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NEWS RELEASE

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Beaumont Police Department to Hold Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Operation on September 25, 2024

Beaumont, CA— The City of Beaumont Police Department will conduct a traffic safety operation on September 25, 2024, focused on speeding, making illegal turns, failing to yield or provide the right-of-way to bicyclists or pedestrians, and failing to stop for signs and signals.

“We all have places to be and not everyone gets there by car,” Sean Thuilliez, Chief of Police said. “Bicyclists and pedestrians have the same rights to the road but face even more risk without the protections that vehicles have. We should all be looking out for one another.”

The Beaumont Police Department offers steps drivers and pedestrians can take to greatly reduce the risk of getting injured or in a crash:

Pedestrians

- Be predictable. Use crosswalks, when available.
- Take notice of approaching vehicles and practice due care.
- Do not walk or run into the path of a vehicle. At 30 mph, a driver needs at least 90 feet to stop.
- Be visible. Make it easy for drivers to see you – wear light colors, reflective material and carry a flashlight, particularly at dawn, dusk, or at night.
- Be extra careful crossing streets or entering crosswalks at night when it is harder to see, or when crossing busier streets with more lanes and higher speed limits.

Drivers

- Do not speed, but slow down at intersections. Be prepared to stop for pedestrians at marked and unmarked crosswalks, and between intersections where pedestrians may cross.
- Avoid blocking crosswalks while waiting to make a right-hand turn.
- Never drive impaired.

Bicyclists

- Obey traffic laws, wear a helmet, use hand signals, and lights at night (front white light/rear red reflector).
- Bicyclists must travel in the same direction of traffic and have the same requirements as any slow-moving vehicle.
- Avoid the door zone: do not ride too closely to parked cars.
- If there is a bike lane, use it, unless making a left turn, passing, or approaching a place where a right turn is allowed.
- Yield to pedestrians. Bicyclists must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians within marked crosswalks or unmarked crosswalks at intersections, and between intersections where pedestrians may cross.

Funding for this program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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