



How do they work?

When a pedestrian activates the system by pressing a button, overhead flashing yellow lights alert the drivers that pedestrians have activated the signal. The yellow light then turns solid, preparing drivers to make a complete stop at the intersection. When the light turns red, pedestrians receive a white “walk” signal, and may proceed across the intersection. A flashing red appears when the pedestrian countdown starts, telling the driver that if the intersection is clear, they may proceed through it with caution. Under this flashing red phase, each vehicle still has to stop and then can proceed if clear. When the pedestrian countdown has expired, the beacon goes dark and traffic continues on its way.

How effective is a HAWK?

- ◆ Researchers for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) found a HAWK can reduce auto-pedestrian crashes by nearly 70%.
- ◆ Drivers correctly yield to pedestrians at a HAWK at much higher rates (over 90%) than at traditional crosswalks (about 30%).
- ◆ A HAWK can be used in locations where a traditional traffic signal cannot be justified or would present too great a disruption to automobile traffic; but there is a need for a higher level of pedestrian protection than regular crosswalks.

For more information:

There are several informative videos on the internet that show how HAWKs work. One example can be found at:

<https://vimeo.com/223672024>

High Intensity Activated CrossWalk Signal (HAWK)

(Also known as a Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon)

WHAT IS IT?

A HAWK acts like a traffic signal and is designed to catch drivers' attention at pedestrian crosswalks and improve safety.

Because a HAWK operates similarly to a regular traffic signal, both drivers and pedestrians already have the skill set to respond easily and quickly, but they do not require traffic to stop unless a pedestrian needs to cross.



WHAT USERS SEE:

What the Driver sees:



All lights are off.
Drivers proceed normally.



Flashing yellow light.
Drivers approach with caution.
Pedestrian has activated the HAWK.



Steady yellow light.
Drivers prepare to stop.



Steady red lights.
Drivers stop like at a traffic signal.



Alternating flashing red lights. Drivers stop and then proceed like at a stop sign, yielding to pedestrians. All vehicles are in a stop and go situation under this phase.



All lights are off.
Drivers proceed normally.

What the Pedestrian sees:



Steady Don't Walk.
Pedestrians do not cross the street.



Steady Don't Walk.



Steady Don't Walk.
Pedestrians wait to cross the street.



Walk.
Pedestrians cross the street.



Flashing Don't Walk with Countdown Timer.
Pedestrians finish crossing the street.



Steady Don't Walk.
Pedestrians do not cross the street.