

HAWAII PLANNING



American Planning Association

Hawaii Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

A Publication of the Hawaii Chapter of the American Planning Association

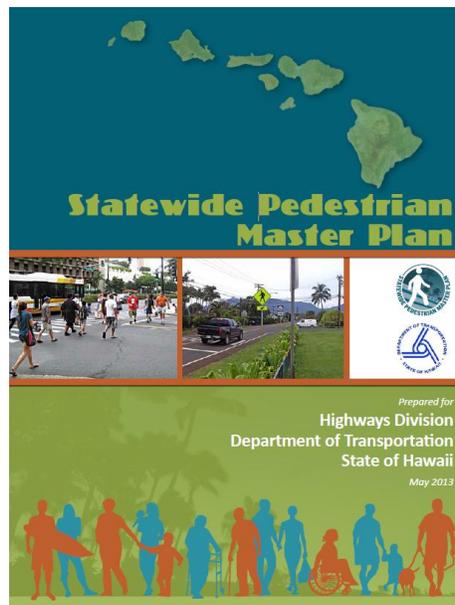
Plan and Article of Interest Jeff Merz e-Blast Newsletter Editorial Staff and Planner with AECOM

I don't know where I came across the article on the second page, but I find it very relevant to urban Honolulu as more and more people are choosing to walk, our population densifies in walkable communities, and our visitor counts increase.

For its part, the State of Hawaii Department of Transportation did take a pro-active role in completing a comprehensive Statewide Pedestrian Master Plan in 2013 (link below). This plan compliments Federal laws including MAP-21, ADA and USDOT policies as well as Statewide and County plans focused on the implementation of Complete Streets.

The Statewide Pedestrian Master Plan is appended with a unique "Pedestrian Toolbox" which identifies policies, standards and design graphic suggestions to create and enhance pedestrian friendly communities and TOD efforts underway. The Plan can be found here:

<http://hidot.hawaii.gov/highways/files/2013/07/Pedest-Plan-PedMP.pdf>



Think You Own the Sidewalk? Etiquette by New York Pedestrians Is Showing a Strain

Reprint from the New York Times

By MARC SANTORA

Published: July 16, 2002

On the sidewalks of New York there are jaywalkers, baby walkers, dog walkers, night walkers, cellphone talker-walkers, slow walkers, fast walkers, group walkers, drunken walkers, walkers with walkers and, of course, tourist walkers. Unfortunately, all of these walkers are walking into one another.

"People no longer know how to walk on the sidewalk," said John Kalish, a television producer in Manhattan. "There was a time that any real New Yorker had a built-in sonar in terms of walking down the sidewalk, even a crowded one, and never bumping into someone. Now -- forget it." In a crowded city that is forever rebuilding itself, sometimes it is impossible to be a graceful walker. Still, strollers say that many problems could be avoided if some basic rules were followed.

First, walking rules are like driving rules.

"**Stay to the right is the golden, No. 1 rule,**" said Chris Avila, 29, who has lived in the city for nine years. Europeans used to driving on the left side of the road have acute problems getting used to New York sidewalks, said Giannandrea Marongiu, 36, who moved to New York from Italy five years ago. "They don't know where to go," he said. "They are all over the place."

Second, don't be a sudden stopper.

"People who stop short really get me," said Carla Melman, 26, a lifelong New Yorker. She said it was the equivalent of a car wreck on the Long Island Expressway on a Hamptons weekend.

Third, when walking with friends, don't crowd every lane of the sidewalk.

Ms. Avila said she reserves a special sidewalk in hell for "mall walkers," which she defined as groups who insist on walking three or four abreast. "They make me so mad," she said. "When you are around a group of mall walkers, you just have to find a way around them."

Fourth, keep it moving.

The average New York City fast walker does not have to get stuck behind a pack of mall walkers to grow sour. A single person moving at a slow clip-clop can be enough. There is even a word for this slowpoke: **meanderthal**. An Internet dictionary of slang defines him as "an annoying individual moving slowly and aimlessly in front of another individual who is in a bit of a hurry."

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Fifth, don't be a heel stepper.

"I hate it when someone gives me a flat tire," Ms. Avila said. That happens when a heel stepper clips the back of her sandal, knocking it off her foot and causing her to become a sudden stopper.

Sixth, get off the phone.

Pedestrians say cellphone talker-walkers are so lost in their own hyper-connected universe that they are almost as likely to break the rules of walking as tourists. "When you are on a cellphone, you are a group of one," said Michelle Nevius, 32, a walking tour guide in Manhattan. Roger Evans, a musician, agreed. "Typically I think of a cellphone talker as a guided missile," he said. However, it is the bike messengers who many complain are the true missiles. Mike Nelson, a bike messenger born and raised in New York, says the walkers have gotten worse. "With the cellphones, Palm Pilots and all the other gizmos, people aren't even aware of what's around them anymore," he said. "It's not just the bikers that will run them over, but also trucks, cabs, whatever."

Seventh, keep Fido on a tight leash.

Peter A. Perez, 28, a dog walker at the Wagging Tail, a dog care center in TriBeCa, says too many inexperienced dog walkers use long leashes that can become tripwires. And, he said, dog walkers should "never allow dogs to introduce dogs to other dogs," as this can create overactive obstacles. Unnatural obstacles can also spoil a stroller's stride.