



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.



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.



Targeted Crash Types

- Right-angle
- Rear-end (major road)
- Rear-end (minor road)
- Pedestrian
- Bicyclist

Problems Addressed

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

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.

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](#)