

What is a HAWK beacon?

Named using an abbreviation for **H**igh intensity **A**ctivated cross**W**alk, a HAWK beacon is a pedestrian-activated signal used to improve safety at crosswalks located mid-block on high-traffic roadways.

How does a HAWK beacon work?

The HAWK beacon uses a set of three steady or flashing lights—two red and one yellow—to warn and control vehicle traffic when a pedestrian is preparing to cross at a mid-block crosswalk.

Because HAWK beacons are pedestrian-controlled and only light up when someone is using the crosswalk, they help maintain the flow of regular traffic on the roadway.

How effective are HAWK beacons at improving safety?

According to the Federal Highway Administration,* HAWK beacons reduce pedestrian collisions at crosswalks by up to 69 percent, and overall roadway collisions by up to 29 percent at locations where they are installed.

For those who aren't yet familiar with HAWK signal operations, inside are a few helpful guidelines for vehicles and pedestrians.

*Source: U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration (https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/provencountermeasures/fhwa_sa_12_012.cfm)

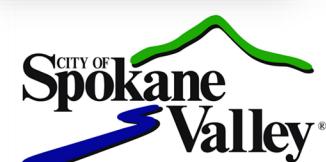
HAWK Crosswalk Beacons

a guide for
drivers and pedestrians



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COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC WORKS

What drivers see:

What it means for drivers:

For pedestrians:



PROCEED WITH CAUTION

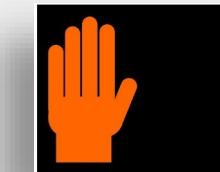
The signal has not been activated.



STOP. Press the button and wait to cross.



BEGIN SLOWING AND PREPARE TO STOP.



WAIT TO CROSS UNTIL THE WALK FIGURE APPEARS.



STOP.

The light is changing to red.



WALK. Check to be sure vehicles have stopped before crossing.



REMAIN STOPPED.

Pedestrians are using the crosswalk.



DON'T START—FINISH CROSSING. The signal flashes, counting down the time you have left to cross.



PULL UP TO THE CROSSWALK STOP LINE AND STOP.

Drivers MUST stop and verify that the crosswalk is clear before proceeding.



STOP. The period for crossing has completed.