Install a Stop Line

A transverse pavement marking applied to the approach lane of a stop-controlled intersection to indicate where the motorist should stop.

Targeted Crash Types
- Right-angle
- Pedestrian

Problems Addressed
- Inadequate motorist guidance
- Vehicle conflicts with non-motorists
- Non-compliance with intersection traffic control devices

Conditions Addressed
- Crash history or observed conflicts related to STOP (R1-1) sign violations.
- Citation history of noncompliance at STOP signs.
- Poor driver decision-making related to gaps in traffic due to poor vehicle placement at STOP signs (i.e., not pulling ahead far enough).

Considerations
- Stopping sight distance should be considered when determining the location of the stop line.
- Stop lines should be placed at least 4 feet in advance of the nearest crosswalk line at stop-controlled approaches. In the absence of a marked crosswalk, the stop line should not be placed less than 4 feet or more than 30 feet from the nearest edge of the intersecting traveled way.
- Stop lines shall be solid and white, extend across the subject approach lanes, and should be 12 to 24 inches wide.

Industry Standard
*MUTCD*
Section 3B.16: Stop and Yield Lines

Select Examples
Hubbard Ave. & Park St., Middleton, WI
1st St. & Elliott Ave. N., Wenatchee, WA
26th St. & Pacific Ave., Virginia Beach, VA

Other Resources
Low-Cost Safety Enhancements for Stop-Controlled and Signalized Intersections, FHWA
Intersection Safety: A Manual for Local Rural Road Owners, FHWA
South Carolina Case Study: Systematic Intersection Improvements, FHWA
NCHRP 562 & TCRP 112: Improving Pedestrian Safety at Unsignalized Intersections