

## TZD Tuesday | Aug. 9, 2022 – Stop on Red

Motorists, motorcyclists and pedestrians are dying in Minnesota in easily preventable crashes involving red-light running, ignoring stop signs and failing to yield at intersections. This week is National *Stop on Red Week* to educate drivers about these dangerous behaviors and reduce the number and severity of crashes. The campaign runs Aug. 7 - 13.

Stop sign, stop light and railroad cross running happens frequently and can be deadly – whether it is a driver who is distracted and doesn't see the stop sign, a driver who intentionally runs the stop sign or a driver who initially stops and proceeds without seeing the oncoming car or motorcycle or misjudges the gap. Intersection safety is an important aspect of road safety in our communities. According to the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Traffic Safety, there were 813 deaths and 4,189 serious injuries at intersections across the state from 2017-2021.

These simple tips can keep drivers, motorcyclists, pedestrians and bicyclists safe at intersections.

- Avoid distractions like loud music or conversation.
- Stop at the painted stop bar or before the crosswalk; if no pavement markings are present, stop before the stop sign.
- Scan for hazards before entering the intersection by looking left, right, straight ahead and then left again.
- Watch the vehicles in front of you, behind you, beside you and in oncoming traffic.

Intersection safety is the responsibility of every driver – not just during *Stop on Red Week*, but every day and every time someone gets behind the wheel. Together, we can drive Minnesota toward zero deaths.