



State of Illinois  
Pat Quinn, Governor



Illinois Department of Transportation  
Ann L. Schneider, Secretary

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## **Flashing Yellow Arrow Traffic Signals to be Installed at Wabash Avenue Intersections** *Signals Have Resulted in Reduction of Crashes Elsewhere in the State*

**SPRINGFIELD** – The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) announced today that in an effort to improve safety at intersections, flashing yellow arrow traffic signals are being installed at numerous Wabash Avenue intersections in Springfield. Two flashing yellow arrow traffic signals were activated on Tuesday at the east and west White Oaks Mall entrances. The four remaining signals, between Veterans Parkway and MacArthur Boulevard, are expected to be installed and operational by Friday.

“We are continuously looking at new ways to reduce crashes in Illinois and have witnessed a significant drop in areas where the flashing yellow arrow signals have been installed,” said Illinois Transportation Secretary Ann L. Schneider. “By adding these to intersections in Springfield, we anticipate increased safety and fewer crashes here as well.”

According to IDOT data, more than 30 percent of fatal and serious injury crashes occur in intersections. At intersections where these signals will be installed, motorists will have less time to wait and have more opportunities to make a left turn.

After the signals were installed at more than 100 intersections in the Peoria area, there was a 20 percent reduction in left-turn crashes, based on preliminary data. A national study found that flashing yellow arrow signals resulted in fewer crashes and fewer mistakes made by drivers.

The flashing yellow arrow traffic signals will be installed at six Wabash Avenue intersections. These intersections were the locations of 40 severe injury crashes for a five year period. In addition to the signals, turn lanes have been shifted to provide better sight distance for motorists.

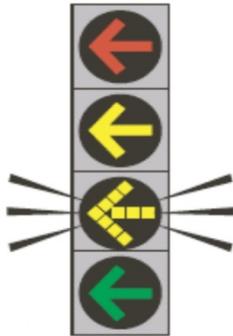
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**Illinois Department of Transportation**

When the flashing yellow arrow is displayed, motorists may turn left – after yielding to oncoming traffic and pedestrians. Here is how you should proceed when approaching a flashing yellow arrow signal:



**Solid Red Arrow - Stop. No turns allowed.**

**Solid Yellow Arrow - Prepare to stop.**

**Flashing Yellow Arrow - Left turns allowed after yielding to oncoming traffic and pedestrians.**

**Solid Green Arrow - Left turns allowed. Proceed with caution.**

For a closer look at how these signals work, please watch this short video:  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l3x\\_Z9Cm-Cg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l3x_Z9Cm-Cg).

