

City Close To Passing Texting Ban

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BEXLEY, Ohio — City council members will vote soon on an ordinance to ban texting while driving, 10TV News reported Tuesday.

A group of students from Capital University said that if drivers aren't talking on their phone, they're texting, 10TV's Kurt Ludlow reported.

"I do it, I'll be honest with you," said student Jess Stotlz. "I look forward to stop signs so I can do it."

Each of the students 10TV News talked to said they text while driving, except Jimmy Van Maaren, who is from New York.

"As one who used to text while I drove, I can now say that I don't because it's a law now where I live," Van Maaren said.

The city council is one meeting away from banning texting while driving, Ludlow reported.

Proponents like Sharon Montgomery, whose husband was killed by an alleged distracted driver, said it is a safety issue.

"It is a fact that crashes caused by drivers using phones for conversation or written messages, they can be anticipated and they can be prevented," Montgomery said.

Andy Teater said his nephew, Joe, died when his car was struck by a driver using a cell phone.

"I think we're raising a generation of distracted drivers," Teater said. "The more we can do to bring awareness to the issue, the better."

Almost all of the students said they have no plans to stop texting while behind the wheel, Ludlow reported.

"It is dangerous and it could cause me to wreck, but I still do it," student Brent Bowers said.

A recently-released study revealed that tractor-trailer drivers have a 23 percent greater chance of crashing if they are texting behind the wheel.

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