

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release August 18, 2009

Contact: Shawn Cox
Assistant to the City Manager
(281) 290-1001 office
scox@ci.tomball.tx.us

"Back to School - Traffic Safety Plan"

The Tomball Police Department has been working with the Tomball Independent School District to enhance safety and reduce traffic congestion in the area surrounding Tomball High School and Tomball Junior High. We hope to accomplish this by focusing on improving traffic flow on Quinn Road through the development of fully accessible routes, crosswalks, walkways, and drop-off zones.

Recognizing that one of our most significant areas of concern is Quinn Road between Zion Road and Baker Street, we analyzed past traffic patterns and considered the physical layout of the High School and Junior High in developing the following guidelines that must be followed during student drop-off and student pick-up:

- No student drop-off on Quinn Road. There is no stopping, standing, or parking along the roadway between the High School and Junior High.
- All student drop-off must occur at designated drop-off points. Parents must use appropriate drop-off points (turn-out areas) located in front of each school. A parent having children at each of the schools may drop their children off at either school. The student must then use the crosswalk to access their school grounds.
- Right turns only after students are dropped off. After dropping students off at their respective school, parents will be required to exit the school by making a right turn only. This should greatly minimize congestion by limiting multi-lane crossover.

Tomball police officers will be on hand to educate the public, students, and parents about these changes and to provide informational hand-outs. Our officers will also focus on enforcement in the surrounding areas to improve compliance with traffic laws such as: enforcement of speed; stopping, standing, and parking laws; yielding to pedestrians in crosswalks; and proper pedestrian and bicycle behavior.

It is understood that the above-mentioned changes will affect some parents' routine and cause inconvenience. However, the safety of our children is simply too important to ignore, and therefore we ask for your patience, consideration, and flexibility as we work to find thoughtful and creative ways to enhance safety and reduce traffic congestion.

For additional information, please visit our website: www.tomballpd.com or call 281-351-5451.

