

Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacon

Connecticut Department of Transportation
Bureau of Engineering and Construction

Traffic and Safety Engineering

The Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacon (RRFB) is a type of traffic control device designed to allow pedestrians to safely cross streets with high volumes of traffic. RRFBs can enhance safety by reducing crashes between vehicles and pedestrians at uncontrolled approaches to unsignalized intersections and mid-block pedestrian crossings by increasing driver awareness of potential pedestrian conflicts. In an effort to increase pedestrian safety, the Connecticut Department of Transportation allows installation of RRFBs at select locations throughout the state.



The RRFB is composed of amber light emitting diodes (LEDs) that supplement warning signs at uncontrolled approaches to unsignalized intersections or mid-block crosswalks. RRFBs use an irregular flash pattern that is similar to emergency flashers on police vehicles. RRFBs can be activated by pedestrians manually by a push button or passively by a pedestrian detection system.

The RRFB provides these benefits:

- Lower cost alternative to traffic signals and hybrid signals
- Increase driver yielding behavior at crosswalks

RRFB Implementation Considerations:

- Owned and maintained by the municipality.
- Only allowed at uncontrolled marked crosswalks (unsignalized or midblock crosswalks).
- Signing and pavement markings according to State standards.
- Sidewalk ramps shall meet Americans with Disability Act standards.
- Receives power through standalone solar panel units, but may be wired to a traditional power source.



(Graphic courtesy of http://ferndalemoves.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/CrossingIsland3LaneCurbs_C
I RRFB View 1.png

Additional information regarding the RRFB installation process can be found [here](#).