



STOP & YIELD SIGNS ASSIGN RIGHT OF WAY

Stop and yield signs assign the right of way at high volume intersections and enhance traffic flow. Stop and yield signs also create "through" streets, which are unimpeded by cross traffic. Speeds tend to increase on through streets and driver attentiveness tends to decrease.

Right of way is determined by the "right hand rule" at low volume intersections which do not have a stop or yield sign. In these situations drivers are to approach intersections with caution and yield the right of way to the driver on their right.

State Law requires that prior to installing "Stop" or "Yield" control, an engineering study must be completed. This study should document that the installation of the signs is necessary to improve the over-all operation of the intersection. The criteria to warrant signing are specifically documented in the national "Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices" (MUTCD).

STOP SIGNS, SPEEDING & ACCIDENT PREVENTION

At times people request that stop signs be placed at an intersection in response to a recent accident or to slow down traffic. "Stop" signs may not be the best or only solution to a problem. Research shows that intersections with stop signs generally experience more accidents than those without. Some drivers actually speed up between stop sign controlled intersections.

Frequently, people experience accidents at intersections because something blocks a driver's line of sight for cross traffic. Shrubs, parked cars, signs and other obstructions may be the culprit at a corner. If that is a problem, it can usually be corrected fairly easily.

Complaints about intersections are investigated by the Department of Public Works and Utilities. They will review the history of the accident patterns and note any changes in traffic volume. They also survey the site for obstructions or other conditions such as hills or curves. After a thorough analysis, traffic engineers can make specific recommendations for making an intersection safer.

DRIVER COOPERATION IS THE WAY TO GO

It is the mission of the Lincoln Public Works and Utilities Department to provide citizens a safe, convenient, accessible and affordable transportation system.

Compliance with the law is the best way to keep traffic flowing and citizens safe. Approach intersections with caution, observe the "right-hand rule" and always be a defensive driver. It's the "Way to Go."

For more information call the
Public Works and Utilities Department
Engineering Services Division
at 441-7711

