



INFO SHEET

RAPID FLASH BEACON

New Rapid Flash Beacon and crosswalk installed in Baker City on Oregon Hwy. 7 / Campbell Street near Resort Street

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and Baker City have installed curb extensions and a crosswalk with rapid flash beacons in Baker City where the Leo Adler Parkway crosses Oregon Hwy. 7 / Campbell Street. The crosswalk is located about a half-block east of Resort Street. The pedestrian activated Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon, or RRFB, is one of several installed throughout Oregon. The RRFB consists of a flashing light bar mounted on the crosswalk sign to help alert motorists that a pedestrian is crossing the street. Similar beacons installed throughout the state and across the country are helping reduce vehicle vs. pedestrian crashes.

ODOT is working with Baker City to monitor pedestrian safety at the crosswalk and help remind pedestrians and motorists to pay extra attention in the area.

“Because the crosswalk flashing beacons are new to the area, we ask that pedestrians and drivers use extra caution and become familiar with their operations,” said ODOT Public Information Officer Tom Strandberg.



How the new crosswalk flashing beacons operate:

- Pedestrian pushes the button near crossing sign when they are ready to cross the street.
- When activated, the beacon will begin flashing alternating yellow colored lights similar to the pace of a strobe light.
- When lights are flashing and/or when pedestrians are present at crosswalk, motorists need to stop ahead of the intersection.
- Once all vehicles are stopped the pedestrian can travel across the roadway.
- Vehicles are safe to travel once all pedestrians have passed through the lane they are using plus the adjacent lane, or have reached the sidewalk on the opposite side of street (even if the lights are still flashing).

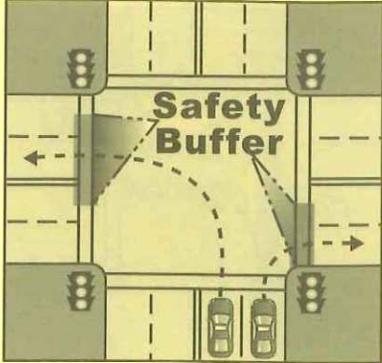
(More information, including Web link to short animated video demonstrating the Rapid Flash Beacon is on the back page)

Successful operation of the crossing signal requires cooperation and understanding by both the pedestrian and drivers of motorized vehicles.

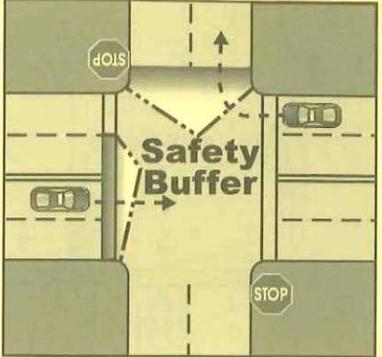
Pedestrians should make eye contact with drivers and ensure their vehicles have come to a complete stop before crossing the highway. It is very important that pedestrians understand that there are no laws in Oregon that require a vehicle to stop for a yellow flashing light.

“Just because the light is activated, it is not safe to cross the highway until all vehicles are stopped,” said Strandberg.

Oregon's Crosswalk Laws Have Changed



← Before turning at a crosswalk with a signal, it's **1 + 6**. **Your lane plus six feet**. Stop for the pedestrian, who must clear the lane into which the vehicle is turning **PLUS 6 feet beyond that lane**, before you proceed.



At any other crosswalk, it's **1 + 1**. **Your lane plus the next lane**. Stop for the pedestrian, who must clear the lane in which the vehicle is traveling or turning **PLUS the next lane**, before you proceed. →

Fine = \$242; \$355 in School Zones

Includes Rapid Flash Beacon crossings.

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STC #330531 Form #737-3451 (2-06)

The new flashing beacons are helping to improve crosswalk safety at numerous locations throughout the state. Drivers and pedestrians, however, need to continue to use caution and keep a close watch out for each other.



To view a short animated video showing how the Rapid Flash Beacons work, visit:
<http://tinyurl.com/RapidFlashBeaconVideo>

QR code to video



For more information: Interested parties can contact ODOT Region 5 Public Information Officer Tom Strandberg at (541) 963-1330, or by email at thomas.m.strandberg@odot.state.or.us