




# Illinois Department of Transportation

## Memorandum

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To: Regional Engineers  
From: Jack A. Elston, P.E.   
Subject: Special Provision for Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS)  
Date: October 1, 2021

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This special provision was developed by the Bureau of Operations and the Bureau of Design and Environment to provide statewide requirements for accessible pedestrian signals (APS). It has been revised to meet the requirements of the new Policy on Accessible Pedestrian Signals and Pushbuttons for Traffic Signals and Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons and to incorporate the latest national standards.

This special provision should be inserted into contracts using APS.

The installation of APS at signalized intersections should be based on the Bureau of Operations Policy on Accessible Pedestrian Signals and Pushbuttons for Traffic Signals and Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons.

### Designer Notes:

- Pedestrian pushbutton posts and pedestrian signal heads are not part of this work. If they are needed, use the appropriate pay items as per Sections 876 and 881 of the Standard Specifications.
- Signs R10-3 and R10-3a may be used at any location with pedestrian signals to direct the pedestrian to the pushbutton.
- Signs R10-3e and R10-3i may be used as an educational sign where countdown pedestrian signals are provided. In order to assist the pedestrian in understanding which button to push, Sign R10-3i adds the name of the street to be crossed.
- The name of the street to be crossed may be substituted for the word STREET in the legend of signs R10-3a and R10-4a.
- Signs R10-4 and R10-4a shall be used at locations where pedestrian signals are not used and pedestrians proceed on a green signal indication.
- Specify the sign type in the plans. This may be accomplished with a schedule of quantities.

The districts should include the BDE Check Sheet marked with the applicable special provisions for the January 21, 2022 and subsequent lettings. The Project Coordination and Implementation Section will include a copy in the contract.

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## **ACCESSIBLE PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS (APS) (BDE)**

Effective: April 1, 2003

Revised: January 1, 2022

Description. This work shall consist of furnishing and installing accessible pedestrian signals (APS). Each APS shall consist of an interactive vibrotactile pedestrian pushbutton with speaker, an informational sign, a light emitting diode (LED) indicator light, a solid-state electronic control board, a power supply, wiring, and mounting hardware. The APS shall meet the requirements of the MUTCD and Sections 801 and 888 of the Standard Specifications, except as modified herein.

Electrical Requirements. The APS shall operate with systems providing 95 to 130 VAC, 60 Hz and throughout an ambient air temperature range of -29 to +160 °F (-34 to +70 °C).

The APS shall contain a power protection circuit consisting of both fuse and transient protection.

Audible Indications. A pushbutton locator tone shall sound at each pushbutton and shall be deactivated during the associated walk indication and when associated traffic signals are in flashing mode. Pushbutton locator tones shall have a duration of 0.15 seconds or less and shall repeat at 1-second intervals. Each actuation of the pushbutton shall be accompanied by the speech message "Wait".

If two accessible pedestrian pushbuttons are placed less than 10 ft (3 m) apart or placed on the same pole, the audible walk indication shall be a speech walk message. This message shall sound throughout the WALK interval only. The verbal message shall be modeled after: "Street Name. Walk Sign is on to cross "Street Name." For signalized intersections utilizing exclusive pedestrian phasing, the verbal message shall be "Walk sign is on for all crossings". In addition, a speech pushbutton information message shall be provided by actuating the APS pushbutton when the WALK interval is not timing. This verbal message shall be modeled after: "Wait. Wait to cross 'Street Name' at 'Street Name'".

Where two accessible pedestrian pushbuttons are separated by at least 10 ft (3 m), the walk indication shall be an audible percussive tone. It shall repeat at 8 to 10 ticks per second with a dominant frequency of 880 Hz.

Automatic volume adjustments in response to ambient traffic sound level shall be provided up to a maximum volume of 100 dBA. Locator tone and verbal messages shall be no more than 5 dB louder than ambient sound.

At locations with railroad interconnection, an additional speech message stating "Walk time shortened when train approaches" shall be used after the speech walk message. At locations with emergency vehicle preemption, an additional speech message "Walk time shortened when emergency vehicle approaches" shall be used after the speech walk message.

Pedestrian Pushbutton. Pedestrian pushbuttons shall be at least 2 in. (50 mm) in diameter or width. The force required to activate the pushbutton shall be no greater than 3.5 lb (15.5 N).

A red LED shall be located on or near the pushbutton which, when activated, acknowledges the pedestrians request to cross the street.

Signage. A sign shall be located immediately above the pedestrian pushbutton and parallel to the crosswalk controlled by the pushbutton. The sign shall conform to one of the following standard MUTCD designs: R10-3, R10-3a, R10-3e, R10-3i, R10-4, and R10-4a.

Tactile Arrow. A tactile arrow, pointing in the direction of travel controlled by a pushbutton, shall be provided on the pushbutton.

Vibrotactile Feature. The pushbutton shall pulse when depressed and shall vibrate continuously throughout the WALK interval.

Method of Measurement. This work will be measured for payment as each, per pushbutton.

Basis of Payment. This work will be paid for at the contract unit price per each for ACCESSIBLE PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS.

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