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Tigard Police Department MEDIA RELEASE

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Upcoming Enforcement for Distracted Driving Awareness Month

Tigard Police officers will be joining other law enforcement partners across Oregon and the U.S. in a national campaign targeting distracted drivers during Distracted Driving Awareness Month in April.

Distracted driving is *anything* that takes your attention away from the road, which can include talking or texting on your phone, eating and drinking, talking to people in your car, fiddling with the stereo, entertainment or navigation system — anything that competes for your attention while you are behind the wheel.

Texting is the most alarming distraction. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, sending or reading a text takes your eyes off the road for 5 seconds. At 55 mph, that's like driving the length of an entire football field with your eyes closed. NHTSA also reports that 3,142 people were killed in distracted driving crashes across the U.S. in 2019.

This special enforcement is made possible thanks to federal grant funding for overtime hours from NHTSA, which are distributed to the Oregon Department of Transportation and managed by Oregon Impact.

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