

FAQs

Why is the WALKING PERSON light not long enough to cross the street before the FLASHING HAND is displayed?

There is a common misunderstanding that the WALKING PERSON light should be displayed for the entire time required to cross the street. The WALKING PERSON light tells pedestrians that they may **begin** to cross. The pedestrian protection does **not** end when the WALKING PERSON light ends and the flashing HAND begins. The flashing HAND means **don't start** to cross. It continues to provide protection for pedestrians who began their crossing during the WALKING PERSON interval and tells the late arrivals not to begin to cross.

I walk slowly and do not have enough time to get across. What should I do?

Always use the push button. Wait for a fresh WALKING PERSON light. This will give you extra time. Start as soon as the WALKING PERSON light is displayed and complete your crossing through the flashing HAND display.

Why is the WALKING PERSON light not displayed immediately after I push the yellow pedestrian button?

At quiet times, the light will change very quickly. At busy times of the day it can take a little longer to handle heavy traffic on the street. If the Intersection Pedestrian Signal takes longer than 40 seconds to respond, please call the Traffic section of the Public Works Department at (905) 980-6000

Turning vehicles do not give way to me when I cross even when the WALKING PERSON light is displayed. What should I do?

By law, all vehicles have to yield to pedestrians lawfully within the crosswalk, but some drivers may not show enough courtesy. For your own protection, be attentive and watch for vehicles turning across your path. Make eye contact with the turning driver and be certain that it is safe before continuing to walk across.

When I am driving toward the red-amber-green lights, why do I have to stop so far from the crosswalk?

The stop line is designed to be at a location which allows motorists facing the signal to easily see the traffic lights and the intersection when stopped. Motorists must stop at or behind the painted stop line on the road for the red light.

How do I turn from the side street when vehicles on the main street have stopped for the Intersection Pedestrian Signal?

You are required to yield to all pedestrians and vehicles on the main street. Once you have stopped for the stop sign, check the pedestrian and vehicular traffic for a suitable gap even though the vehicles on the main street have stopped. When it is safe, proceed into the intersection carefully. When in doubt, **act cautiously** and allow the main street traffic to clear.

**TRANSPORTATION SERVICES DIVISION
Public Works Department
Niagara Region**

Questions or comments: (905) 980-6000
Toll Free : 1 (800) 263-7215
Website: www.niagararegion.ca

Niagara Region
PUBLIC WORKS

How to use your

Intersection Pedestrian Signal



INTERSECTION PEDESTRIAN SIGNAL

The Intersection Pedestrian Signal is a traffic signal designed to assist pedestrians in crossing a busy street. The signal consists of:

- red, amber and green traffic lights for vehicles on the street that pedestrians are crossing, and
- lights with WALKING PERSON and HAND symbols for the pedestrians.

There are no traffic lights facing vehicles on the side streets. Those vehicles are controlled by stop signs.

A pedestrian indicates the desire to cross by pushing a push-button. The signal will stop the vehicles on the street and provide an interval for pedestrians to cross.



In order to ensure traffic safety, both motorists and pedestrians have roles to play at an Intersection Pedestrian Signal.

PEDESTRIANS CROSSING THE STREET

How to use the signal?

It's easy! Just push the button to indicate your desire to cross. In a few seconds, traffic on the street will stop and the WALKING PERSON light will be displayed



Cross the street only when it is safe!

When you see the WALKING PERSON light:

Look in all traffic directions and check for turning cars.

Be sure to look LEFT-RIGHT-LEFT.

When it is safe, proceed across.



DO NOT START to cross the street after the FLASHING HAND has been displayed!

When the FLASHING HAND is displayed:

Do not stop in the middle of the crosswalk or return to the curb.

Simply complete your crossing to the other side at a normal pace.

MOTORISTS FACING THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL

Obey the traffic lights as at any signal. Stop at the stop line. Even if the signal turns green, let pedestrians finish crossing before proceeding; also expect traffic to enter the intersection from the side street and cross your path. Before turning left, wait for a gap in on-coming traffic as at any traffic signal.

MOTORISTS FACING THE STOP SIGN



Stop at the painted stop bar for the stop as at any stop controlled intersection. Allow pedestrians and vehicles to cross. Proceed into the intersection only when pedestrian and vehicular

PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS



WHITE "WALKING MAN"

You may commence crossing the roadway in the crosswalk and in the direction of the signal.



FLASHING ORANGE "HAND"

You shall not commence crossing the roadway. If you have already entered the roadway you have the right-of-way for this purpose over all vehicles.



STEADY ORANGE "HAND"

You shall not commence to cross the roadway.