SAFETY TIPS FOR ELDERLY PEDESTRIANS

Older pedestrians as a group make up 35% of pedestrian fatalities annually in New York City, although they represent only 13% of the City’s population. In an effort to ensure elderly pedestrian safety, the NYPD would like to advise the following tips to seniors.

- Walk on sidewalks. If you must walk in the street, walk facing traffic. Stop at the curb before entering the street.

- Cross only at street corners, preferably those with a traffic light and within marked crosswalks.

- Pay attention to "Walk/Don't Walk” signals.

- Give yourself the most time to cross by waiting for a newly turned green or walk signal.

- Look left, right and left again before crossing the street, and be on the lookout for turning or backing vehicles.

- Keep scanning for vehicles as you cross.

- Hold your hand up or do whatever it takes to make yourself more visible to drivers.

- Avoid walking in the dark and during bad weather such as snow, ice, rain or fog.

- Make eye contact with the driver before crossing in front of a vehicle. Stay out of the driver's blind spot.

- Walk and cross with other pedestrians wherever possible.

- Listen for the engine noises of backing vehicles when you're in a parking lot, near a driveway or crossing mid-block between cars.

- Wear light or bright-colored or reflective clothing, especially if you walk at night. Use a flashlight if you walk at night.

FOR YOUR SAFETY, PLEASE BE ALERT!