What is a pedestrian hybrid beacon?

A pedestrian hybrid beacon (PHB) is a device that assists pedestrians in crossing a street or highway at a marked but unsignaled crosswalk by warning and controlling vehicular traffic.

A PHB can be used at a midblock crosswalk or at an intersection crosswalk. If used at an intersection, the device only controls the main-street vehicular and pedestrian traffic. It does not control side-street traffic, which should continue to **STOP** and proceed when it is safe to do so.

ADOT

Additional information on the effectiveness of the pedestrian hybrid beacon can be found online at azdot.gov/SR95PHB

For questions and comments, please call 1.855.712.8530

ADOT REV 05/12
12-519

ADOT

Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon

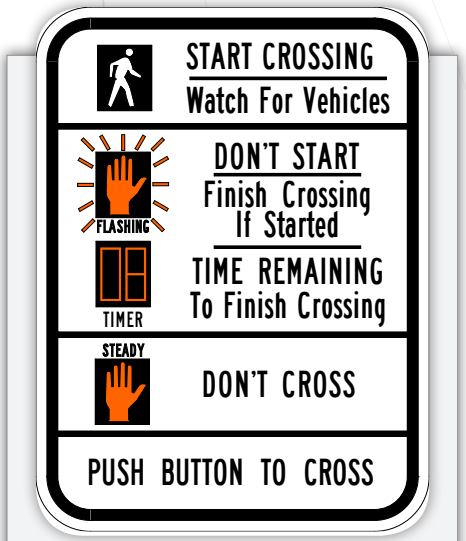
Why is ADOT installing pedestrian hybrid beacons?

The Arizona Department of Transportation is installing a new traffic control device to help make crossing busy streets easier for pedestrians. This new device is called a pedestrian hybrid beacon (PHB).

Arizona faces many challenges in providing service for pedestrians wanting to cross busy, wide streets safely and efficiently. Some locations do not meet adequate spacing requirements for a standard traffic signal, and the amount of pedestrian or side-street traffic is usually not high enough to justify a signal. Before a PHB can be installed, it needs to be justified by a traffic-engineering study.

PHBs have been used by various agencies throughout the country to improve service for pedestrians. Several of these devices have been installed in the Tucson and Phoenix metro areas.

The PHB was first installed in Tucson to assist pedestrians crossing very busy streets. It is similar to traditional traffic-control devices, but it uses a different configuration.



Example of typical pedestrian signage used with pedestrian hybrid beacons

Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon Operation

	DRIVERS		PEDESTRIANS	
	Will See ...	Will Do ...	Will See ...	Will Do ...
1		Proceed with caution.		Push the button to activate the system.
2	 FLASHING	**Slow down.** A pedestrian has activated the system.		Wait.
3		Prepare to stop.		Continue to wait.
4		**STOP.** A pedestrian is in the crosswalk.		Start crossing when all vehicles are stopped.
5	 FLASHING 	**STOP.** Proceed with caution if the crosswalk is clear.		Continue crossing; the signal will count down.
6		Proceed if the cross-walk is clear.		Push the button to activate the system.

Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon: Steps for Activation

1. When there is no pedestrian waiting to cross, drivers will see that all indication lights are dark; the pedestrian will see a **"DON'T WALK"** symbol. A pedestrian who wants to cross the street will need to push the button to activate the system.

2. When a pedestrian pushes the button, approaching drivers will see a **FLASHING YELLOW** light for a few seconds, indicating that they should reduce speed and be prepared to stop for a pedestrian in the crosswalk. Pedestrians will continue to see a **"DON'T WALK"** symbol and should wait.

3. Drivers will see a **STEADY YELLOW** light, warning drivers the indication will soon turn to a **STEADY RED** light. Pedestrians will continue to see the **"DON'T WALK"** symbol and should continue to wait.

4. Drivers will see a **STEADY RED** light, which requires them to **STOP** at the stop line. At this point, the pedestrian receives a **"WALK"** symbol to cross.

5. As the pedestrian crosses the street, drivers will see **ALTERNATING FLASHING RED** lights, indicating that they need to stop. During this period, motorists are required to **STOP** or remain stopped until pedestrians have finished crossing the street. They may proceed with caution if the crosswalk is clear. Pedestrians will see a flashing countdown that indicates how much time they have to cross the street.

6. At the end of the flashing countdown, drivers will see that all indication lights are dark; the pedestrian will see a **"DON'T WALK"** symbol. Drivers may continue to proceed through the crosswalk if it is clear; pedestrians waiting to cross will have to push the button to activate the system.