

New Hampshire Department of Corrections

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City of Concord Traffic Operations Committee (TOC)



November 19, 2024



The Case for Installing a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB)

On Thursday, November 7, 2024, two uniformed staff members were crossing the street while using this crosswalk and nearly got struck by a vehicle.

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11/19/2024

NH DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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Why Focus on Pedestrian Safety?

- **Critical Location:** Crosswalk at the NH State Prison for Men, 281 North State Street (Route 3), Concord, NH
- **Key Users:**
 - Staff & Volunteers: Overflow parking
 - Visitors: Often unfamiliar with the area; Overflow parking
 - Warehouse Staff: Accessing the Warehouse/NHSP-M by foot
 - Minimum-Security Resident Workers: Accessing the bus stop and walking to the farm
- **Objective:** Demonstrate the need for an RRFB to enhance safety and visibility.



Challenges at the Existing Crosswalk

- **Traffic Factors:**
 - Higher-speed vehicular traffic on North State Street
 - Inconsistent driver yielding behavior
- **Visibility Issues:**
 - Poor visibility during dawn, dusk and nighttime
- **Safety Concerns:**
 - Potential for crashes, near-misses, and delayed crossings



Benefits of an RRFB

- **Effectiveness:**
 - Increases driver yield rates up to 96%.
 - Reduces pedestrian injury risk by improving visibility.
- **Key Features:**
 - Flashing lights catch driver attention.
 - Easy activation for pedestrians.
 - Highly effective in both daylight and low-light conditions.
- **Cost-Effectiveness:**
 - Long-term safety improvement for a reasonable investment.



Why This Location?

- **High Pedestrian Activity:**
 - Facility staff, visitors, volunteers, and resident workers crossing frequently.
- **Traffic Flow Characteristics:**
 - Speeding vehicles and intermittent surges during peak hours.
- **Existing Issues:** Current signage, Visibility Enhancements, and Pedestrian Refuge Island not enough.



Why This Location? (Cont.)

- **Crash Data – Last 3 Years:**
 - 31 Crashes in the vicinity of the Prison (Perimeter Road North to Palm Street) – (17) 39% resulted in injuries
 - 2 have been MV vs Pedestrians (both staff members)

Data Not Available:

**Near Misses &
The Next Crash**



RRFB Success Stories

- **Federal Highway Administration Studies**
 - Driver yield rates increased dramatically after RRFB installation.
 - Reduces accident rates at high-risk crossing.
- **Traffic Flow Characteristics:**
 - Speeding vehicles and intermittent surges during peak hours.
- **Existing Issues:**
 - Current signage, Visibility Enhancements, and Pedestrian Refuge Island not enough.





Thank you

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