



# Information on STOP sign Beacons



*Why are there not red flashes on all STOP signs?  
How do I get them installed at an intersection?*

## STOP sign beacons

Clark County began a program in 2005 to install red flashing beacons on the top of STOP signs using a 12-inch LED solar powered beacon units. The intent of the supplemental beacons was to provide additional attention at large intersections where seeing the STOP sign may be problematic. The following criteria is used to determine where the beacons are placed:

- The intersection currently is a multi-way stop control intersection and the intersection currently warrants a traffic signal installation but the traffic signal is not currently under construction or to be constructed within the next six months, and one of the intersecting roadways is a 100-foot right-of-way, or
- The intersection has a crash rate of more than a rate of at least six accidents for each million vehicles that enter the intersection during the last year on record and these crashes are types of crashes that are due to non-compliance with the existing STOP signs.

## Why are they not installed on all STOP signs?

A flashing beacon is considered a traffic control device. A traffic control device, to be effective, must meet five basic requirements:

1. Fulfill a need;
2. Command attention;
3. Convey a clear, simple meaning;
4. Command respect from the road user; and
5. Give adequate time for proper response.

If a traffic control device is installed without meeting one of these requirements, the device is soon disregarded. This leads to the device at other locations, where the traffic control device is needed, being disregarded. While the beacons are a useful tool, overuse of them will lead to the devices being the norm instead of being able to bring attention when special consideration is needed. The beacons are to supplement STOP signs where needed under certain conditions, not replace STOP signs as a whole.

## How do I get flashing beacons at an intersection?

Your request will be evaluated based upon the criteria as described above. Red flashing beacons are just one of the tools Clark County uses to provide drivers with information about roadway issues. STOP AHEAD signs, stop bars, intersection ahead warning signs, and increasing the size of the STOP sign are some of the other tools that are used to notify drivers that they are approaching an intersection.

## Want More Information?

This flyer is for general purposes only. For more information, please contact the Clark County Department of Public Works, Traffic Management Division at (702) 455-6000 or email [InTheWorks@ClarkCountyNV.gov](mailto:InTheWorks@ClarkCountyNV.gov).

**NOTE:** The MUTCD is used throughout the country as the standard by which traffic control decisions are made. Nevada Revised Statute 484A.430 and County Code 14.12.070 require the County to use the MUTCD for placement of all traffic control devices. The complete MUTCD can be found at: [https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/kno\\_11th\\_Edition.htm](https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/kno_11th_Edition.htm)

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