

Westminster Police Department

PRESS RELEASE

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Back to School Plan

It's that time of the year again when the school season is about to begin. Chief Kevin Baker and the men and women of the Westminster Police Department want to remind the community of our commitment to protecting our children and keeping our schools safe.

Upon the first day of school, Westminster patrol officers and our traffic division will be out in full force and patrolling the area, specifically schools, school routes, and residential areas. The Westminster Police bicycle team will also be in full deployment as an extra measure to ensure an added layer of presence during this often busy time.

The traffic division has implemented a program called STEP, or **S**chool **T**raffic **E**nhancement **P**rogram. This program is comprised of the city traffic engineer, police, school district managers, and school principals. This collaborative team works to identify traffic problems related to the several recent school construction projects in effort to ensure traffic flow remains safe and efficient. Traffic/motor officers will be monitoring traffic for congestion and for violations. "We want to specifically remind parents and other motorists to be aware of pedestrians, crosswalks, and school buses as they travel near schools", said Sgt. Cameron Knauerhaze. "Being patient, following the law, and allowing yourself enough travel time are few things that can help your commute go smoothly," he added.

With these efforts and from the help of our community, we can make the beginning of the school season a safe enjoyable experience.