Adaptive Traffic Signal System

Received from PennDOT
May 9, 2019

The **Adaptive Traffic Signal** system has been put into operation on Route 30/Ardmore Blvd. as of Tuesday May 7th, 2019 at the following intersections listed below:

- Ardmore Blvd @ Morrow Road
- Ardmore Blvd @ Bevington Road
- Ardmore Blvd @ Braddock Avenue
- Ardmore Blvd @ Marion Avenue
- Ardmore Blvd @ Kenmore Avenue/ Sumner Road
- Ardmore Blvd @ Yost Blvd and
- Ardmore Blvd @ Avenue "B"

All signal equipment will be tested for 30 days and PennDOT may provide additional information to the borough following that test.

Here are common questions that PennDOT has received after installing the Adaptive system elsewhere (with their answers):

Complaint: **"There is something wrong with the light, I got skipped, it was my turn, but the other direction got the green before me"**

Answer: *The system does not follow the traditional system of one phase must phase the other, it selects the phase which queue has waited the longest and or has the most cars waiting for the green before the cycle begins. So, for example, if one car arrives in the left turn lane or side street in one direction and there are 20 cars waiting in another direction and those 20 cars have been waiting longer, the system will service the direction with 20 cars first before giving the green to the direction with one car because, the 20 cars have waited longer regardless of the phase order. So, the phase selection appears to be random, but it's based technically on arrival time and how long you have waited at the intersection. This way system keeps the traffic moving a lot faster as a result the less wait time at the signal.*

Question: Why are there so many cameras?

Answer: *The system typically uses four cameras, one for each approach, to determine how many cars are waiting at each approach. The camera images are fed into a computer processor, which makes decisions in real time and changes the traffic lights accordingly.*

Question: Are the cameras taking photos of my license plate or me?

Answer: *No. The cameras do not capture and store images or video, nor do they alert law enforcement of any violations. Traffic management personnel can log into the system user interface to view each approach and intersection in real time, which can aid in emergency-dispatch situations or resolving complaints.*