



## News Release

### Mayor Dale Teaches Children to Use HAWK - Update

(September 6, 2011) – Children will now have a safer passage at two busy crossings at Lakeview Park thanks to new **H**igh-intensity **A**ctivated cross**W**alks (**HAWK**) that go online Wednesday, September 7. That morning, Mayor Tom Dale will teach a group of 4<sup>th</sup> graders from Snake River Elementary School how to safely use the new HAWK Pedestrian Beacons.

The HAWKs safely connect pedestrians from the area of the Nampa Boys and Girls Club to Lakeview Park (Garrity Boulevard at Stampede Drive), as well as create a safer crossing from a playground at Lakeview Park to the playground at Maple Grove Park (16<sup>th</sup> Avenue North at East Lake Ethel Court).

What: Mayor Dale Teaches Children to use HAWK  
When: Wednesday, September 7, 2011  
Time: **2 PM**  
Where: Nampa Boys and Girls Club parking lot  
Garrity Boulevard & Stampede Drive

HAWK beacons are typically used to assist pedestrians in crossing major streets at locations where a conventional traffic signal is not warranted. While new to Nampa, they are currently used in Boise, Eagle, Meridian, and many other cities across the country.

Pedestrians using a HAWK crosswalk will find it similar to most signalized crossings. They press the button, wait for the WALK signal to appear and then proceed across the street after ensuring that traffic has stopped.

The beacon is a little different for drivers, remaining dark until a pedestrian activates it by pushing the button. Yellow lights then flash warning drivers to slow down and prepare to stop. It then changes to a solid yellow, followed by a solid red which means stop, just like any other traffic signal. Finally, the beacon turns to a flashing red, letting drivers know that after coming to a complete stop, they can proceed with caution if no one is in the crosswalk.

The HAWK Pedestrian Beacons were paid for through the American Resource and Recovery Act, which also paid for a section of the improvements on 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue North. The combined cost of the two beacons was \$205,000.

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