

What Constitutes a Crosswalk on Pennsylvania Streets?

...Anywhere there is an intersection, or anywhere mid-block there are surface markings! Crosswalks at intersections need not be painted to be enforceable!

CAT examines PA Vehicle Code, Title 75, § 102. Definitions. “**Crosswalk.**”

Condition A – When Sidewalks or Curbs are Present on Both Sides of the Street

“That part of a roadway at an intersection included within the connections of the lateral lines of the sidewalks on opposite sides of the highway, measured from the curbs...”



Condition B – No Sidewalks or Curbs

“That part of a roadway at an intersection included within the connections of the lateral lines... in the absence of curbs, ... from the edges of the traversable roadway...”



Condition C – Absence of Sidewalk on One Side of the Roadway

“...in the absence of a sidewalk on one side of the roadway, that part of a roadway included within the extension of the lateral lines of the existing sidewalk.”



Condition D - Mid-Block Crosswalk or Trail Crossing (must be painted/marked)

“Any portion of a roadway at an intersection or elsewhere distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other markings on the surface.”



***Crosswalks at intersections don't need to be painted/marked to be enforceable.**

Only mid-block crosswalks are required to be marked. This is confirmed in § 3542(a) stating that pedestrians have the same rights in marked or unmarked crosswalks at intersections.

PA Vehicle Code, Title 75, § 102. Definitions. “Crosswalk.”

(1) That part of a roadway at an intersection included within the connections of the lateral lines of the sidewalks on opposite sides of the highway, measured from the curbs or, in the absence of curbs, from the edges of the traversable roadway; and, in the absence of a sidewalk on one side of the roadway, that part of a roadway included within the extension of the lateral lines of the existing sidewalk.

(2) Any portion of a roadway at an intersection or elsewhere distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other markings on the surface.

Consider that many variables can support pedestrian safety, such as reducing driving speeds, driver/pedestrian sobriety, driver/pedestrian awareness of traffic laws, crossing at crosswalks, crosswalk marking visibility and signage, street lighting at crosswalks to help drivers see a person who is crossing, reducing distracting edge lighting from signs & parking lots, and enforcing legal parking not closer than 20' to a crosswalk.

Also read CAT's handout “Do Pedestrians Have the Right-of-Way in PA?”

More discussion at: <http://www.lvcats.org/lvcats/pa-pedestrian-laws-dissected/>

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