

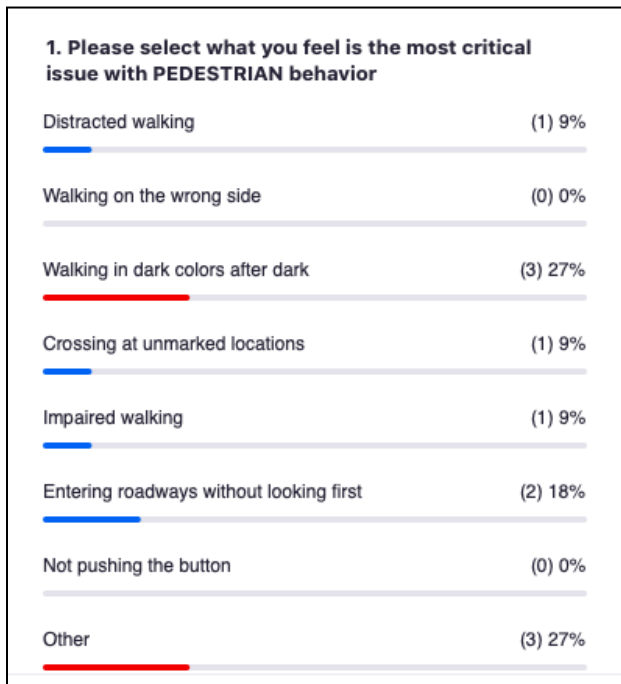
Sanford Safer Walking Forum

Thursday, December 3 (6 p.m.)

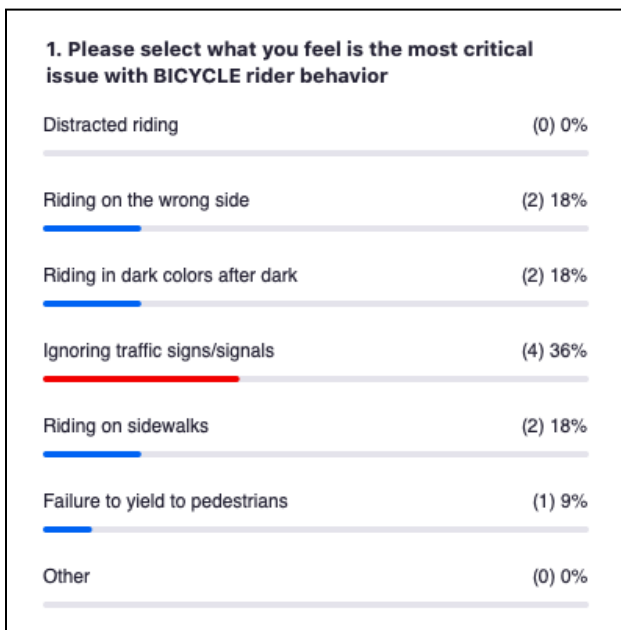
YOUTUBE LINK TO ZOOM RECORDING: <https://youtu.be/XDOSY386Fmk>

Problematic pedestrian behavior from chat:

- Motorized wheelchairs in road
- Walking in the road when sidewalks are icy or snow covered (maintenance issue?)



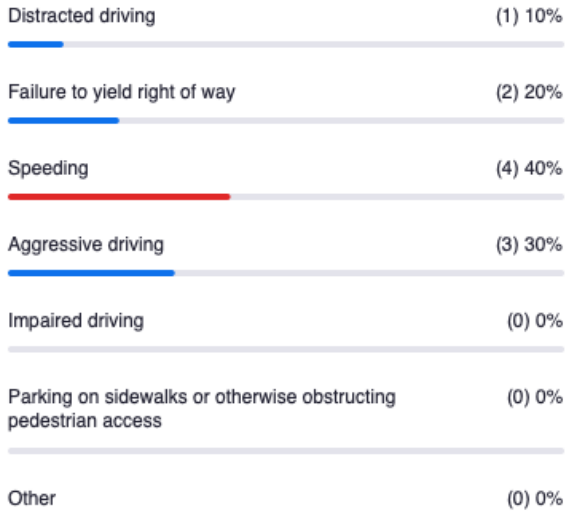
Problematic bicycle behavior from chat:



Problematic driver behavior from chat:

- Distracted driving hands down winner prior to hands free law

1. Please select what you feel is the most critical issue with DRIVER behavior



Educational suggestions for ped safety from discussion:

- NOTE: Sanford sidewalks are generally 4.5-5ft wide. Sidewalk snowplows are 52" wide. (sidewalks are the last to get cleared after roadways)
- Get schools involved (HS students should create) with creating messaging for PSAs
- Elementary school students have an art contest for signage
- Matthew E. Hill- couple stories about people and their choice not to be on the sidewalk ex. Icey, in walkers way, curbs, poor surfaces
 - PSA: Sidewalks are for everyone (wheelchair or not etc).
- Lee Burnett- Pedestrians follow the path of least resistance, PSAs targeting their behavior is not the point, the issues truly like with infrastructure, they know the risks and unfortunately have to take them often in the road b/c of the failures of infrastructure, prefers education for drivers
- Tony Grande- Reminder (PSA) to be prepared for short daylight hours by being prepared with bright/reflective clothing. Especially relevant as folks might leave for walk when sun is up but return past sunset. Need to think ahead.
 - Design --- How can DOT / Town create a safer environment, a more appealing infrastructure, for walkers rather than put all the responsibility on peds?
- Dianne - Teach that the sidewalk is the safest place to be and also to be predictable with motorists etc when leaving the sidewalk and entering the roadway
- Ayn Hanselmann - Use social media to educate community about winter sidewalk use and highlight the increased caution all should take when ice/snow create passage issues.
 - Additional PSA: "walk against" when you must walk in roadway
 - Community Centers and YMCAs would be good places to do outreach
- Kathy Clarrage asks "Does Sanford mandate sidewalk clearing (winter) like Portland?"
 Matt Hill's response: Municipal priority is on emergency routes to medical, fire, public safety. Sidewalk tractors are 2nd priority. There does not appear to be an ordinance that business owners or homeowners clear sidewalks in front of their buildings... however there is an ordinance against dumping snow into sidewalks when clearing drives etc.
 - Educational opportunity: Help your neighbors by clearing, sanding, etc. when possible.
- Mahole1: There is no crosswalk at Sherburne Street, sidewalk ends and kids walk on road and grass, and local residents often help students cross when traffic is present.
 - Near the skate park

- No street lights on Sherburne, lots of people out, walking dogs, and cars not slowing down
- Lee Burnett - Power wheelchair issue is concentrated between Sunset Towers and Hannaford
 - Theresa Savoy - State works to identify these locations and then change infrastructure to better accommodate. Change is slow due to expense.
 - Kathy Clarrage - Generally speaking housing complexes with seniors or assisted living tend to have higher rates of impaired residents using wheelchairs
 - Patrick Adams - 1) identify popular destinations (grocery, usps, etc), map out from housing to services; 2) realize that many people without cars will live within walkable range of these locations

Educational suggestions for motorists (speeding) from discussion:

- Matt Hill - "Your Speed is" sign is non-operational. Would like to (part of formal plan at this time) hire a specific officer for speed enforcement.
- Wayne Emington - Speeding (during typical commutes) does not get one to destination any significant time sooner
 - "Driving over the speed limit won't save you any time but driving the speed limit could save a life"
- Dianne - PD sends signal that going 5-10mph over speed limit is acceptable and furthermore, warnings are too often given rather than tickets.
- Lee B - Peer pressure is a great tool to use when pushing campaign. "I want to do what my neighbor does." In a car it's least stressful to go with the flow rather than hold up traffic by traveling at speed limit. (((See [Slow ME Down](#))))
- Kathy Clarrage - Sanford PD needs to develop a reputation for zero/low tolerance like in Saco in order to create a more ped friendly environment. Do this through active programming where tickets are given out or messaging at least makes people think 'big brother is watching'. Particularly helps with speeding and yielding at crosswalks.
 - From Dianne - Kennebunk has that type of enforcement. You just don't speed there. Cause they target that type of behavior and have for years
 - Matt Hill - "courtesy control", create environment where motorists travel slowly and stop for peds regardless of where they are crossing or entering roadway. "Speed control through courtesy"
 - Dianne - story from Canada: you would get a ticket OR you could go and discuss with kids to learn why violation behavior is dangerous. Children are great motivators for change.

Enforcement suggestions from discussion:

- Provide Sanford PD with Walk & Bike Brightly lights and equipment.

Contacts:

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Bike/Ped Committee Chair: Peter Chace, nassonbikes@gmail.com