

California's Daylighting Law:

IMPROVING PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLIST SAFETY

California has introduced a new law aimed at improving safety for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers alike: Assembly Bill 413, also known as the Daylighting Law. This law prohibits parking within 20 feet of any marked or unmarked crosswalk, regardless of whether curbs are painted red. For crosswalks with curb extensions, the clear distance is 15 feet.

Before AB 413, California was one of only 10 states without a law restricting parking near crosswalks, despite high rates of pedestrian injuries and fatalities.

The law allows cities to implement a pedestrian safety measure called

daylighting, which improves visibility for pedestrians and cyclists crossing the street, as well as for drivers approaching intersections.

With daylighting, pedestrians and cyclists no longer have to inch into intersections to see past parked cars. Drivers also benefit, as clearer sight lines allow them to spot pedestrians waiting to cross well before reaching an intersection. This is especially important for identifying children, who may otherwise be hidden behind parked cars.

In addition to daylighting, proper street lighting is essential for neighborhood safety, particularly at night. Thanks to

funding from the Lighting and Landscape Assessment District (LLAD), our community benefits from well-lit streets that help reduce accidents and improve overall visibility. By supporting the installation and maintenance of streetlights, the LLAD ensures that both pedestrians and drivers can navigate safely, even in low-light conditions.

Together, the Daylighting Law and the LLAD contribute to a safer Danville, helping to prevent accidents and create a more pedestrian-friendly community.



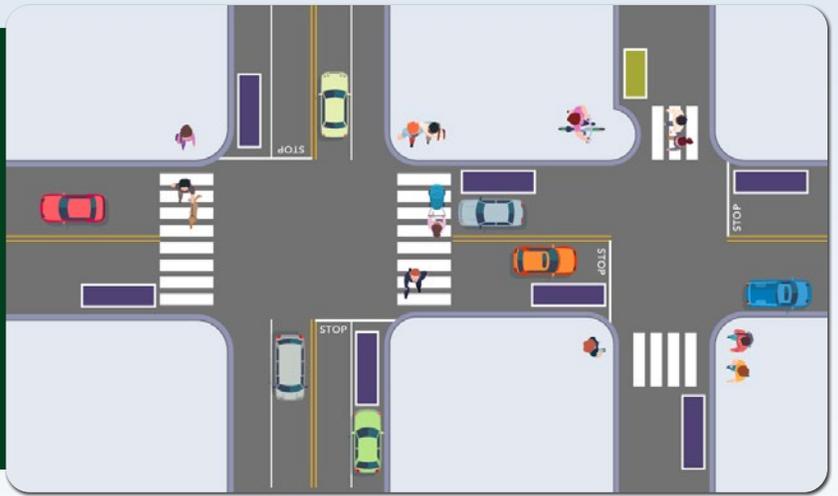
WHY DAYLIGHTING?

The goal of the new law is to improve safety by increasing visibility at intersections. Vehicles that are parked immediately adjacent to marked or unmarked crossings limit the visibility of pedestrians, which increases the risk of pedestrian-related severe injury or fatalities. Removing the obstruction of parked vehicles will allow drivers to have a clear view of pedestrians waiting to cross the street while, at the same time, allowing pedestrians to see approaching cars without having to step into the intersection to see past a parked vehicle before crossing.



WHAT IS THE DAYLIGHTING LAW?

CA Assembly Bill 413 prohibits the stopping, standing, or parking of a vehicle within 20 feet of the vehicle approach side of any unmarked or marked crosswalk, or 15 feet of any crosswalk where a curb extension is present. As of January 1, 2025, drivers may receive a citation for violating this law.



HOW DOES DAYLIGHTING WORK?

Leaving a clearance of 20 feet provides a greater field of visibility (*scenarios 3 and 4*), whereas not providing that clearance greatly reduces visibility (*scenarios 1 and 2*). Increased visibility helps drivers see pedestrians clearly.



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Leave at least 20 feet between your vehicle and a painted or unpainted crosswalk. For crosswalks with curb extensions, as shown on the right, leave 15 feet. When in doubt, leave at least one full, large car length between your car and the crosswalk.

