Yield signs are currently overused and frequently misused in the State of Georgia. Our office has sat down with the ITE Georgia Chapter as well as several local governments and law enforcement to discuss the use of yield signs in Georgia.

There are three Georgia Laws that come into play:

1. If you approach a traffic signal that is displaying red in your direction, and you yield at a yield sign instead of stopping, you can be given a citation for running the red light. This is the case even if you were in a right turn lane, and there was a striped island. If there was a raised concrete island, you should not get a ticket, because you were technically at a separate intersection and under the control of the yield sign at that point, not under the control of the traffic signal.
2. Left turning vehicles must yield to all oncoming traffic, including those vehicles approaching from the opposite direction in a right turn lane.
3. If a yield sign is present, the driver that had the yield sign is at fault in an accident.

We are going to improve our practices for the use of yield signs in our state by providing better guidance.

- When a raised concrete island is present: a yield sign can be used.
- When a raised concrete island is not present: a yield sign should not be used because the driver is legally under the control of the traffic signal.

Attached are some preliminary drawings that show our office’s new guidance for the use of yield signs.

Case 1 and Case 2 are the two main scenarios for signalized intersections.

- In Case 1, there is enough room for a concrete island, therefore the yield sign is used.
- In Case 2 there is not enough room for a concrete island, therefore a stop bar is used, a **striped island is not used**, and a yield sign is not used.

Case 3 shows just one scenario where a yield sign can be used at an unsignalized intersection.

Cases 4 & 5 show locations with exclusive receiving lanes.

More cases may be added in the future. These cases will be shown in the next revision of GDOT’s Signing & Marking Design Guideline, which is currently being revised.

Please apply this guideline to all current and future designs.
DO NOT USE YIELD SIGN
DO NOT USE ISLAND
AND ADD STOP BAR

Georgia Department of Transportation
Traffic Operations

Case 2

proposed 7-7-2007