

RICWS

Rural Intersection Conflict Warning System

The goal of the Rural Intersection Conflict Warning System (RICWS) is to reduce fatal and serious injury crashes at rural non-signalized intersections. Minnesota Crash Facts shows that fatal crashes tend to occur on roads in rural areas that permit high speeds and do not have interstate-type safety designs. In 2011, 67 percent of all fatal crashes occurred in rural areas with populations of less than 5,000 people.

A 1994 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration study found that in crashes at rural STOP controlled intersections,

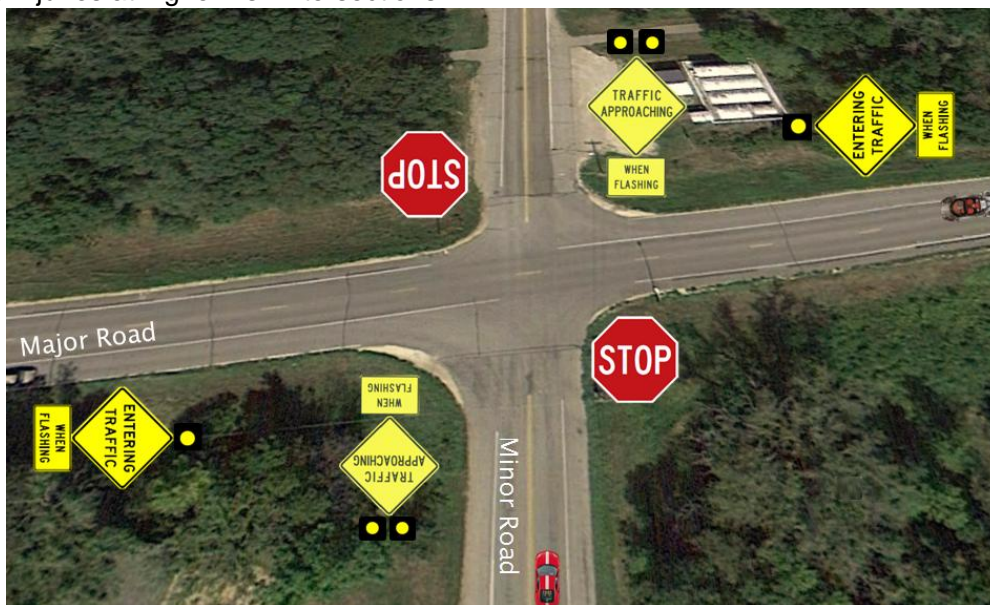
- 62 percent stopped and looked, but did not see the other vehicle
- 20 percent misjudged the gap of the approaching vehicle
- 14 percent had an obstructed view of the other vehicle
- 4 percent of crashes were due to ice-covered roads.

A 2008 MnDOT study showed 26 percent of right-angle crashes at STOP controlled intersections were caused by drivers failing to stop at the STOP sign.

Benefits

- Low cost safety improvement
- Reduce right angle crashes
- Reduce severity of crash-related injuries
- Real-time warning of traffic conditions
- Uses technology to increase motorist safety

These systems use a combination of static signing, detection, and dynamic elements, to provide drivers with a dynamic warning of other vehicles approaching the intersection. The signs include sensors and flashing lights that are expected to reduce fatal crashes and injuries at higher-risk intersections.



2013 Proposed Locations

Olmsted County
Major road- Hwy 42
Minor road- CR 9

Olmsted County
Major road- Hwy 63
Minor road- CR 21

Rice County
Major road- Hwy 3
Minor road- CR 20

Rice County
Major road- Hwy 60
Minor road- CR 13

Rice County
Major road- Hwy 60
Minor road- CR 16

Rice County
Major road- Hwy 60
Minor road- CR 44



For More Information

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