

# CONCERNED FOR A LOVED ONE'S SAFETY WHEN DRIVING?

Understand the 5 Stages of having the conversation with a family member on when it's time to retire from driving

## The Driving Conversation:

Ideally, you've begun having these conversations before any issues are present. Talk about your vision and concerns for the future, and be an advocate for your parents and loved ones.

The First Signs of Change: Look for changes in driving behavior and use self-assessment tools. Continue to provide support and let them know their safety, mobility and independence are your priority.

The Warning Signs: Learn the signs that cause greater concern, when to seek advice from a medical professional, when to seek referrals to driving rehabilitation specialists and what adaptive devices for vehicles may benefit your loved one.

#### When it's Time to Retire From

<u>Driving:</u> Know the critical questions to ask and what methods can help ease the transition. Learn what alternative approaches are available if retiring from driving is not voluntary.

Preserving Independence after Retiring from Driving: Help them plan for their future and consider alternative modes of transportation to maintain their highest level of freedom and independence.

### Skills and abilities to consider

Mental — ability to make split-second decisions, judgment and instant complex problem-solving, memory and ability to plan alternatives (in case of detours, etc.)

**Physical** — strength and flexibility. Ability to move fluidly to control the gas and brake, to turn one's head and neck to monitor traffic, and for backing and parking

Visual — Coloradans driving must read street signs and traffic signals, anticipate actions of other drivers, have peripheral vision to see traffic coming from the side of what's around when turning or changing lanes, and changes of vision in different levels of light — bright sunlight, dusk, night driving

**Reaction Time** — the ability to make sudden changes in the flow of traffic or react to unexpected actions of animals or small children

# WHAT CAN I DO IF SOMEONE I KNOW IS NO LONGER SAFE TO DRIVE?

- 1.If your loved one decides to quit driving, it's a good idea to have them formally surrender their license. They can do so at any driver license office; we will issue an ID card to replace the license.
- 2. Concerned family members can submit a request for re-examination due to physical or mental constraints by emailing dor\_mvhelpdesk@state.co.us. The email should include the driver's name and date of birth, the reason for concern, and the name and relationship to the driver.

#### **MORE INFO**

DMV.Colorado.gov/Request-a-Retest

