



## Media Advisory

Department of Public Works

*Providing a clean, safe and healthy environment*

Richmond, Virginia

Honorable Mayor Levar M. Stoney

For Immediate Release  
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### **Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (PHB) at 16<sup>th</sup> Street with Broad Street**

~ Vision Zero Initiative to Enhance Safety for Motorists, Pedestrians and Bicyclists ~

**RICHMOND, Va.** – As part of the City's Vision Zero initiative to eliminate fatal and serious injury crashes, the Department of Public Works (DPW) is installing a new type of traffic control device to enhance pedestrian safety throughout the City. The Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (PHB) is a traffic control device designed to help pedestrians and bicyclists safely cross busy or higher-speed, multi-lane roadways and uncontrolled intersections. The beacon head consists of two red lenses above a single yellow lens. The lenses remain "Dark" until a pedestrian pushes the call button to activate the beacon.

This project provides for the installation of the traffic signal mast arm poles, high visibility pedestrians' crosswalk, pedestrians' indicators (countdown), pedestrian activations (push buttons), and ADA Ramps.

Instructions on How to Use the Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon:

1. The beacon is "**DARK MODE**" for motorists until **pedestrians/bicyclists** push the button to activate it and **pedestrians/bicyclists** approaching the crosswalk see a steady "Don't Walk" indication.
2. When **pedestrians/bicyclists** press the button:
  - **Motorists** will see a **FLASHING YELLOW** indication for a few seconds, signaling that the beacon has been activated and motorists should **SLOW DOWN** and be prepared to STOP
  - **Pedestrians/bicyclists** will continue to see a "Don't Walk" indication and must wait
3. The flashing yellow is followed by a **SOLID YELLOW** indication
  - **Motorists** should STOP if able to safely do so
  - **Pedestrians/bicyclists** will continue to see a "Don't Walk" indication and must continue to wait
4. The solid yellow is followed by double **SOLID RED** indication
  - **Motorists** are required to come to a complete STOP
5. **Pedestrians/bicyclists** receive a "**WALK**" indication and, if clear, can begin to cross the road in the marked crosswalk. The double solid red is followed by alternating **FLASHING RED** indication
  - **Motorists** are required to **STOP**, or remain stopped, until pedestrians/bicyclists have finished crossing the street. Drivers may proceed with caution after coming to a stop to ensure that no one else is walking across the street.

6. Once the person has safely crossed, the beacon goes back to the **DARK MODE** and drivers may proceed through the crossing at or below the posted speed limit.

A YouTube video on how this traffic control device operates can be watch in the following link:  
<https://www.rva.gov/public-works/pedestrian-hybrid-beacon>

Additional Vision Zero initiatives to improve safety include: installing more high visibility crosswalks, flashing beacons, and new in-street STOP for pedestrian signs at some of the 150 uncontrolled intersections. Over the past several years, DPW has invested \$4.25 million of funding into pedestrian safety improvements at over 450 signalized intersections through high visibility crosswalks, accessible ramps, signal timings, and pedestrian countdown signals. The installation of pedestrian hybrid beacons across the city adds another layer of safety to help people cross multi-lane streets. The City secured funding for these safety initiatives through partnerships with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), and federal grants from the Highway Safety Improvement Program. Through our partners with FHWA and VDOT, the City is delivering the largest jurisdiction based pedestrian safety investment of \$8.72 million in the Commonwealth of Virginia from 2018-2022.

Project started March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, and it is expected to be completed by fall.

This project is funded throughout the FHWA Transportation Alternative Program (TAP).

For more information on Public Works, please visit us online at <https://www.rva.gov/public-works> or email us at [AskPublicWorks@RichmondGov.com](mailto:AskPublicWorks@RichmondGov.com)

We're Social! For updates on DPW-related projects, activities and events visit us on Twitter @DPW\_RichmondVA

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*The City of Richmond Department of Public Works (DPW) is one of only 195 currently accredited public works agencies in the United States. DPW's portfolio comprises a wide array of services to include leaf collection; street, sidewalk and alley maintenance; trash collection; recycling; grass cutting; graffiti removal; parking enforcement; urban forestry; street signs; traffic signals and pavement markings and civil engineering. In addition, DPW maintains upkeep on most city buildings; issues permits for working in the city's right-of-way; manages the RVA Bike Share program and maintains the fleet of city vehicles. DPW's operating budget comes from the general fund of the City of Richmond. For more information about DPW services, [click here](#) or call 3-1-1*