



## **MEDIA RELEASE – THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 2018**

### **Municipality of Middlesex Centre's Pedestrian Crossovers Are Coming...**

Ilderton: The Municipality of Middlesex Centre, Ontario, Canada, in partnership with Middlesex County, with the support of Council and an initiative led by Ward 1 Councillor Stephen Harvey, will soon unveil two pedestrian crossovers in Ilderton on Hyde Park Road at the intersection of Heritage Drive and another crossover in the approximate location of the Ilderton water tower.

“Pedestrian crossovers and implementation of traffic calming measures are just two ways we are continuing to make pedestrian and cycling routes safer year round for school-aged children and all road users.” - Ward 1 Councillor Stephen Harvey.

“It is important that drivers, cyclists and pedestrians each know their role when approaching a pedestrian crossover,” said Sgt. Amanda Pfeffer of the London Police Service’s Traffic Management Unit. “Drivers must yield the entire roadway to pedestrians and pedestrians should wait until the drivers have stopped before crossing.”

“Additional pedestrian crossovers will be installed in future years as the Municipality continues to evaluate and identify locations that would benefit from crossovers,” added Deputy Mayor Aina DeViet.

Pedestrians will soon have the right of way at the new crossovers, which require more distance between drivers and those on foot than what Middlesex Centre motorists may be accustomed to at average crosswalks. When pedestrians are present, drivers and cyclists must stop behind the yield line and wait until pedestrians are completely across the road before proceeding.

Both pedestrian crossovers are anticipated to be installed and fully functional in September.

#### **The New Law:**

Effective Jan. 1, 2018, drivers and cyclists must stop and yield the entire roadway at pedestrian crossovers; and school crossings and all intersections where there is a crossing guard.

Only when pedestrians and school crossing guards are safely on the sidewalk, can drivers and cyclists proceed.

(It was already illegal to cross while a crossing guard was still on the roadway, but that law has been written into the new legislation.)

**Crossovers vs. Crosswalks:**

Crossover: identified by specific signs, pavement markings and lights — they have illuminated overhead lights/warning signs and pedestrian push buttons.

Crosswalk: a crossing location usually found at intersections with traffic signals, pedestrian signals or stop signs. A crosswalk can be the portion of a roadway that connects sidewalks on opposite sides of the roadway into a continuous path; or the portion of a roadway that is indicated for pedestrian crossing by signs, lines or other markings on the surface of the roadway at any location, including an intersection.

**Fines:**

Drivers will be fined \$150 to \$500 and three demerit points for offences at pedestrian crossings, school crossings and at crosswalks where there are traffic signals. The maximum fine for running a red light, a practice that puts pedestrians at risk, is \$200 to \$1,000.

Fines are doubled in community safety zones, near schools and public areas. These areas are clearly marked with signs.

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