

Traffic Control Devices

References: Transportation Association of Canada's *Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices of Canada*
Transportation Association of Canada's *Pedestrian Crossing Control Manual*

Policy Statement

Traffic signals and pedestrian crossing facilities will be provided to enhance operational and safety service levels at locations where devices are appropriate and beneficial according to national best practices and engineering guidelines.

Traffic Control Devices constitute a system for conveying messages to the road user. The objectives of these messages are to advise of traffic regulations to enable observance of the law, warn of road characteristics, road hazards and temporary conditions, and provide the information necessary for route selection. Meeting these objectives improves safety, serves the needs of the road user, and promotes the efficient movement of people and goods and the orderly flow of traffic. Simplification of the driving task through uniformity in the design and application of Traffic Control Devices is necessary to accomplish these objectives.

Purpose

Strathcona County strives to maintain a safe and efficient transportation network that includes the placement and evaluation of Traffic Control Devices to guide and direct the movement of all transportation network users. The purpose of this policy is to provide a consistent and accepted guideline for the placement and evaluation of Traffic Control Devices.

This policy is designed to provide guidance to Administration and to the community on the placement and maintenance of Traffic Control Devices throughout the County to regulate, warn, and guide both vehicular and pedestrian traffic within the transportation network.

Definitions

Traffic Control Device means a sign, signal, pavement marking or other device, placed on, over, or adjacent to the road by the County to support the legal and safe operation of traffic, pedestrians, and the transportation network.

Guidelines

Guiding Principles

Strathcona County will strive to adhere to the *Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices of Canada* in its approach to Traffic Control Device placement and use.

Road function and classification will be considered during the process of traffic signal and pedestrian crossing evaluations to ensure an appropriate balance of safety and efficiency is applied to accommodate transportation needs. The appropriate national guidelines will be utilized to provide substantive analysis and evaluation to accommodate the most effective and appropriate application of a Traffic Control Device.

Additional guidance can be derived from the TAC "Pedestrian Crossing Control Manual" and associated ITE publications and recommended practices.

New or Upgraded Traffic Control Devices

A clear engineering assessment and use of best practices, manuals, and guidelines will be used to determine when a Traffic Control device will be added. The device must provide a significant and measurable benefit to the efficiency or safety of the transportation network.

The Traffic Control Devices must:

- a) Fulfill a need
- b) Command attention and respect of transportation users
- c) Convey a clear and simple message
- d) Provide adequate time for proper response
- e) Conform to all guidelines, acts, and regulations

Unwarranted Traffic Control Devices

Unwarranted Traffic Control Devices can have a negative compounding effect on the transportation network as a whole and can contribute to:

- a) Compromised criteria and justification for warranted device installations
- b) Reduced respect and adherence of warranted installations
- c) Reduction in transportation efficiency
- d) Impacts on safety
- e) Additional expenses

Temporary Traffic Control Devices

Construction on municipal road rights-of-way undertaken by Strathcona County, consultants, contractors, or other agencies are to conform to the requirements of the current version of Part D – "Temporary Conditions" of the *Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices of Canada*, and any conditions imposed as part of a Right of Way Construction Activity Permit (Strathcona County *Traffic Bylaw*).

Policy Record

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