

# What are the criteria for stop signs?

## The following warrants must be met prior to installation of a two-way stop sign:

- The intersection of a less important road with a main road where application of the normal right-of-way rule would not be expected to provide reasonable compliance with the law
- A street entering a through highway or street
- An un-signalized intersection in a signalized area
- Other intersections where high speed, restricted view or crash records (defined by five or more collisions within a 12 month period) indicates a need for control by a stop sign

## The following warrants must be met prior to the installation of a multi-way stop sign:

- Where traffic signals are going to be placed soon and the intersection needs a temporary solution to control traffic
- An intersection that has a crash problem (defined by five or more correctable collisions in a 12 month period)
- When an intersection has the following traffic volumes:
  - The total volume of traffic entering the intersection from the major approached averages at least 300 vehicles per hour for any eight hours of an average day
  - The combined vehicular and pedestrian volume that enters the intersection from the minor street must average at least 200 units per hour for the same eight hours, with an average delay to the minor street traffic of at least 30 seconds per vehicle during the maximum hour
  - The 85th percentile approach speed (this is the speed at or below which 85 percent of the vehicles travel on a given roadway) of the major street traffic exceeds 40 miles per hour and the minimum vehicular volume warrant is 70% of the above requirements

**For additional information:**

**The Village of Hinsdale Engineering Department Can provide you with additional Information regarding traffic Control devices.**

**The Hinsdale Police Department works cooperatively with the Engineering Department to address traffic safety concerns.**

(630) 789-7000

You may also refer to the "Traffic and Safety Frequently Asked Questions" available online at:

[www.villageofhinsdale.org/pd](http://www.villageofhinsdale.org/pd)

# Traffic Control Devices



*A community guide to the Village of Hinsdale's traffic engineering practices.*



## When are traffic control devices installed?

Traffic control devices and their installation are governed by the **Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices**, commonly referred to as **MUTCD**. Under the authority of the U.S. Department of Transportation this manual lists requirements, known as *warrants*, which must be met prior to installation of any traffic controlling device or signage.

The engineering philosophies behind the MUTCD serve as the authoritative principle for traffic control on all State and County roadways. The governmental body of the Village of Hinsdale relies upon the MUTCD as the local authoritative guiding principle for local roadways.

## Are intersections without signs unsafe?

If unwarranted, the installation of traffic signs can actually reduce the overall safety at the intersection. Signs on low volume roads may contribute to higher vehicle speeds and collisions, with more significant property damage and personal injuries. When there is no evidence of a right-angle collision problem at an intersection there is no safety benefit by installing traffic signs.

## What are the criteria for yield signs?

### The following warrants must be met prior to the installation of a YIELD sign

- On a minor road at the entrance to an intersection where it is necessary to assign right-of-way to the major road but where a STOP sign is not necessary at all times, and where the safe approach speed on the minor road exceed 10 miles per hour.
- On the entrance ramp to an expressway where an acceleration ramp is not provided.
- Within an intersection with a divided highway where a STOP sign is present at the entrance to the first roadway and further control is necessary at the entrance between the two roadways.
- At an intersection where a special problem exists and where an engineering study indicates the problem to be susceptible to correction by use of the YIELD sign.



## What happens when I ask the village for a traffic sign?

Requests for traffic control devices are directed to the Village of Hinsdale Engineering Department. The engineering department contacts the resident directly and information with the resident regarding past studies, collision data, present conditions and gathers additional data regarding the request. The engineer assigned to the study will advise the resident on how to make a formal request in writing.

If the preliminary data prepared warrants it, the engineer conducts an Intersection Study to gather evidence regarding the present conditions, vehicular volumes, vehicular speeds, collision history, site obstructions, pedestrian counts and any additional data which affects the conditions of the intersection. Traffic counters, covert radar, direct observations, photographs and counts are utilized for the Intersection Study.

An Intersection Study Report is then prepared which makes a recommendation whether or not a traffic control device should be installed. The recommendation is based on the collected data and its application to the required warrants by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for the respective traffic control device. A recommendation to install a traffic control device is made only upon presentation of evidence that the warrants for such a device have been met.

The recommendation is presented to the Zoning and Public Safety Committee. Residents are advised of the date and time of this meeting and encouraged to attend. The Zoning and Public Safety Committee votes whether or not the installation of such a device is appropriate upon reviewing the Intersection Study and the input from residents.