HIGH-VISIBILITY CROSSWALKS

Purpose

Improves visibility of pedestrians to approaching motorists.

Description

High-visibility crosswalks use parallel markings that motorists see more easily compared with traditional crosswalk markings located perpendicular to the motor vehicle path of travel.

Estimated Cost

$ $$ $$$ $$$$

Applicable Locations

• High-visibility crosswalks are appropriate at all controlled intersections.

• Uncontrolled intersections should meet requirements in MUTCD Section 3B.18.

Applicable Street Types

All street types.

Safety Benefits

• Increase motorist awareness of crosswalk location.

• Reduce crashes between pedestrians, bicyclists, and motor vehicles.

• Designate pedestrian right-of-way, and may reduce pedestrian crossings at unmarked locations.[26]

Expected Crash Reduction

48 percent for vehicle-pedestrian crashes.[27]

Design Guidance

• Marking pattern should be continental: a series of wide stripes parallel to the travel lanes for the entire length of the crossing.

• Crosswalks should be a minimum of 10 feet wide. If the sidewalk or sidepath is wider than 10 feet, the crosswalk should match the width of the sidewalk or sidepath.

• Install with curb ramps.

• At signalized intersections, install a stop bar in advance of the crosswalk at least four feet from the nearest edge of the crosswalk.

• Parking should be restricted in advance of a crosswalk to provide adequate sight distance.

Considerations

• Crosswalk location should be convenient for pedestrian access.

• Width may be wider than 10 feet at crossings with high pedestrian or bicycling demand.

- Artistic crosswalks, with approval from MCDOT, may be installed in the center of the intersection to add a unique design feature.

Systemic Safety Potential

Apply as a systemic countermeasure at all controlled crossings. At uncontrolled crossings, apply in accordance with FHWA Guide for Improving Pedestrian Safety at Uncontrolled Crossing Locations, Table 1.

Additional Information

- Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

- FHWA Guide for Improving Pedestrian Safety at Uncontrolled Crossing Locations

Standard Crosswalk Marking

High-Visibility Crosswalk Marking