

Policy Title: All-Way Stop Signs

Policy Number: 10-04-05

Section:	Roads and Traffic	Subsection:	Traffic Signals
Effective Date:	March 9, 1994	Last Review Date:	June, 2016
Approved by: Council		Owner Division/Contact: Traffic Management Section of the Works Operations and Maintenance Division, Transportation and Works Department	

Policy Statement

All-way stop signs are installed on City of Mississauga streets if specific criteria are met and if approved by City of Mississauga Council.

Purpose

Stop signs are installed as a means of ensuring the safe flow of traffic by controlling vehicle right-of-way at intersections. This policy identifies the criteria used in determining whether all-way stop signs are warranted.

Approval of All-Way Stop

Residents requesting an all-way stop are referred to the Traffic Management Section of the Works Operations and Maintenance Division, Transportation and Works Department. Traffic Management staff are responsible for assessing whether an all-way stop is warranted. Council approval is required before all-way stop signs are installed.

Criteria

Recommendations to place all-way stop signs are based on visibility, surrounding land use, type of roadway, collision frequency and volume of traffic.

Accident Frequency

All-way stop signs are warranted on local roadways if at least five collisions occur in a 12-month period, provided the collisions are of the type considered correctable by the use of all-way stop signs. This guideline exceeds the guidelines established by the Ministry of Transportation's Ontario Traffic Manual Book 5 – Regulatory Signs.

All-way stop signs are warranted on major collector roads and arterial roads if an average of four collisions occur per year for a three-year period, provided the collisions are of the type

considered correctable by the use of all-way stop signs, in accordance with the Ministry of Transportation's Ontario Traffic Manual Book 5 – Regulatory Signs.

Volume of Traffic

The all-way stop warrant calculation is split into two sections. To warrant an all-way stop sign, both sections of the calculation must be fulfilled to 100 per cent or more.

The first section deals with the total traffic volume entering the intersection from all approaches:

- On major collector or arterial roadways, all way stop signs are warranted if the total vehicle volume on all intersection approaches exceeds 500 vehicles per hour for any eight hours of the day, in accordance with the Ministry of Transportation Ontario Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices
- On residential roads and streets other than major collector or arterial roads, all way stop signs are warranted if the total vehicle volume on all intersection approaches exceeds 180 vehicles per hour during the four hours of the day which represent the a.m. and p.m. peak periods
- On industrial and other non-residential roads, the total vehicle volume on all intersection approaches must exceed 300 vehicles per hour during the a.m. and p.m. peak periods

The second section deals with the hourly traffic volume entering the intersection from the minor street:

- At a four-way intersection, traffic volume from the minor street must equal at least one-third of the total volume
- At a three-way intersection, traffic volume from the minor street must equal at least one-quarter of the total volume

All-way Stop Signs Not Installed

All-way stop signs should not be installed solely:

- As a means of protecting pedestrians (particularly school children) since other means should be used to address the concern
- As a speed control device, or
- As a means of deterring the movement of through traffic in a residential area

All-way stop signs should not be installed:

- Where traffic would be required to stop on grades
- Where visibility of the sign is hampered by curves or grades and a safe stopping distance of less than 100 metres (328 ft.) Exists, or
- If any other permanent traffic device controlling right-of-way (i.e. Traffic signal or stop sign) is in place within 250 metres (820 ft.) of the intersection

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Revision History

Reference	Description
GC-129-94 – 1994 03 09	
April 01, 2005	Housekeeping amendments
July 11, 2013/ June 22, 2016	Housekeeping – updates to section name and contact information