

STOP SIGNS



GENERAL

Stop control is one of the Traffic Engineer's most valuable, effective and respected tools in regulating traffic at an intersection. The STOP sign's function is to "tell" approaching motorists that they must stop before entering an intersection, often for reasons that may not be readily apparent.

Although the City receives many requests to install STOP signs to slow traffic on a given street, the device's principle function is to delegate right-of-way. When the STOP sign is not used for this purpose, the incidence of intentional violation increases as does the potential for accidents. **Therefore, STOP signs should not be used as a speed control device.**

STOP SIGN WARRANTS

Upon receipt of a request for Stop control installation, a Traffic Study is conducted to evaluate traffic and physical conditions at the Study intersection. The Study findings are applied to the city's WARRANTS for the installation of Stop control.

The WARRANT is a set of numerical and physical criteria that are used to help determine if STOP control is an applicable means to reduce an existing accident problem, correct traffic control problems caused by physical or design features, or to delegate right-of-way when the traffic volume at an intersection has reached a level where motorists and pedestrians need assistance with safely entering or exiting a specific street.

The WARRANTS are not absolutes in determining traffic control needs, but are intended to provide a means, in conjunction with engineering judgment, for the Traffic Engineer, Traffic Commission and ultimately the City Council to compare the conditions at the intersection being studied with the conditions at similar intersections throughout the City that have historically needed STOP control installation.

Engineering judgment is an experience-based evaluation made by the Traffic Engineer during the course of the Traffic Study with respect to circumstances or conditions beyond the Warrant criteria that exist that may justify the installation of Stop control.

In recognition of different conditions and circumstances, the City of Yorba Linda follows the State warrant guidelines as prescribed in the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).

REQUESTS AND INQUIRIES

If you have questions or requests regarding STOP control, please contact the Traffic/Transportation Division at: **(714) 961-7170** or via email: twang@yorba-linda.org.