



Vaudreuil-Dorion

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A Pilot Project to Improve Pedestrian Safety

Vaudreuil-Dorion, November 2, 2020 – Last Friday, the City of Vaudreuil-Dorion, with the assistance of the Sûreté du Québec, officially launched its pilot project consisting of high-visibility safety flags for pedestrian crossings. This new feature is located on Boulevard de la Gare, across from Rue du Manoir, and aims to increase the safety of pedestrians preparing to cross a busy intersection.

The pilot project is being implemented at this strategic location since it is regularly the subject of complaints from citizens. In 2017, a Kali-Flash™ system (additional light signals) was positioned at this intersection to secure the crossing. However, despite this measure, the issue continues to be a problem in this area.

"I had the opportunity to observe the crosswalk flag system while I was in Prince Edward Island. I brought the idea to the traffic committee and our research has shown that the system is also in use in Nova Scotia, British Columbia and a few cities in the United States. The results seem to be conclusive. We are fully aware that the intersection of Rue du Manoir and Boulevard de la Gare is problematic, and this makes it the perfect place to try the high-visibility flags," said District 2 City Councillor and Traffic Committee Chairman François Séguin.

Pedestrians are urged to use the feature to improve their visibility by taking one of the orange coloured flags installed near the pedestrian crossing and waving it while crossing the street, then placing it back in the flag bucket when they get to the other side.

"We are trying out this new approach to see if it can solve the problem with this pedestrian crossing and hoping that it will help make it much safer for citizens to cross the street," continued Mr. Séguin.

It is important to remember that motorists who fail to yield to pedestrians at crosswalks are in violation of the Highway Safety Code, which could result in a fine.