Install a Warning Beacon on a Standard Regulatory or Warning Sign

Addition of a Warning Beacon to provide emphasis to an existing regulatory or warning sign. Warning Beacons should not be used with STOP (R1-1), DO NOT ENTER (R5-1), WRONG WAY (R5-1a), or Speed Limit (R2-1) signs.

**Targeted Crash Types**
- Right-angle
- Rear-end (major road)
- Rear-end (minor road)
- Pedestrian
- Bicyclist

**Conditions Addressed**
- Crash history or observed vehicle conflicts caused by non-compliance with traffic control device or lack of awareness of intersection traffic control.
- Existing sign is not conspicuous in its surroundings.
- May be used at obstructions in or immediately close to the roadway.
- May be used to emphasize a change in traffic control or traffic regulation at the intersection (e.g., turning restrictions).
- Beacons shall not face conflicting vehicular approaches.

**Problems Addressed**
- Inadequate visibility of intersection or intersection traffic control devices
- Non-compliance with intersection traffic control devices
- Vehicle conflicts with non-motorists
- Speeding

**Considerations**
- Determine power source—solar power or hard-wired.
- Remove any visual clutter that may be inhibiting driver’s view of the existing sign.
- Take care not to overuse Warning Beacons as drivers may become accustomed to their presence and fail to respond as desired.
- This treatment can be used in conjunction with other treatments to increase sign conspicuity.

**Industry Standard**

*MUTCD*

Section 2A.15: Enhanced Conspicuity for Standard Signs

Section 4L.03: Warning Beacon

**Other Resources**

Innovative Operational Safety Improvements at Unsignalized Intersections, Florida DOT

**Select Examples**

Atlantic Ave. & Ingram Dr., Raleigh, NC
Jetton Rd. & Meta Rd., Cornelius, NC
NC 55 & NC 111, Indian Springs, NC

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*Source: South Carolina DOT*

A single signal indication is used in this Warning Beacon that is mounted atop the Cross Road sign.

*Source: VHB*

A pair of signal indications comprises this Warning Beacon.

*Source: Lee Engineering, LLC*

The Warning Beacon supplementing this School sign along an uncontrolled major road approach includes two signal indications.