December 22 2000

TRAFFIC ENGINEERING DIRECTIVE 407

SUBJECT: ACTIVATION OF NEW TRAFFIC SIGNALS

New traffic signal installations violate the expectancies of drivers. As a result, this can lead to an increased accident potential unless motorists are adequately warned of a new traffic signal installation. In order to address this situation, it shall be the policy of the Division of Highways to comply with the guidelines noted below.

- 1. <u>Prior to Initial Activation of traffic Signal</u> When traffic signals are installed at an intersection for the very first time, the traffic signals must be placed on flash seven calendar days prior to full activation of the traffic signal.
- 2. Initial Activation of Traffic Signal
- A. Two Lane Highway or Non-Expressway Approach

For new traffic signals installed on a two-lane highway, a TRAFFIC SIGNAL AHEAD SYMBOL WARNING sign with NEW SIGNAL plaque, flags, and TYPE "B" flashers with remote battery case shall be installed in advance of the traffic signal on each approach to the intersection. The signal location should be as shown on the attached chart.

B. Four Lane Expressway Approach

When new traffic signals are installed on four-lane expressways where not advance signs or flashers are already in operation, 48 inch TRAFFIC SIGNAL AHEAD warning signs with a NEW SIGNAL plaque, flags, and Type "B" flashers with remote battery case shall be dual installed at a location ¹/₄ mile from the new traffic signalized intersection or as noted on the plans. The signs, flags, and flashers shall be installed when the traffic signal is made fully operational and shall remain in place for at least thirty days after the traffic signal has been activated.

> Barry Warhoftig, P.E. Director, Traffic Engineering Division