

Traffic Signals and Crosswalks



Mount Pleasant

City of Vancouver
Community
planning program

There are 765 traffic signals in the City of Vancouver. Of the signals in the city, 454 are vehicle signals and 311 are pedestrian signals.

Within Mount Pleasant there are 31 vehicle signals and 22 pedestrian signals at locations shown on the map on the next page.

The Process of Traffic Signal Installation

Potential signal locations are identified by staff, residents, community groups, the police, developers, and others. Each request is followed up by a review of the intersection and the existing traffic conditions. Factors taken into account include:

- traffic volumes;
- distance to the next signal;
- historical crash data;
- pedestrian volume;
- pedestrian profile (e.g., children, adults, seniors)
- proximity to schools;
- traffic speed and gaps in traffic flow
- physical features of the intersection
- neighbouring land use
- expected redevelopment
- sight lines
- crossing distance
- input from the police, school safety patrols, and agencies such as TransLink
- Vancouver Transportation Plan and Local Area Plan directions

Recommended signal locations are then submitted to Council for approval.

About 100 to 150 requests for signals are received each year throughout the city, and typically 8 - 10 signals are installed. The cost for each signal installation is roughly \$180,000. Council's top transportation priority is the movement of pedestrians so for many years the majority of installations have been pedestrian signals.

Two signals that were recently installed in Mount Pleasant are:

- 12th and Sophia, and
- Yukon and 7th.

At this time, in Mount Pleasant, signals have been approved and will be constructed at the following locations:

- Cambie and 14th
- Fraser and 10th
- Quebec and 1st
- Main and 1st

Audible Signals

The City has over 341 audible signals which provide an important function for pedestrians with visual disabilities. All new pedestrian signals now include an audible signal.

Crosswalks

Every intersection has legal pedestrian crosswalks, whether marked or not, except where barricaded for safety reasons. Marked crosswalks are used to direct pedestrians to a preferred crossing location and do not improve safety, nor grant the pedestrian any additional rights.

Special Crosswalks feature additional lighting on the crosswalk area, pedestrian controlled flashing amber lights, and overhead internally lighted signs to provide increased driver awareness at the crosswalk.

In reviewing a location for a marked and signed crosswalk, many of the same factors are considered as for signals (see previous list).

Crosswalk studies are initiated by request from residents, businesses and police, and by City staff.

Pedestrian Bulges

Corner bulges have proven to be effective measures in enhancing pedestrian crossing conditions at many unsignalized intersections. Specifically, they help to: decrease pedestrian crossing distances; increase visibility of pedestrians and motorists; calm traffic; stop people from parking too close to a crosswalk; and increase awareness of pedestrians.

In Mount Pleasant, corner bulges have been installed at more than 20 local street intersections (e.g. Fraser and 7th, Watson and 10th, and Prince Edward and 11th).

Corner bulges are also located on 16th Ave., a secondary arterial: at 16th and Manitoba, 16th and Ontario, and 16th and Sophia.

As part of the Main Street Showcase Project, 18 intersections were redesigned with bulges along the Main Street corridor. In Mount Pleasant bulges are proposed for Main and 16th and Main and 14th.

At many intersections bus bulges were installed which help transit users by increasing sidewalk space for amenities such as a shelter, benches, trash receptacle and bike racks. Additionally, the bus bulges improve transit service by reducing stop times since the bus no longer has to pull out and merge back into the traffic lane.

Source
Traffic Management Branch,
Engineering Services

Traffic Signals and Crosswalks in Mount Pleasant

