

## When should STOP signs NOT be used

STOP signs are not useful for controlling speed or addressing neighborhood cut through traffic. Unwarranted use of STOP signs can lead to inappropriate driver behavior, including rapid acceleration. These such actions may decrease safety in some situations.

## OK, if STOP signs aren't appropriate, what else can be done to improve

Numerous improvements can be made to increase safety at an intersection:

- Increase law enforcement efforts
- Increase visibility by trimming trees, hedges and bushes
- Install YIELD signs
- Install appropriate warning signs
- Restrict parking near the intersection.

## Who can I contact about STOP signs?

You can contact the Department of Public Works Traffic Services staff at 650-363-4103. Traffic Services staff will evaluate the situation and conduct an investigation if necessary.



## A Citizen's Guide for STOP signs in San Mateo County

Department of Public Works  
Road Operations-Traffic Services  
752 Chestnut Street  
Redwood City, CA 94063  
Phone: 650-363-4103  
Fax: 650-366-7238



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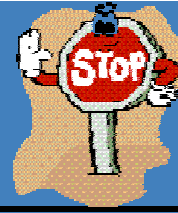
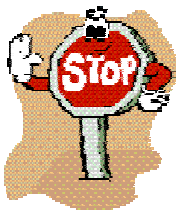
Department of Public Works  
Road Operations

## What is the purpose of a STOP sign?

Stop signs are used to enhance safety, improve efficiency and to establish the right of way at intersections among all modes of transportation.

## What is the County's policy for installing STOP signs?

The County conforms to the requirements set forth by the California Supplement to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, published by the Federal Highway Administration.



## What conditions are considered ?

Some of the criteria taken into account are:

- Right-of-way conflicts between major and minor streets.
- Intersection accident history
- Available visibility
- Presence of facilities that generate high pedestrian and bicycle activity
- Other unusual conditions



## If my intersection qualifies for a STOP sign, what's next?

IF the intersection qualifies for STOP signs then the following sequence of events will take place:

- The resident(s) who made the request will receive a letter notifying them that the department will recommend the installation of STOP signs and when the Board of Supervisors will be scheduled to consider it. The resident(s) are invited to attend the meeting.
- All property owners within 300' of the proposed STOP sign location will also be notified about the proposed STOP signs, and will be invited to attend the meeting as well. Also property owners and residents can submit comments to the Traffic services staff. All public comments are forwarded to the Board of Supervisors prior to the meeting.
- At the meeting, the Board of Supervisors will consider the Department's recommendations and any comments from the public on the proposed stop signs. The Board of Supervisors will vote on whether or not stop signs will be approved.
- STOP signs will be installed upon approval by the Board of Supervisors.

