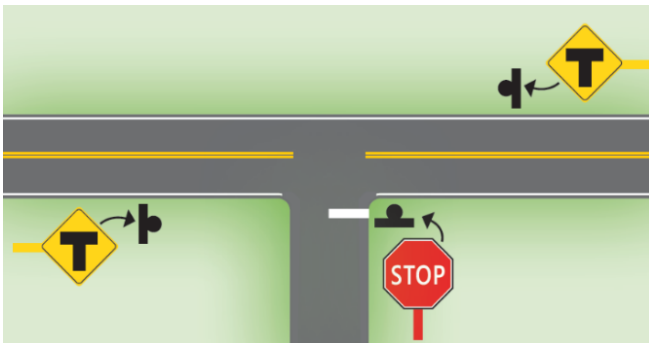


Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program (VHSIP) Proactive Systemic Initiatives for VDOT-Maintained Roads: Unsignalized Intersection Improvements



Example of an unsignalized intersection.



Typical unsignalized intersection

VDOT works hard to provide a roadway network that operates safely, efficiently, and effectively. In 2019, the Commonwealth Transportation Board approved the deployment of highly effective, low-cost safety improvements to help reduce serious injury and fatal crashes across the Commonwealth. This data-driven strategy focuses on proactively targeting locations with higher crash risk. The goal is not to wait for crashes to occur before we proactively treat high-risk locations on the roadway network!

The **unsignalized intersection initiative** is a low-cost safety countermeasure project to improve safety at higher crash-risk stop-controlled intersections throughout the Commonwealth. Ultimately, the treatments can reduce injury and fatal crashes by up to 10 percent.¹

This initiative includes a variety of low-cost treatments – such as enhanced stop signs, stop bars, advance warning signs, and more. The treatments are broken into a three-tiered system with standard (i.e., required) and optional improvements. The most important requirement under this initiative is that the Tier 1 standard improvements shall be installed at all

identified intersections. Tier 1 standard improvements include stop signs, stop bars, advance warning and guide signs on the mainline approaches, and treatments to improve sight distance.

If an intersection already has the required Tier 1 improvements installed, Districts should consider installing optional improvements in Tier 1 or the standard Tier 2 improvements, and so on. These additional treatments include measures such as “Stop ahead” warnings signs, double-yellow centerlines, raised splitter islands, advanced warnings signs on the mainline approaches, retroreflective tape on warning and stop posts, transverse rumble strips, flashing beacon systems, and removal of foliage or parking that limits sight distance.

For any questions on inquiries on VHSIP, please email: hsiprogram@vdot.virginia.gov

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¹ <https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/intersection/stop/>