

COVID Signal Timing Adjustments Restoration
Traffic Engineering Division
04/14/21

Beginning in March 2020, City of Madison – Traffic Engineering began changing the manner in which signalized pedestrian crossings were operated at some intersections. Though push button actuated, pedestrian phases at certain traffic signals were placed on “recall” to be displayed each cycle. This response was based on early studies indicating that the SARS-CoV-2 virus could be transmitted by surface contact. While this allowed the pedestrian phase to be served without making contact with the signal equipment, it did mean that it would need to be served each cycle, whether needed or not, causing conflicting movements to wait. Due to reduced traffic volumes during the pandemic, timing plans with reduced cycle lengths were also used along multiple corridors.



Intersection crossings targeted were locations that have to following general characteristics:

- A relatively high pedestrian or bicycle crossings,
- Proximity to higher-use transit stops/stations,
- Proximity to land uses that include essential services, and
- Proximity to vulnerable populations such as hospitals and retirement/assisted living residencies.

In total, 62 traffic signals had timings adjusted to recall pedestrian and/or bicycle movements to reduce the potential for transmission.

Earlier this year, Traffic Engineering coordinated with Dane County Public Health on the subject of COVID transmission via environmental surface contact and learned this risk may be lower than initially believed. To reduce intersection delay and accommodate increased traffic volumes as the community recovers from the pandemic, the proposed plan will restore 39 of the adjusted 62 signals, when deemed appropriate. It's

recognized not every location needs to return to restored operations immediately. A table of the subject locations are indicated on the following page.

This plan considers restoring only those signals that experience operational challenges, relatively low pedestrian activity, or an increased delay for all users with minimal benefit. As new variants emerge in our area, these operations will continue to be reviewed along with other timing parameters with the objective of lowering overall delay and benefiting all users.

END

SIGNAL TIMING RESTORATION PLAN

04/09/21

INTERSECTIONS RECALLED MOVEMENTS REMOVED **Notes**

University & University Row	Alder & public request
East Washington & Johnson	Ongoing operational concern
East Washington & 6th	Alder & public request
Milwaukee St. & Crystal	Alder & public request

INTERSECTIONS RECOMMENDED TO REMOVE RECALLED MOVEMENTS **Notes**

Aberg & Sherman	Emergency Veh Preempt
Aberg & Shopko	Ongoing operational concern
Bedford & West Wash	Change with completion of W Washington Ave project
Commerce & Watts	Emergency Veh Preempt
Cottage Grove Road & Acewood	Vision Zero list - LPI in use / Continental markings
Cottage Grove Road & Dempsey	
East Washington & 4th	Recalls will revert back to TOD
East Washington & First	Emergency Veh Preempt
East Washington Ave & Continental	Emergency Veh Preempt
East Washington Ave & Fair Oaks	Ongoing operational concern
East Washington Ave & Mendota	Emergency Veh Preempt
Fish Hatchery & Badger	Emergency Veh Preempt
Fordem & First	
Glenway Cross & Speedway & Mineral Point	
High Point & Mineral Point	
Highland & VA	
John Nolen & Broom	Subject to operational needs. Treat these the same due to spacing & expectation
John Nolen & North Shore	Subject to operational needs. Treat these the same due to spacing & expectation
McKee & Manchester	Emergency Veh Preempt
McKee & Maple Grove	Emergency Veh Preempt
Midvale & Mineral Point	Emergency Veh Preempt
Midvale & Regent	
Midvale & Tokay	Ongoing operational concern
Monroe & Commonwealth	
Monroe & Glenway	
Monroe & Leonard	
Northport & Dryden	Vision Zero list - LPI in use
Northport & Troy	Emergency Veh Preempt
Old Sauk & High Point	Ongoing operational concern
Old Sauk & Junction	
Regent & Spooner	
University & Hill	Emergency Veh Preempt
University & Maple Terrace	Emergency Veh Preempt
University & Midvale	Emergency Veh Preempt
University & Ridge	Emergency Veh Preempt

COVID RECALLS TO BE EVALUATED FOR FUTURE REMOVAL **Notes**

Anderson & Wright	
Atwood & Walter	
East Washington & Baldwin	Emergency Veh Preempt
East Washington & Ingersol	
East Washington & Livingston	Emergency Veh Preempt
East Washington & Patterson	
Fish Hatchery & Wingra	
John Nolen & Wilson & Williamson & Blair	Emergency Veh Preempt
Johnson & Baldwin	Emergency Veh Preempt
Johnson & North	
Milwaukee & Fair Oaks	
Milwaukee St. & Corporate	
Park & Buick	Vision Zero
Park St. & Badger	
Park St. & Erin	
Park St. & Wingra	Vision Zero
Regent & Allen	
University & Farley	Emergency Veh Preempt
University & Walnut	
Williamson & Blount	
Williamson & Jennifer	
Williamson & Riverside	
Wilson & Broom	