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Update

1. Brief Review of AAA Lifelong Safe Mobility activities
2. Roadwise Review – Senior Driver Screening Tool
3. CarFit
4. AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety activities

Lifelong Safe Mobility...

- Safety – Preventing Deaths and Injuries (physical health)
- Mobility – Maintaining ability to travel, with or without driving (social activity and mental health)

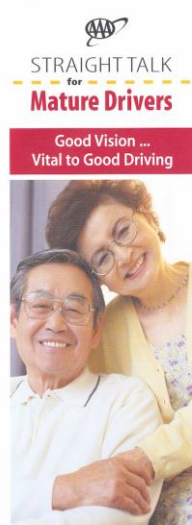
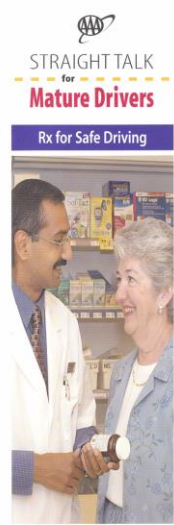
AAA's Goal: To help seniors stay mobile for as long as safely possible.

AAA Senior Mobility Activities

- AAA Senior Mobility Club Liaisons
- Education Materials
- AAA Mature Operators Course
- Legislation and Policy Information
- Senior-Friendly Road Design Information
- Public Relations Materials
- AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety
- Partner Organizations & Contacts
- Internet Resources on Senior Mobility

Straight Talk for Mature Drivers Brochures

- Available free from AAA Clubs
- Recently updated



Legislation & Policy Information

- AAA opposes use of age alone as sole criterion for driver testing
- AAA supports vision testing on a regular basis and skills testing when warranted
- AAA supports S1226 – transportation plan/senior driving health centers

Public Relations

- AAA is a resource for the media and the community



AAA urging improvements for older drivers

AAA urges cities and states to make safety improvements that might help older drivers. A sampling:

- ▶ **Signs.** Make road signs larger and simpler. Place them well in advance of intersections and exit ramps. Eliminate confusing and multiple signs.
- ▶ **Crosswalks.** Add reflective pavement markings to increase visibility. Install countdown signals, so pedestrians know the amount of time needed to cross safely. Provide more time for slower-paced pedestrians to cross. Add islands in busy intersections to give pedestrians refuge if they can't cross all the way on one cycle of the light.
- ▶ **Left-turn lanes.** Add lanes de-

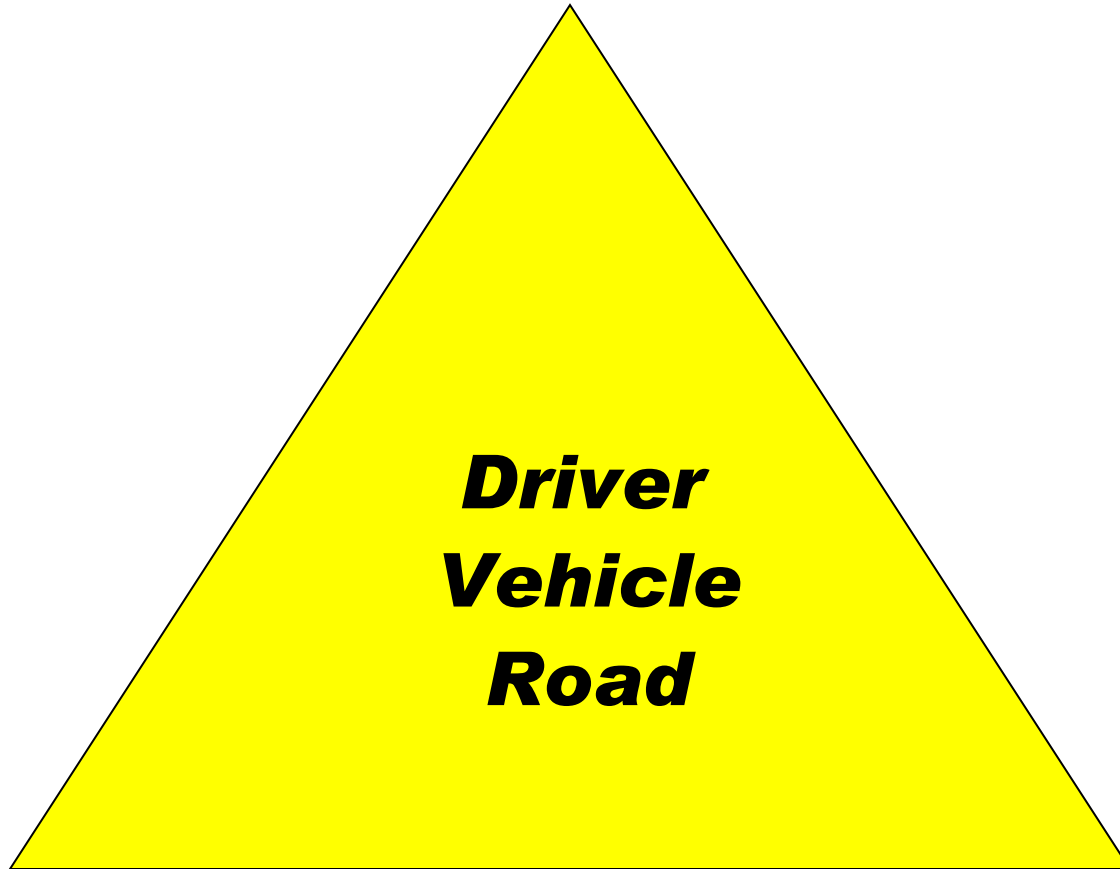
icated for left-turns because such turns are one of the most dangerous traffic maneuvers for seniors. Add left-turn arrows to traffic lights rather than leaving it to the judgment of the driver to determine when it's safe to turn.

- ▶ **Stop signs.** Add "Stop Ahead" signs to warn drivers who are approaching stop signs. In special cases, add rumble strips on pavement leading to stop signs.
- ▶ **Traffic lights.** Install larger signals and add back plates to provide contrast and improve visibility. Briefly have red lights in all directions to provide a margin of error.

Source: AAA



***AAA initiative includes the 3
elements of traffic safety***



The Road



- Get There Safely, Get There Your Way, Get There on Time

AAA Recommendations to U.S. Congress for 2004 reauthorization of Transportation Bill (focus on Safety)

The Driver Roadwise Review

- State-of-the-art screening tool currently in development
- CD-Rom or On-line
- Screens functional capacities
- Can be used at home



The Vehicle CarFit



What is CarFit?

- Open environment using vehicle to promote conversations about driving
- Provides information, education and community-based resources to an elderly driver in a non-threatening, quick and easily accessible manner
- Promotes continued safe driving/mobility

AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety: Older Driver Involvement in Injury Crashes in Texas 1975-1999

- Drivers Over Almost Twice as Likely as Middle-Aged Drivers to Die in Car Crashes
- 65+ year olds are 1.78 times as likely to die
75+ year olds are 2.59 times as likely to die
85+ years olds are 3.75 times as likely to die.... As compared to 55-65 year olds
- Released February 2004, analyzed data from 4 million injury crashes



Welcome to the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety's Senior Driver Website



Families & Individuals

Are you or your family member of interest:

DRIVING? - Tips and info to keep your driving skills sharp.

NOT DRIVING? - Giving up the keys doesn't mean surrendering your freedom.

Professionals & Experts

Please select the group to which you belong:

PROVIDERS - Supplemental Transportation Programs for Seniors

RESEARCHERS - The latest research and resources for facilitating senior transportation

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Thank you!