TAP IT!

Technical Assistance Program, Information Transfer
KY Local Technical Assistance Program

Stop-Controlled Intersections

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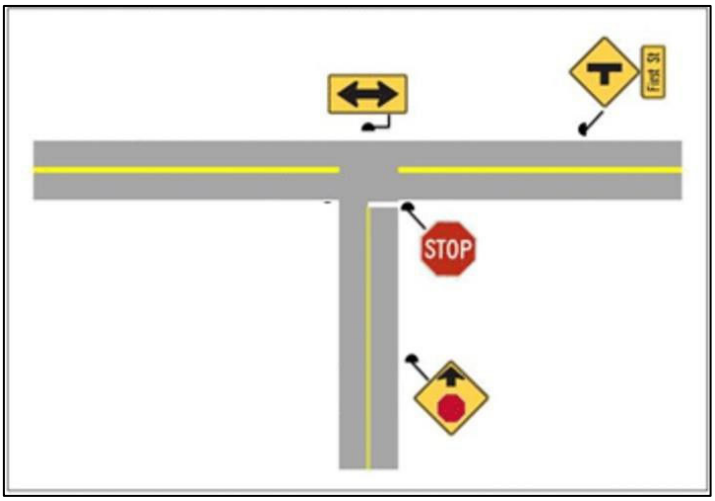
Stop-controlled intersections are the most prevalent form of intersection traffic control on Kentucky's roadway. Additionally, common intersection crash types, such as angle and left turn crashes, have a high severity rate due to the speeds involved in the crash. Often, stop-controlled intersections have minimally-placed traffic control, particularly at 'T' intersections.



At 'T' intersections, especially in unlit areas, the presence of the intersection may be even more difficult to discern for some drivers. In addition to the risk associated with entering the intersection, fixed object crashes if a driver proceeds through a 'T' intersection are common. A Two Direction Large Arrow sign (W1-7) is a low-cost method to reinforce stop control at 'T' intersections.[1]

In cases where vegetation partially or fully blocks existing signs, vegetation should be trimmed back. In cases whether other sight distance limitations exist, such as horizontal or vertical curves, advance traffic control signs like stop ahead signing (W3-1) should be used. For intersections with persistent crash history or demonstrated high frequency/high severity of crashes, dual mounted signing may be utilized.

Pavement Markings

In addition to signing, pavement markings, specifically painted stop bars, can be effective in delineating the intended stopping point of vehicles at intersections and indicating the presence of the intersection. While pavement markings can present additional maintenance requirements, they are recommended for installation at:

1) Wide or skewed access points and intersections with curves which increase driver uncertainty as to the intended stop location
2) Intersections or on corridors with a documented intersection crash history
3) Intersections with high exposure for severe crashes, such as high volume/high speed uncontrolled cross streets (e.g., state highways or low-volume county roadways)

1. Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), Federal Highway Administration. 2009. https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/