

Item #8.4

Safe Passing

October 8, 2026



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Overview

- A safe passing ordinance is a legal regulation that requires drivers to maintain a minimum distance when passing vulnerable road users like bicyclists, pedestrians, and motorcyclists, aiming to enhance safety for users and prevent collisions.
- 3 ft of separation for passenger vehicles, 6 ft for commercial vehicles
- Vulnerable road users: a pedestrian, runner, physically disabled person, child, skater, construction maintenance worker, tow truck operator, stranded motorist, equestrian, and person operating a bicycle, motorcycle, or unprotected farm equipment



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Safe Passing Ordinance

- Item was presented to the Active Transportation Advisory Board on September 14, 2026, and received mixed feedback.
- A “Safe Passing Ordinance” would have a fine range of \$25-\$500
 - Enforcement would be citation issuance and processed through College Station Municipal Court as a criminal citation.
- “Hands Free Ordinance” is a good example of a similar ordinance the City has implemented
- Other statutes currently used by College Station Municipal Court:
 - Fail to Control Speed-Accident. Max \$200 fine.
 - Fail to Maintain Single Lane. Max \$200 fine.
 - Fail to Yield Right of Way-Pedestrian Non-Crosswalk. Max \$200 fine.



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