



## WARNING SIGNS TRAFFIC POLICY

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**PURPOSE:** Warning signs are used when it is deemed necessary to warn traffic of existing or potentially hazardous conditions on or adjacent to a highway or street. Warning signs require caution on the part of the vehicle operator and may call for a reduction in speed or a maneuver in the interest of safety for the motorist or pedestrian. The use of warning signs should be kept to a minimum. Overuse of warning signs, especially for conditions which are apparent, tends to breed disrespect for signs in general, and they lose their effectiveness. Warning signs many times have an initial positive effect but soon lose the attention of regular passers-by. At residential speeds (under 35 MPH) motorists using due care can respond to hazards or conditions presented in the roadway without the need for warning signs. General warning signs that are not about a specific hazard will not be placed, as they do not indicate expected driver actions.

**PROCESS:** Your traffic safety concern or request will be formalized by a staff member. That person will work with you and gather the pertinent facts and help clearly define the problem and seek a solution. Requests for removal of a sign will follow the same process. Those facts will be reviewed by the City Administrator. The staff safety review decision will be shared with you. If you disagree with the decision or can bring forth additional information and/or facts that are persuasive as related to the City warrants/policies for the requested issue, you may appear at a Council meeting and present your viewpoint. We suggest you alert any interested parties to attend the meeting with you. In all cases the City Council is the final authority on traffic safety matters. Any subsequent review of the same or similar request is at the discretion of the City Council.

**POLICY:**

1. The provisions of the Minnesota Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) shall be followed.
2. Traffic analysis, engineering, and property use facts and data shall be reviewed when considering warning signs.
3. Absent supporting facts and data, warning signs will not be erected on residential streets.
4. Warning sign appropriateness will be reviewed as part of any street reconstruction.

5. Any of the following conditions may warrant the installation of a warning sign:

a. Speed Advisory Warning Sign

In conjunction with another warning sign where geometrics or operating conditions warrant a reduced speed.

b. Curve or Turn Warning Sign

Installed in residential locations when inadequate sight lines warrant. Installed when a street or roadway turns at a right angle.

c. Park or Playground Warning Sign

Installed on the park property at the focal point or entrance to the park.

d. International Pedestrian Warning Sign

Installed on established pedestrian routes where 10 pedestrians per hour for two continuous hours are documented.

e. School, School Crossing, & School Bus Stop Warning Signs

Installation in accordance with Part VII of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)

f. Children at Play Warning Signs

Not installed within the City of Circle Pines.

g. Stop Ahead, Yield Ahead, Signals Ahead Warning Signs

Installed on approaches where the traffic control sign is not continuously visible to the driver.

h. Dead End/No Outlet Warning Signs

Installed where a roadway terminates in a dead end or where a turn-about is necessary to return to a point of origin.

i. Disabled Person Warning Signs

(i) Warning signs may be installed upon the request of a disabled person or by the representative of a disabled person.

(ii) Requestors will be asked to notify the City to remove the sign when the disability no longer exists or the person moves.

(iii) Disability status will be automatically reviewed after a five-year period.

(iv) Signs shall be black on yellow, standard warning colors.

(v) Signs available include:

- "Deaf Child", "Deaf Child Area"

- "Blind Child", "Blind Child Area"

- "Disabled Child/Person", "Disabled Child/Person Area"

- "Autistic Child", "Autistic Child Area"