Ministry of Transportation of Ontario Pedestrian Volume Warrant

The pedestrian volume criteria used by the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) to justify the installation of a pedestrian signal includes:

- a minimum of 200 pedestrians must cross the road in an 8-hour period for a location to be considered,
- the pedestrian crossing threshold rises as traffic volume on the major road decreases,
- on a roadway with 15,000 bi-directional vehicle volume in 8 hours, 200 pedestrians are required in 8 hours,
- on a roadway with 1,444 bi-directional vehicle volume in 8 hours, 1,000 crossings are required in 8 hours, and;
- on a roadway with less than 1,444 bi-directional vehicle volume in 8-hours, PXOs/IPS/MPS are not warranted.

Figure 1 - Ministry of Transportation of Ontario’s Pedestrian Volume Warrants
Ministry of Transportation of Ontario Pedestrian Delay Warrant

The pedestrian delay criteria used by the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) to justify the installation of a pedestrian signal includes:

- a minimum of 75 pedestrians must be delayed greater than 10 seconds for a location to be considered,
- the threshold increases as pedestrian crossing volume decreases,
- when the pedestrian crossing volume exceeds 300 in 8 hours, 75 pedestrians must be delayed, and;
- when the pedestrian crossing volume is 200, a minimum of 130 pedestrians must be delayed.

Figure 2 - Ministry of Transportation of Ontario's Pedestrian Delay Warrants
City of Ottawa Pedestrian Volume Warrant

The pedestrian volume criteria used by the City of Ottawa to justify the installation of a pedestrian signal is a reduction of the thresholds by the MTO. These include:

- a minimum of 150 pedestrians must cross the road in an 6-hour period for a location to be considered,
- the pedestrian crossing threshold rises as traffic volume on the major road decreases,
- on a roadway with 15,000 bi-directional vehicle volume in 12 hours, 150 pedestrians are required in 6 hours,
- on a roadway with 1,444 bi-directional vehicle volume in 12 hours, 950 crossings are required in 6 hours, and;
- on a roadway with less than 1,444 bi-directional vehicle volume in 12 hours, PXOs/IPS/MPS are not warranted.

City of Ottawa Pedestrian Delay Warrant

The pedestrian delay criteria used by the City of Ottawa to justify the installation of a pedestrian signal is a reduction of the thresholds by the MTO. These include:

- a minimum of 55 pedestrians must be delayed greater than 10 seconds for a location to be considered,
- the threshold increases as pedestrian crossing volume decreases,
- when the pedestrian crossing volume exceeds 225 in 6 hours, 55 pedestrians must be delayed, and;
- when the pedestrian crossing volume is 150, a minimum of 100 pedestrians must be delayed.

For either warrant system, both the Pedestrian Volume and the Pedestrian Delay warrant need to be met for a location to be considered “warranted” for a pedestrian signal.