

Drivers: Learn how to use new pedestrian-crossing signals

A new kind of crosswalk signal could be coming soon to your neighborhood. Hybrid pedestrian beacons keep pedestrians safe and traffic moving, and they look different than the signals you're used to.

Focus
on **Safety**
Colorado Springs



How they work

1



Hybrid beacons are dark when not in use. When a pedestrian activates the signal by pushing a button, the hybrid beacon flashes yellow ① to warn drivers of a waiting pedestrian. After turning solid yellow, the beacon turns solid red ② to stop vehicle traffic as the pedestrian crosses the street. The beacon flashes red, indicating that drivers can pass through the crosswalk after stopping and ensuring it's clear. Finally, the signal returns to dark ③ while inactive and drivers can proceed as usual.

2



3



Drivers: At an activated hybrid beacon, slow for yellow and stop for red, just like a traffic signal. If the beacon is dark, there's no need to stop – just proceed as usual at the speed limit.

Pedestrians: Use the hybrid beacon by pushing the cross button just as you do at a typical traffic signal, and wait until you see the illuminated walker before crossing the street.

Hybrid beacons help drivers AND pedestrians

- A recent study showed that hybrid beacons reduce pedestrian accidents by 69 percent and overall crashes by 29 percent.
- Because beacons are dark when not in use, drivers don't have to stop unless a pedestrian is crossing. Better traffic flow means you get to your destination faster.
- Beacons better alert drivers to the presence of pedestrians, keeping everyone safe.
- The beacons use less energy and are less expensive to build and install, saving tax dollars.

Where you'll see the new signals

Signals are being installed as part of a citywide evaluation of signal placement. Beacons will be installed where traffic signals need replacement, but only a pedestrian signal is required, or as needed. By replacing outdated and under-used traffic signals with hybrid beacons, the city saves about \$160,000 per location.

How are the signals funded?

Signals are funded primarily by the Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority (PPRTA). However, some signals are funded by the federal Safe Routes to School grant program and other grant funded projects depending on location.



Need more info?

Visit www.springsgov.com or call City Traffic Engineering at 385-5908.