

# DESIGN BULLETIN #56/2007

## Placement of Stop Lines

### Summary

This Bulletin is issued to clarify for practitioners and department staff the intended stop line placement, as described in the Highway Pavement Marking Guide.

Where stop lines are placed a long ways back from the intersecting roadway, reduced visibility for vehicles approaching the stop condition often results. The current wording in the Highway Pavement Marking Guide provides guidance of a minimum stop line setback distance from the intersection (but no maximum), which has resulted in many stop lines being placed too far back.

### Key Changes

Clarifications to the department practice for stop line placement include the following:

- Stop line placement 4.7 metres (or in some cases 4.9 metres) from the nearest lane line, as shown in the standard drawings contained in the Highway Pavement Marking Guide as “4.7 MIN” or “4.9 MIN”, is the desired location.
- Stop lines should only be placed more than 4.7 metres (or 4.9 metres depending on intersection type) from the nearest lane line if the sight triangle/sight lines from a stop position of 4.7 metres (or 4.9 metres) would be obstructed by sign structures, lighting poles, etc. In such cases, the stop line should be moved back from the intersection only as much as is necessary.
- The Traffic Safety Act - Use of Highway and Rules of the Road Regulation, Sections 36 and 37 legally requires motorists to stop at stop lines and stop signs. For visibility and safety reasons, it is recommended motorists be directed to stop (through the use of stop lines and stop signs) at a position where that stopped vehicle will not be struck by a vehicle passing through the intersection and visibility of the stopped vehicle will be increased.

The clarifications as indicated in this Bulletin are to be implemented immediately as per the usual practice.

Effective Date: August 3, 2007.

### Contact

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## References

Highway Pavement Marking Guide, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 2003.

<http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/Content/docType233/Production/pavemark.pdf>

Recommended:

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