



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Can STOP signs be used to reduce traffic speeds?

No, studies have shown STOP signs are ineffective speed control devices. Drivers often increase speed after a STOP sign to make up for “lost time”.

2. What is the harm in installing traffic signs that are not really needed?

Again, studies have shown when STOP signs are placed at intersections where they don’t appear to be needed, motorists become careless about stopping. STOP signs should be installed only where they are absolutely necessary. Other solutions – for example, a YIELD sign may also provide enough safety, without any detriment to traffic flow.

3. Where can STOP signs be installed?

STOP signs can be installed at entrances to certain through streets or where a STOP sign warrant study indicates the need for a STOP sign.

4. What is a STOP sign warrant?

STOP sign warrants are used to determine whether or not a STOP sign should be installed.

Warrants analyze:

- The number of vehicles at an intersection,
- Accident history,
- Vehicular and pedestrian conflicts,
- Visibility, and/or
- Unusual conditions including:
 - High concentrations of pedestrians or vehicles
 - Regular use of the intersection by children, the elderly or disabled.

5. What costs are involved with installing STOP signs?

The installation of a single STOP sign is relatively inexpensive, but associated costs are not. The following costs must be considered before a STOP sign is installed:

- Cost of the STOP sign warrant study.
- Sign maintenance.
- Extra fuel consumed when a vehicle accelerates after stopping.
- Air pollution increases as a result of increased fuel consumption.
- Residents living near STOP signs experience increased air and noise pollution.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information on STOP signs or other traffic related issues, contact the Engineering Department at 512-262-1010 or you believe there is a chronic traffic concern in your area, please contact the Police Department at 512-268-3232 (non emergency). You can also send an email to cityengineer@cityofkyle.com.

To report missing or damaged signs, call the Department of Public Works at 512-262-3024.