

TRAFFIC SIGNAL SYSTEMS

SIGNAL TIMING

All the traffic signals in the City of Yorba Linda are actuated. Detectors on the approaches to traffic signals monitor and assign the right of way on the basis of changing traffic demand. These signals attempt to assign most of the available green time to the heaviest traffic movements.

If a detector is malfunctioning, the signal will dwell in green even if there is no vehicle or pedestrian present. If that occurs, the City's Public Works Department should be notified so that the problem can be corrected.

COORDINATION OF TRAFFIC SIGNALS

The greatest benefits to the public for each dollar spent on traffic operations improvements come from the coordination of adjacent traffic signals to provide smooth movement of the traffic through groups of signals on an arterial street.

The coordination of traffic signals to facilitate smooth traffic flow (progressed movement) along a street is a proven technique. The quality of flow along a street is basically a function of the spacing of the signals along the street, the prevailing speed of traffic on the street, and the traffic signal cycle length.

The amount of traffic and the proportion of the green time given to the progressed movements are also important. The goal of coordination is to get the greatest number of vehicles through the system with the fewest stops in a comfortable manner.

When signals are coordinated, the side street traffic does have to wait sometimes over a minute in duration but once the side street enters the major street, it benefits from smooth traffic progression along the coordinated signal system.

WHICH TRAFFIC SIGNALS ARE COORDINATED

Imperial Highway and Yorba Linda Boulevard Traffic Signals have been coordinated during morning and evening rush hour to move traffic more efficiently. If you have been driving these roadways during morning and afternoon rush hours, you probably have noticed that you can make most of the green lights, as long as you do not exceed the posted speed limits. In a nearly built out city such as Yorba Linda where increasing roadway capacity is not always feasible, reducing stop delays at red lights is definitely an excellent way to reduce congestion and improve air quality.

WHAT DO FLASHING OR DARK TRAFFIC SIGNALS MEAN?

Flashing Traffic Signals

Traffic signals sometimes develop hardware problems. When they do, the controller mechanism is programmed to turn the signal over to flashing operation.

According to the California Vehicle Code, when a red lens is illuminated with intermittent red flashes, a driver is required to stop before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection. The driver may proceed subject to the rules applicable to making a stop at a 4-way stop controlled intersection.

Dark Signals

When a traffic signal has gone dark due to power failure it is considered to function the same way as a 4-way stop controlled intersection and a driver must stop before entering the intersection.

REQUESTS AND INQUIRIES

If you have questions, requests or suggestions concerning traffic signals, please call the Traffic/Transportation Division at **(714) 961-7170** or via email: twang@yorba-linda.org