

Issue is still outstanding; however, "Ladder" striping was added in January.

## Issue 6: Palo Alto Way Crosswalk

### Overview:

The intersection at Palo Alto Way and Santa Cruz is a major crosswalk that connects to the Palo Alto Way bus stop and allows the various communities (Menlo Commons, Oak Hollow, University Park) to connect with each other, including those students accessing the school bus stop near Palo Alto Way. It has been a continual site of traffic accidents including a pedestrian fatality.

The Santa Cruz traffic lanes (2 each direction) restrict motorists' visibility because vehicles in one lane obscure sight of pedestrians crossing in the next lane. There is also nothing to assure the pedestrian that the vehicles will stop. See problems listed on right.

### Problems:

- Restricted visibility to crosswalk
- No Stop Limit lines
- No crosswalk warning lights
- No curb cut on west side

### Solution Positives:

- High-visible crosswalk beacon light gets motorists attention
- Clearly marked crosswalk
- Stop Limit lines provided safer crosswalk zone and better visibility
- Safer for seniors and children
- Safe access to school and public bus stops located there

### Impact:

Greatly improved safety for pedestrians, seniors, and students

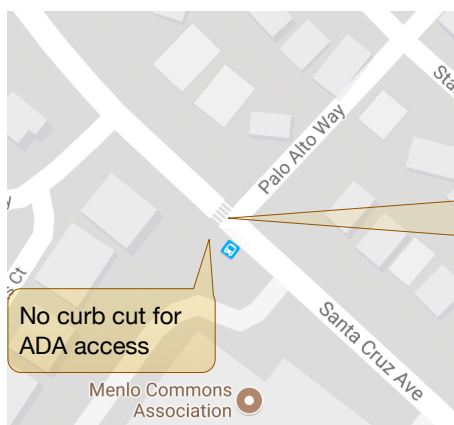
Restricts traffic flow when active and activity likely to increase when crosswalk is safer

### Alternatives:

Crosswalk location could be at south corner of Palo Alto Way

### Scope - Cost:

Flashing beacon lights cost from \$14k to \$25k, HAWK lights average \$57k



Crosswalk is main link between University Park, Sharon Heights, Menlo Commons, and Oak Hollow neighborhoods

No stop limit lines to keep vehicles safely away from crosswalk

Main access to bus (school/public)

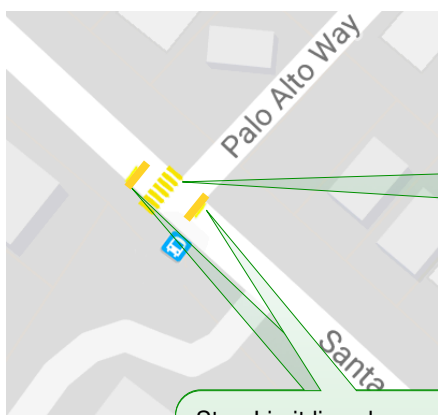
Two lane traffic provides limited visibility of pedestrians

Traffic flow reduces drivers ability to see and react to crossing

### Proposed Solution Option:

The **installation of a pedestrian activated** activated crosswalk warning light system or similar hybrid flashing beacons system would provide high visibility of the crosswalk and pedestrians to all traffic on Santa Cruz Ave. These warning lights are already installed in Menlo Park and Atherton and greatly improve safety.

This option would establish stop limit lines to keep vehicles safely back from a more visible 'Ladder' crosswalk thus adding additional visibility and safety zone for pedestrians.



Flashing beacon crosswalk lighting, especially the HAWK system, can be seen from all lanes on Santa Cruz.

Only active when pedestrian activated for safe crossing



Stop Limit lines keep vehicles safely back and create a safer and more visible zone for pedestrians

**Note:** If Safety Issue #8's option #8.3 is adopted, the extra width available may provide room for this crosswalk to have a pedestrian island. These islands allow pedestrians a safer place midway across the crosswalk and tend to act as a traffic calming element. Additionally Pedestrian Right of Way signs can be placed on the median island.