Unsignalized Intersection Improvement Guide



This RRFB is activated by a pedestrian push button.



This RRFB is used as a supplement to a School sign.



Students cross this major road as the RRFB flashes.



Install a Rectangular Rapid–Flashing Beacon (RRFB)

Traffic control device that combines a pedestrian warning sign with useractivated light-emitting diodes (LEDs). The device flashes amber when activated through a pedestrian push button or by pedestrian detection and then remains dark when not in use.

Targeted Crash Types

- Pedestrian
- Bicyclist

Problems Addressed

Vehicle conflicts with non-motorists

Conditions Addressed

- Crash history or observed conflicts between vehicles and non-motorists crossing at the intersection.
- High volume of crossing pedestrians or bicyclists at intersection.
- Vehicles observed not yielding to pedestrians in crosswalk.
- High pedestrian delay due to few available gaps in traffic.

Considerations

- Use in combination with a crosswalk, wheelchair ramps, advance warning signs or pavement markings, and overhead lighting.
- Not to be used on intersection approaches controlled by STOP (R1-1) or YIELD (R1-2) signs or traffic signals.
- Power source is typically hard-wired but may also be solar powered.
- Public involvement meetings and outreach may be needed to educate the public on RRFB operations.
- There is no MUTCD warrant for the RRFB, but approval is needed from FHWA if not already granted to the home agency or state.
- May not be as effective on wider multilane streets or higher speed streets.

Industry Standard

MUTCD

Interim Approval for Optional Use of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (IA-11)

Other Resources

Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB), FHWA

Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacon (RRFB), PEDSAFE

Select Examples

Broadway Ave. & E. 55th St., Elmwood Park, NJ Ann St. & S. 3rd St., Wilmington, NC