

PROCEDURE TO DETERMINE NEED FOR FLASHING PEDESTRIAN CROSSING SIGNS

Information

Pedestrian activated flashing pedestrian signs warn traffic of a pedestrian waiting to cross the roadway in crosswalks that are installed at locations that have insufficient gaps in the roadway vehicular traffic or have poor sight distance. Possible locations for flashing pedestrian signs are at crossings that do not require the roadway traffic to stop and where a large volume consistent pedestrian traffic is expected.

The sight distance to be determined is the stopping sight distance (SSD) for the vehicle measured from the location of the crosswalk.

While flashing signs may help increase awareness of pedestrians crossing the roadway, the signs do not relieve pedestrians of their responsibility to enter the roadway safely. Also, as the number of flashing pedestrian signs increases, their effectiveness decreases. Therefore, these signs should be used sparingly and only when absolutely necessary.

Therefore, prior to approving flashing pedestrian signal(s), when sight distance is poor, the possibility of relocating the crosswalk or the removal of the sight obstruction must be explored. This can often be accomplished by trimming back trees, bushes, etc. Increasing the sight distance will always have a greater positive impact on safety than installing a sign.

Purpose and Objective:

The purpose of this procedure is to establish the process to be followed when considering the need for a flashing pedestrian sign. The objective is to clarify and streamline the process so that it can be completed with improved efficiency and consistency. For convenience, this procedure is designed to be used as a form.

References:

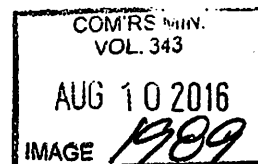
Ohio Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices §2C.50
Location and Design Manual, Volume 1, Figures 201-1E
NCHRP Report 562, Flowchart for Guidelines for Pedestrian Crossing Treatments

Process:

The applicant's Professional Engineer **MUST** prepare and submit a request for the Flashing Pedestrian Sign (FPS) to the County Engineer.

This request **MUST** include the following information:

- 1) A request for the FPS indicating:
 - a) Type of sign (i.e. LED, Beacon, solar, electric etc): _____
 - b) Location: _____



2) Pertinent Information

a) Pedestrian volume (Pedestrians per day): _____

b) Roadway ADT (Average Daily Traffic): _____

c) Does pedestrian traffic vary by season or day of week? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please explain: _____

d) Would signs need to be covered up for part of the year? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, for what time period? _____

e) Check files for any previous studies or other pertinent information.

Summary of findings: _____

f) Evaluate pedestrian accident history.

Years Ran (min. 3 years): _____ Number of accidents: _____

3) Field Information based upon field visit by the applicant's Professional Engineer.

a) Date the information on the drawing was obtained from a site visit: _____

b) Drawing showing conditions (Road width, alignment, sight distances. location of FPS)

c) Photos (optional)

d) Determination if sufficient stopping sight distance is available? Yes _____ No _____

(i) If d is no, can the crosswalk be relocated? Yes _____ No _____

If (i) is no, explain: _____

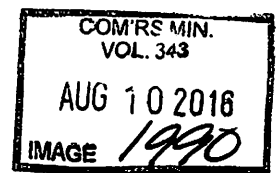
(ii) If d is no, is there a reasonable option to increase the sight distance? Yes _____ No _____

If (ii) is yes, explain: _____

(iii) Do other sight conditions impact the need for flashing pedestrian sign?

Yes _____ No _____

If yes, explain: _____



- 4) What other safety considerations may justify and necessitate the installation of the FPS?

- 5) The applicant's Professional Engineer shall use the NCHRP Report 562 Flowchart for Guidelines for Pedestrian Crossing Treatments recommendation.

Type of crossing treatment: Crosswalk _____
 Active/Enhanced _____
 Red _____

The above application **MUST** be prepared by the applicant's Professional Engineer registered in Ohio and the application **MUST** be signed and sealed by the applicant's Professional Engineer.

The County Engineer and/or the designated agent will review the application and will determine if the FPS should be installed. Should the FPS is permitted, a Revocable Agreement or another type of Agreement will be prepared by the County Engineer and submitted to the applicant for execution prior to the issuance of a permit and the installation of the FPS.

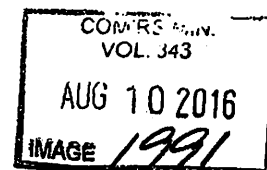
Tracking the application and Final Decision by the County Engineer:

Date application received: _____

Date of Final Decision: _____

Justification for decision: _____

Other Recommendations: _____



Follow up with decision.

- a) If application is denied, respond to applicant(s), i.e. the Township and the applicant's Professional Engineer.

Date Responded: _____

- b) If application is approved, send agreement to Township or pertinent party for signatures prior to installation.

Date agreement sent to Township or other party: _____

Date agreement is completely signed and authorized: _____

Date installation permit approved: _____

Date FPS installed: _____

Changes/Revisions: _____

Reviewer: _____