

WHAT IS RCOC?

The Road Commission for Oakland County maintains Michigan's largest county road system, with 2,700-plus miles of public roads (including 700-plus miles of gravel roads). Only the state highway system is larger.

RCOC also maintains:

- ◆ Approximately 90 bridges,
- ◆ Approximately 1,500 traffic signals,
- ◆ Approximately 150,000 traffic signs and
- ◆ More than 230 miles of state highway.

SAFETY FIRST

As a matter of policy, major road improvement projects are conducted by the Road Commission based on a safety ranking system. At RCOC "Safety First" is more than a motto.



RCOC:

- ▶ Is separate from county general government; does not receive any direct property tax revenue
- ▶ Receives the majority of its funding from the state and federal gas taxes
- ▶ Has congested roads due to the tremendous growth in the county
- ▶ Receives no direct revenue from economic growth and development
- ▶ Pays approximately \$1.5 million to pave a mile of gravel road
- ▶ Pays \$6.5 million or more to widen one mile of road from two lanes to five
- ▶ Is located in a state with a gas tax below the national average
- ▶ Is located in a state that ranks in the bottom nine states in per capita road funding -- and has for more than 45 years

ROAD COMMISSION
for OAKLAND COUNTY

31001 Lahser Road • Beverly Hills • MI • 48025

BOARD OF ROAD COMMISSIONERS

RONALD J. FOWKES
GREGORY C. JAMIAN
ERIC S. WILSON

Dennis G. Kolar, PE
Managing Director

Gary Piotrowicz, PE, PTOE
*Deputy Managing Director/
County Highway Engineer*

RCOC MISSION STATEMENT

RCOC strives to provide the public with leadership in:

- Safe and convenient roads
- Sound financial management
- Responsive and dependable service
- Respect for the environment
- Sensitivity to community concerns

HAVE A QUESTION FOR THE ROAD COMMISSION?

CALL, WRITE OR VISIT:

DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES
2420 PONTIAC LAKE ROAD
WATERFORD, MI 48328
(877) 858-4804

TDD: (248) 858-8005

OR, visit RCOC online at
www.rcocweb.org

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ROAD COMMISSION
for OAKLAND COUNTY

PEDESTRIAN CROSSWALKS



**SAFELY CROSSING A BUSY
STREET USING
A PEDESTRIAN CROSSWALK
SIGNAL**

HOW IT WORKS

Safely crossing the street may seem like a simple act. But, because many of the main roads in Oakland County are quite busy, it can be tricky. But don't worry – the Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) wouldn't leave you standing by the side of the road.

You should only cross a road at designated crosswalks, many of which have pedestrian crossing signals. Where there are pedestrian crossing signals on county roads, the timing on the signals is set to ensure that a person walking at a normal or comfortable speed will have enough time to get across.

If you feel a particular pedestrian signal does not provide enough time, please contact RCOC's Department of Customer Services at (877) 858-4804 or contact them via RCOC's Web site, www.rcocweb.org.

When crossing where there is a pedestrian signal, one of the most important things to remember is that you should start crossing only when the "Walk" sign is lit – **do not** begin to cross during the flashing "Don't Walk" phase. As long as you started during the "Walk" phase, when the "Don't Walk" signal starts flashing, you will still have ample time to get to the other side.

Cross traffic will not have a green light until the crosswalk signal has changed from a flashing "Don't Walk" to a constant "Don't Walk."

The combined time of the "Walk" and flashing "Don't Walk" phases can't exceed the time that the traffic light is red for cross traffic.

Extending the pedestrian crossing cycle for most traffic lights would lead to increased congestion, which can cause accidents.

RULES OF THE ROAD

To ensure you get safely across the road, remember these simple rules:

- 1** Start to cross only while the "Walk" symbol is lit.
- 2** Never start to cross after the crosswalk signal has switched to a flashing "Don't Walk" or the "Don't Walk" symbol.
- 3** If you started during the "Walk" phase, and the signal changes to a flashing "Don't Walk" before you get to the other side, don't panic – there is still time to make it across before the signal changes.



REMEMBER, CROSS THE STREET ONLY WHERE THERE IS A MARKED CROSSWALK.

BUTTON-OPERATED CROSSWALK SIGNALS

At some intersections, the Road Commission has installed crosswalk signals operated by a push-button located on a pole. In these instances, **YOU MUST PUSH THE BUTTON** in order for the crosswalk signal to operate.

Once the button has been pushed, the signal will not change immediately. You may have to wait for the traffic signal to go through its cycle once.

WHY WERE THE WORDS REPLACED?

Some people ask why there are symbols (a hand and a person walking) on many crosswalk symbols instead of the traditional words "Walk" and "Don't Walk," as there used to be. The answer is simple.

All over the world, governmental agencies are adopting a universal language of symbols for use on signs. These symbols allow anyone – including those who can't read or speak English – to quickly understand the important message on the sign or signal.

