New Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (HAWK)
WisDOT Northeast Region

Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (HAWK): WisDOT Northeast region recently installed a new pedestrian hybrid beacon called a H.A.W.K. (High-intensity Activated crosswalk) on WIS 57 (Riverside Drive) south of Sunset Circle in the village of Allouez.

Federal Highways Administration recently approved the HAWK as a newer traffic control device to safely accommodate pedestrians at mid-block roadway crossings.

Location: The Village of Allouez, Walkable Allouez Bike and Ped Ad Hoc Committee and WisDOT worked together to mitigate safety concerns for pedestrians and bicyclists crossing WIS 57 (Riversdale Drive) to reach the Fox River State Recreational Trial. With an Annual Daily Traffic Volume (ADT) of 14,000 vehicles/day, a 35 mph speed limit and no traffic control devices, the HAWK was an acceptable solution for pedestrians and bicyclists to cross this section of Allouez safely.

Safety design: A pedestrian hybrid beacon is used to warn and control traffic at a mid-block crosswalk without other traffic signals. While slightly different in appearance, this beacon functions much like a conventional pedestrian signal in that it stops traffic to allow pedestrians to cross safely. The beacon stops traffic with a double red indication thereby creating a gap for pedestrians to cross.

Benefits:
- The alternating red signal indication allows vehicles to proceed once the pedestrian has cleared their side of the travel lane, thus improving vehicle traffic flow.
- According to Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) pedestrian hybrid beacons can reduce delays for pedestrians by up to 50 percent when compared to traditional signalized crossings.

Where are they being used?
- Pedestrian hybrid beacons should only be used with a marked crosswalk.
- These beacons are used if gaps in traffic are not adequate to permit pedestrians to cross safely.
- Transit and school locations may be good places to use the pedestrian hybrid beacon.

Additional Information:
- http://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/safety/safety-eng/ped-beacon.aspx
- **https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x92c5SHc8yM**

Pedestrian hybrid beacon operation

1. The beacon is DARK for **motorists** UNTIL **pedestrians/bicyclists** push the button to activate it AND **pedestrians/bicyclists** approaching the crosswalk see a steady "Don't Walk" indication.

2. When **pedestrians/bicyclists** press the button:
   - **Motorists** will see a FLASHING YELLOW indication for a few seconds, signaling that the beacon has been activated and motorists must proceed with caution.
   - **Pedestrians/bicyclists** will continue to see a "Don't Walk" indication and must wait. If the beacon was recently activated, it might take up to one minute for the "Walk" indication to come up.
3. The flashing yellow is followed by a SOLID YELLOW indication.
   - **Motorists** should stop if able to safely do so.
   - **Pedestrians/bicyclists** will continue to see a "Don't Walk" indication and must continue to wait.
4. The solid yellow is followed by double SOLID RED indications.
   - **Motorists** are required to come to a full STOP if they have not done so already.
   - **Pedestrians/bicyclists** receive a "WALK" indication and, if clear, begins crossing the road in the marked crosswalk.
5. The double solid red is followed by alternating FLASHING RED indications (the last configuration in the sequence).
   - **Motorists** are required to STOP, or remain stopped, until pedestrians/bicyclists have finished crossing the street. They may proceed with caution after stopping once the crosswalk is clear of pedestrians/bicyclists.
   - **Pedestrians/bicyclists** already in the crosswalk continue crossing and will receive a numerical indication counting down the time remaining to finish crossing the street.
   - **Newly approaching pedestrians/bicyclists** may NOT start to cross on a flashing "Don't Walk" indication, even if they think they have enough time to clear – they must push the button and wait for the next "WALK" indication.
6. The beacon will then go DARK again until activated by another pedestrian/bicyclist.
   - **Motorists** may proceed through the crosswalk if it is clear.
   - **Pedestrians/bicyclists** see a steady "Don't Walk" indication.

Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon Operation

	DRIVERS		PEDESTRIANS	
	Will See …	Will Do …	Will See …	Will Do …
1	(dark signal)	Proceed with caution.	(hand)	Push the button to activate the system.
2	(FLASHING yellow)	Proceed with caution. A pedestrian has activated the system.	(hand)	Wait.
3	(solid yellow)	Stop if safe to do so.	(hand)	Continue to wait.
4	(double solid red) STOP.	A pedestrian is in the crosswalk.	(walking person)	Start crossing when all vehicles are stopped.
5	(alternating FLASHING red) STOP.	Proceed with caution if the crosswalk is clear.	(hand with countdown 09)	Continue crossing; the signal will count down.
6	(dark signal)	Proceed if the crosswalk is clear.	(hand)	Push the button to activate the system.