

# SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

## SCHOOL ZONE TRAFFIC LAWS

The San Diego Police Department would like to remind all parents and students to please obey all traffic laws to help maintain safety in and around our school zones. Here are the most commonly violated traffic laws in our school zones.

### **Parking Laws:**

California Vehicle Code section 21458(a) describes rules for curb markings:

1. **RED** curb indicates no stopping, standing, or parking, *whether the vehicle is attended or unattended*. (NO student drop off or pick up in red zones).
2. **YELLOW** curb indicates stopping for the loading or unloading of passengers or freight. (20 minutes for material & 3 minutes for passengers)
3. **WHITE** curb indicates stopping for the loading or unloading of passengers (3 minutes for passengers).
4. **GREEN** curb indicates time limit parking specified by local ordinance (24 & 30 minute zones).
5. **BLUE** curb indicates parking limited exclusively to the vehicles of disabled persons.

### **Double Parking 22500(H) C.V.C**

Prohibits stopping, parking, or standing of any **attended/unattended** vehicle on the roadway side of any vehicle stopped, parked or standing at the curb or edge of a highway. (*often seen as parents drop off/pick up children in the lanes of traffic*)

### **Park in the Cross Walk 22500(b) C.V.C**

Prohibits **stopping, parking, or standing** of any **attended/unattended** vehicle in a crosswalk.

### **Park in Front of a Public Driveway 22500(e) C.V.C**

Prohibits **stopping, parking, or standing** of any **attended/unattended** vehicle in front of a public driveway.

### **Bus Zone 22500(i) C.V.C**

Prohibits **stopping, parking, or standing** of any **attended/unattended** vehicle alongside a curb authorized for the loading and unloading of passengers of a bus, when indicated by a **sign or red paint** or on the curb.

### **Parking over 18" from Right Hand Side of Curb / Parking on Wrong Side of the Street 22502 C.V.C**

Every vehicle **stopped or parked** upon a roadway...shall be stopped or parked with the right hand wheels of such vehicle **parallel with and within 18 inches of the right-hand curb**, except that motorcycles shall be parked with at least one wheel or fender touching the right-hand curb.

### **Park Near a Fire Hydrant 22514 C.V.C**

No person **shall stop, park, or leave standing** any vehicle within **15 feet of a fire hydrant**. **EXCEPT**, if the vehicle is attended by a licensed driver who is seated in the front seat and who can **immediately move** such vehicle in case of necessity.

**Side note-** If the curb next to the fire hydrant is painted red, the vehicle stopping or parking to facilitate student pickup or drop off could still be cited for stopping/parking in a red zone.

## SCHOOL ZONE TRAFFIC LAWS CONTINUED

### MOVING & NON-MOVING VIOLATIONS



#### **V.C. 22101(d) Disobey Traffic Control Devices (No Left Turn, No Turn on Red, Yield, or No U-turn Signs at an Intersection)**

When official traffic control devices are placed as required in subdivision (b) or (c), it shall be unlawful for any driver of a vehicle to disobey the directions of such official traffic control devices



#### **V.C. 21461(a) Failure to Obey a Posted Sign (No left turn, No U-Turn, No Student Drop Off Signs, etc)**

It is unlawful for a driver of a vehicle to fail to obey a sign or signal, or to fail to obey a device erected or maintained by lawful authority of a public body or official.



#### **V.C. 22103 No U-turn in Residential District**

No person in a residential district shall make a U-turn when any other vehicle is approaching from either direction within 200 feet, **except** at an intersection when the approaching vehicle is controlled by an official traffic control device.



#### **V.C. 21950(a) Drivers Yield to Pedestrians in Cross Walk**

The driver of a vehicle shall yield the right of way to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within any marked crosswalk or within any unmarked crosswalk at an intersection.

#### **V.C. 21950(b) Pedestrian to Exercise Due Care**

This section does not relieve a pedestrian from the duty of using due care for his or her safety. No pedestrian may suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a vehicle that is so close as to constitute an immediate hazard. No pedestrian may unnecessarily stop or delay traffic while in a marked or unmarked crosswalk.



#### **V.C. 21950(c) Drivers to Exercise Due Care**

The driver of a vehicle approaching a pedestrian within any marked or unmarked crosswalk shall exercise all due care and shall reduce the speed of the vehicle or take any other action relating to the operation of the vehicle as necessary to safeguard the safety of pedestrians

#### **V.C. 21954(a) Pedestrians Outside of Crosswalks**

Every pedestrian upon a roadway at any point other than within a marked crosswalk or within an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection shall yield the right of way to all vehicles upon the roadway so near as to constitute an immediate hazard.



#### **V.C. 21955 Jaywalking**

Pedestrians shall not cross the roadway at any place except in a crosswalk between adjacent intersections controlled by traffic control signal devices or by police officers. (**Example: Duarte Road between Santa Anita & El Monte = Jaywalking**)

#### **V.C. 21100.3 Disobey a Crossing Guard**

It is unlawful for any person to disobey the traffic directions of a person appointed or authorized by local authority to regulate traffic pursuant to subdivision (e) of Section 21000 when such appointee is wearing an official insignia issued by the local authority and is acting in the course of his appointed duties.



### V.C. 22350 Unsafe Speeds (School Zone)

When signs are posted for a “**School Zone—when Children present**”, the speed limit is reduced to **25 MPH**. This applies whenever children are present (**Before, During & After School**).

**V.C. 23123(a) Talking on Cell Phone While Driving (18 + = Adult) & V.C. 23124 Cell Phone Under 18 Yrs.** Adult shall not drive a vehicle while using a wireless telephone, unless hands free. **Minors may not use cell or hands free device.**



### V.C. 23123.5 Texting While Driving

A person shall not drive a motor vehicle while using an electronic wireless communication device to **write, send or read texts**.

### H&S 118948(a) Smoking in Vehicle

It is unlawful for a person to smoke a pipe, cigar, or cigarette in a motor vehicle, whether in motion or at rest, in which there is a minor (someone under 18 years old). For the purpose of this section, “**To smoke**” means to have in one’s immediate possession a **lighted pipe, cigar, or cigarette containing tobacco or any other plant**.

**Seatbelt Laws** The driver and all occupants of a moving vehicle must properly wear safety belts, as they were designed to be worn. The shoulder strap must be worn over shoulders, not under.



### V.C. 21212(a) Helmet Laws

Persons under 18 years of age must wear a properly fitted and fastened helmet for bicycles, skateboards, roller blades, etc.



**Violation of 88.02 SDMC.** It is illegal for any vehicle to fail to stop for School Safety Patrol.



**56.30 SDMC—Profanity in Public**—This one is embarrassing... That it shall be and hereby is declared to be unlawful for any person within the said City of San Diego to utter or use within the hearing of one or more persons any seditious language, words or epithets, or to address to another, or to utter in the presence of another, any words, language or expression or seditious remarks, having a tendency to create a breach of the public peace.

Please pay attention in and around the school area when dropping off and picking up your kids. Maybe try coming a little bit earlier and avoid the last minute drop off rush, right before the bell rings.

To avoid getting a citation, please park legally and obey traffic laws. Please pass this information on to others that may drop off or pick up your child, in your absence.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION AND LET’S WORK TOGETHER AS A TEAM TO MAKE OUR SCHOOLS SAFER!