

	ORGANIZATIONAL STANDARDS	STANDARDS & REGULATIONS - ENGINEERING APPLICATION: All County Roads			
TITLE: Stop Signs	RESOLUTION NUMBER RCxx-xxx	SUPERCEDE	EFFECTIVE DATE Xx/xx/xxxx	SUPERCEDE	POLICY NUMBER SR-24

INTENT

One of the most common requests received by the Washtenaw County Road Commission is for a stop sign. Stop signs are installed at an intersection only after a traffic engineering study of the existing conditions indicates that their installation is appropriate. The Road Commission follows the guidelines and warrants for installing signs set forth in the Michigan Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MMUTCD). These warrants examine the traffic volumes, crash history, traffic flow and sight distance at the location to determine if a stop sign should be used.

Each year, the Road Commission receives numerous requests for stop signs in order to reduce speeding. However, the purpose of a stop sign is to assign right-of-way at an intersection, not control speed. Research shows that stop signs installed for the wrong purposes often create more problems than they solve. While unwarranted stop signs may decrease speeds in the immediate vicinity of the sign, they actually increase speeds between the signs. Unwarranted stop signs also have a high non-compliance rate which leads to a loss of respect for all traffic control devices. Proper installation of stop signs will maximize the safety and efficiency of county roads and help ensure that citizens maintain a healthy respect for the community's traffic control systems.