about safety for all users of Delaware’s transportation system. DeIDOT believes that safety is everyone’s responsibility and is encouraging residents to take the [pledge to become a “Hero Towards Zero”](#). Residents who take the pledge promise to be safe and responsible when using all modes of transportation. The Be Delaware campaign closely aligns with the Emphasis Areas included in the state’s [Strategic Highway Safety Plan](#) and the national [“Toward Zero Deaths”](#) highway safety strategy. The Be DelAware campaign is a comprehensive effort to instill a culture of safety on Delaware’s roadways and throughout the transportation system.



- The [Pedestrian Access Route Program](#) works with DelDOT's Civil Rights/ADA Section to bring pedestrian facilities up to current standard. A PAR may be comprised of one or more of the following components: walkways, ramps, curb ramps and landings/turning spaces, blended transitions, crosswalks, and pedestrian overpasses and underpasses, elevators, and platform lifts. 35 projects have been completed through this program and currently there are 25 projects under design and 2 under construction.



- The [Report A Road Condition](#) is a feature on the DelDOT website which allows the public to submit observed roadway conditions that should be addressed immediately, including pedestrian issues.

## What can you do to stay safe as a pedestrian?



- **Be visible!** When walking at night, wear bright colored clothing. Use a flashlight or reflective items.
- **Never dart out!** Cross streets at crosswalks or intersections when possible. This is where drivers expect pedestrians.
- **Walk on sidewalks** whenever they are available.
- **Walk on the shoulder facing traffic** if no sidewalk is available.
- **Use pedestrian push buttons** and wait for the walk signal to cross.
- **Take time to cross.** If a crosswalk or intersection is not available, locate a well-lit area and wait for a gap in traffic that allows you enough time to cross safely. Continue to watch traffic as you cross.

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[Click here to view this email in a browser.](#)

