



January 10, 2022

## STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Thank you to City Clerk Shellie Bryant for providing me with the notice for this meeting. Thank you to the Transportation Committee for receiving me today.

After the last meeting, I went looking for information on the rational for crosswalk safety from TAC (Transportation Association of Canada), but found that they, while being a not-for-profit organization, the information required a price. I did find the CCMTA, (Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administration), also not for profit, a wealth of information. Both organizations have members from all levels of government. Today, I will focus on signage and crosswalks. Education and Recognition are valuable goals to achieve.

<https://www.ccmta.ca/en/>

### Countermeasures to Improve Pedestrian Safety in Canada | CCMTA

[https://www.ccmta.ca/web/default/files/PDF/CCMTA Pedestrian Report Eng FINAL.pdf](https://www.ccmta.ca/web/default/files/PDF/CCMTA_Pedestrian_Report_Eng_FINAL.pdf)

#### On page 8:

“Crosswalk design is a critical component of pedestrian safety. One of the primary goals of crosswalk design is to provide safe places for pedestrians to cross while enabling drivers and pedestrians to make safer decisions while minimizing the likelihood of a crash. Crosswalks are also used by forward-thinking jurisdictions to signal greater priority to pedestrian travel.

**Advance Yield Markings and Crosswalk Prompt Signs** The use of an advance X on the pavement was used in Canada in the past to indicate a crosswalk was near. Currently the advance “X” pavement markings are only used on an approach to a railway crossing. However, there is research that other advance pavement markings are effective in increasing yielding distance at crosswalks.

**Overhead Flashing Amber Beacons** Overhead flashing beacons are amber-coloured beacons that are installed on traffic signal poles that increase driver awareness that pedestrians are crossing the road.”

The Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) has released [\*Pedestrian Crossing Control Guide \(Third Edition\)\*](#)

<https://www.tac-atc.ca/en/pedestrian-crossing-control-guide-third-edition>

4. A new treatment system, enhanced crosswalk with side-mounted signs (GM+), is included in this Guide and incorporated into the Treatment Selection Matrix. The rationale for inclusion of this new treatment, GM+, is to continue to provide a crossing treatment option for lower speed ( $\leq 60$  km/h), low volume ( $\leq 9000$  ADT) crossing environments, while still providing flexibility for the practitioner to select

*which enhancements may be best for the particular crossing location. Research shows that there are multiple ways to increase the conspicuity of a crossing (such as advance yield lines, curb extensions, raised pedestrian refuge, and in-street signs) in addition to overhead mounted signs (Mead, Zegeer, & Bushell, 2014; Thomas, Thirsk, & Zegeer, 2016; Zegeer et al., 2016).*

6. Rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFB) are included as a new treatment system and incorporated into the Treatment Selection Matrix.

9. The Advanced Yield Here to Pedestrians Sign was introduced to accompany the corresponding pavement marking.

**Creative crosswalks are becoming more common in cities around the globe. This link shows a variety of crosswalks that are imaginative and colourful and include various volumes of traffic and pedestrians.**

<https://www.theguardian.com/cities/gallery/2016/jul/14/creative-crosswalks-pedestrian-zebra-crossings-around-world-in-pictures>



Ontario Traffic Manual (OTM)

The OTM does state that textured or coloured crosswalks should be “applied to increase the conspicuity of a pedestrian crossings and increase driver’s awareness of potential conflicts”. It goes on to state that the “materials should be designed to maintain visibility at night”.

<https://pub-hamilton.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=228233>

**I encourage the COS to be bold, be innovative, be creative. You don’t have to wait for Federal or Provincial legislation to act if you can take action to prevent further tragedy.**

**With Respect,**

**On Behalf of the Hudson Bay Park/Mayfair/Kelsey Woodlawn Community Association**

**Diane Bentley**