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NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE

WAKE COUNTY

SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION

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BRIAN CECCARELLI and LORI )  
MILLETTE, individually and )  
as class representatives, )

Plaintiffs, )

v. )

No. 10-CvS-019930

TOWN OF CARY, )

Defendant. )

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DEPOSITION OF DAREN MARCEAU, P.E.

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2012

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Conference Room

Town of Cary Town Hall

316 North Academy Street

Cary, North Carolina

10:00 a.m.

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Volume 1 of 1

Pages 1 through 134

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***Kay McGovern & Associates***

Suite 117, 314 West Millbrook Road • Raleigh, NC 27609-4380

(919) 870-1600 • FAX 870-1603 • (800) 255-7886

A P P E A R A N C E S

ON BEHALF OF THE PLAINTIFFS:

Paul Stam, Esquire  
Stam & Danchi, PLLC  
510 West Williams Street  
Post Office Box 1600  
Apex, North Carolina 27502  
(919) 362-8873  
paulstam@bellsouth.net

ON BEHALF OF THE DEFENDANT:

Elizabeth A. Martineau, Esquire  
Martineau King, PLLC  
Suite 1490, 227 West Trade Street  
Post Office Box 31188  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28231  
(704) 247-8520  
emartineau@martineauking.com

Lisa C. Glover, Assistant Town Attorney  
Town of Cary  
Town Hall Campus  
316 North Academy Street  
Post Office Box 8005  
Cary, North Carolina 27512-8005  
(919) 469-4008  
lisa.glover@townofcary.org

Also Present:

Brian Ceccarelli

T A B L E O F C O N T E N T S

<u>WITNESS</u>	<u>DIRECT</u>	<u>CROSS</u>	<u>REDIRECT</u>
<u>DAREN MARCEAU, P.E.</u>			
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1 And if it's not the identical name, if it's the same---

2 Ms. Martineau: (interposing) I guess that's  
3 assuming he remembers all the courses that he took.

4 A I was just going to answer I really don't remember  
5 half the courses I took, and I'm laughing because that was a  
6 long time ago.

7 Q Did you take Introduction to Engineering and Problem  
8 Solving?

9 A Not that I recall; I don't recall that ever being  
10 offered back in the '80s.

11 Q Have you had Calculus I?

12 A Yes. I took several calculus classes, I think I, II,  
13 and III actually.

14 Q Have you had Physics for Engineers and Science?

15 A No.

16 Q Have you had physics?

17 A Yes. I--there was one physics requirement. It was  
18 like Physics 20-something, and I actually took a physics  
19 elective also as a second class.

20 Q So you've had two courses in physics?

21 A Correct.

22 Q Okay. Have you had Mechanics of Solids?

23 A Yeah, sure. Yes, I did.

24 Q Did you take Hydraulics?

25 A Yes.

1 Q Differential Equations?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Algebra?

4 A No, I never did, not in college.

5 Q High school?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Okay. Do you use algebra all the time in your work?

8 A Yes; not much, but some.

9 Q Electrical Engineering?

10 A I did take an electrical engineering elective.

11 Q Is engineering a humanities or a science? How would  
12 you describe it?

13 A I've never been asked that. Engineering is the  
14 application of math and physics and science to specific  
15 problems, specific cases. And those cases are typically  
16 already well wrapped in human factors, which would be part of  
17 humanities. So it's really sometimes kind of a chicken and  
18 egg thing as far as one day maybe more human factors,  
19 humanities if you will, and another day it may be more math  
20 and science.

21 Q Now, by humanities you mean human factors?

22 A Human factors is one component of it.

23 Q You don't mean literature or philosophy?

24 Ms. Martineau: He's out there with Shakespeare books  
25 all the time.



1 free to refer to it. I have it here if you need it.

2 A Sure.

3 Q Are the copies that are attached to page (sic) 3 true  
4 and accurate copies of excerpts from your book?

5 A They appear to be. I actually don't dig through my  
6 own book all that often.

7 Q Do you have your students dig through your book?

8 A Yes. I don't force them to buy it, but I encourage  
9 them to.

10 Q What is the yellow--referring to page 70 but also  
11 anything else you want to refer to, what is the yellow change  
12 interval?

13 A Well, let's see what I wrote here. It's been quite a  
14 while since I read this.

15 (Witness peruses document.)

16 It says yellow change interval is "expected to mean a  
17 driver needs to slow down and prepare to stop before the red  
18 signal." It takes into consideration certain parameters,  
19 like grade and deceleration and perception/reaction time.  
20 Going downhill we see longer yellows.

21 Some agencies calculate and publish them in a table.  
22 Some agencies use flat rates, provide a consistent message to  
23 drivers. Other agencies calculate every single one. It's  
24 critical for crash investigators to understand yellows. You  
25 need to consult your local traffic engineer to find out what

1 yellows were in use.

2 Q Was this book written for students who were going to  
3 look at crash investigations? Is that the principal purpose  
4 of this book?

5 A Correct. My intended audience was mostly police  
6 officers. The intent here is to--is not to educate police  
7 officers on how we get yellows and really what they're used  
8 for, but to tell them there may be--when I'm teaching--I'll  
9 back up here a second.

10 When I'm teaching a class in Houston, for example, I  
11 may have engineers from all around the country attending that  
12 conference. We'll have people from Oregon, from British  
13 Columbia, from New York, Florida, and in their jurisdictions  
14 the calculations may be different.

15 So the intent was to tell these students there's a  
16 million different ways to skin the cat, but there's going to  
17 be a yellow time in use at that intersection and you need to  
18 go get that and use it in your investigation.

19 Q Well, laws change from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, I  
20 suppose.

21 Ms. Martineau: What laws?

22 Q All laws, including traffic laws; is that correct?

23 Ms. Martineau: Are you asking him if traffic laws  
24 are different in each state?

25 Mr. Stam: Yes.

1           Ms. Martineau:    Okay.

2           A    They may be.  The standard practice for calculating  
3 yellow is in use at that time and place.  You know, the  
4 accepted practice in Raleigh may be different than the  
5 accepted practice in Houston and British Columbia.  It's not  
6 really--the police officers who are my students or sometimes  
7 the engineers who are my students don't really need to know  
8 that or understand that, except that they find a difference.

9           When I have students in class I usually tell them to  
10 bring some sample traffic signal plans from their juris-  
11 diction.  And if we have two guys at a table next to each  
12 other they may see differences.  I try to ease the level of  
13 questions I get.

14          Q    Right.  Do the laws of motion that you learned at N.C.  
15 State when you studied physics vary from jurisdiction to  
16 jurisdiction?

17          A    Not unless our legislators repeal the laws.  They're  
18 not going to change.

19          Q    Can legislators repeal the laws of physics?

20          A    No, sir.

21          Q    So you agree that the laws of motion do not vary from  
22 place to place.  Do human factors vary from jurisdiction to  
23 jurisdiction?

24          A    I've never been asked that.

25          Q    Just within the United States; I'm not referring to

1 South Sudan or Belarus.

2 A As a general rule of thumb I would say no. I think if  
3 we look under a bell curve of for example reaction times we  
4 would get when a driver is in a situation, we're going to see  
5 except for some subtle changes pretty much the same thing.

6 Q All right. And I will be asking about perception/  
7 reaction time in detail. Just generally, you would say that  
8 that would not vary depending upon what city or state you're  
9 in within the continental United States?

10 A It actually can. As an example, I would expect  
11 drivers in Chicago to be more urbanized, a little quicker on  
12 the brake, a little quicker on the gas, and they might  
13 actually do things a little bit faster than a driver in  
14 central Wyoming, just as an example.

15 Q Would a driver in downtown Chicago have generally the  
16 same human factors as a driver in downtown Atlanta? My  
17 question is, is it because they're in different states that  
18 human factors change or is it because they're in a different  
19 driving environment?

20 A The driving environment. It has nothing to do with  
21 the actual geographic location that I'm aware of. It's just  
22 the driving environment.

23 Q All right. And I'll come back to perception/reaction.  
24 If you would look on page 70, the second sentence under  
25 Yellow Interval Timing that you read?

1 A Where it starts out with "Specific"?

2 Q Correct. You did read that to us, I think.

3 A Yes.

4 Q In addition to yellow meaning--expected to mean that a  
5 driver needs to slow down and prepare to stop before the red  
6 signal, does a yellow mean anything else?

7 Ms. Martineau: I'm going to object to that. I don't  
8 think he said that's what the definition of yellow---

9 Mr. Stam: (interposing) All right. I'll back  
10 up.

11 Ms. Martineau: ---change interval is---

12 Mr. Stam: (interposing) All right. I'll back  
13 up.

14 Ms. Martineau: ---but go ahead.

15 By Mr. Stam:

16 Q Would you read that second sentence again for the  
17 record?

18 A Sure. I kind of just paraphrased it the first time.  
19 The second sentence says, "Specific guidelines usually exist  
20 in each jurisdiction for calculating yellow times since  
21 yellow is usually expected to mean a driver needs to slow  
22 down and prepare to stop before the red signal."

23 Q All right. If that's what it usually means, at other  
24 times what is it expected to mean? Is there another answer  
25 other than what you say it's usually expected to mean?

1       A    I think I know what you're after.  If I was writing  
2 this book for a group of traffic engineers, I would quote the  
3 meaning out of the MUTCD.  The intended audience here are  
4 police officers who are investigating crashes.

5           If I went into a group of police officers and I try to  
6 explain to them what the real engineering meaning of a yellow  
7 signal is--which they don't need to know anyway; it's not in  
8 their field of work--it would be like Christopher Columbus  
9 trying to explain to the queen that the earth is really  
10 round.  It doesn't work.  And so I word it in a way that's  
11 going to meet their expectations, so to speak.

12       Q    How would you explain it to the presiding judge in  
13 this trial?

14       A    I would explain to him that the intent and purpose of  
15 a yellow signal is to warn drivers that the green just ended  
16 and a red is approaching and they need to make a decision.

17       Q    A decision about what?

18       A    To go or to stop.

19       Q    Okay.  And if you go, should you slow down and prepare  
20 to stop?

21       A    Say that again?

22       Q    If you've decided to go through the intersection,  
23 should you slow down as you approach the intersection?

24       A    Well, if you've made a decision to go, I would hope  
25 you're not slowing down after you make the decision.  I mean

1 that sounds--that's kind of intuitive.

2 Q Right. Does the yellow change interval give you  
3 sufficient--is it intended to give you sufficient time to  
4 perceive the situation, react to it, and effectuate your  
5 decision?

6 A No.

7 Q What is it intended to do? What is the length of the  
8 yellow change interval designed to do?

9 A It is intended to give you time to perceive and react,  
10 make a decision. That's part of the perception/reaction.  
11 There are four components and one of them is making a  
12 decision, and then to continue on if your wish is to--if your  
13 decision and desire is to go ahead and continue on.

14 Q Anything else?

15 A No.

16 Q The second paragraph, if you would take a look at that  
17 for just a second?

18 (Witness peruses document.)

19 A Okay.

20 Q 11 feet per second for normal deceleration. I'm  
21 assuming that that's just shorthand for police officers.  
22 What it actually is---

23 A (interposing) Per second squared.

24 Q Per second squared, okay. We agree on that.

25 A There's a couple typos in the book and I've never

1 written an addendum to it.

2 Q So that would be a typo. That should be second  
3 squared?

4 A Right.

5 Q Okay. Would you agree that that's a standard in the  
6 trade, profession, industry of what a normal deceleration  
7 rate would be?

8 Ms. Martineau: Well, it says "a normal deceleration  
9 rate of about."

10 A About 11 feet per second is in the range of normal  
11 rates that I see used around the country.

12 Q Okay. Obviously in an emergency a driver can  
13 decelerate more rapidly; is that correct?

14 A Given that the allowable friction is there, there is  
15 not ice or something, or even on a seriously wet road, they  
16 can use a much higher deceleration.

17 Q What is the--now, we're not analyzing a crash right  
18 now. We're analyzing the yellow change interval. What would  
19 be the problem with using a much higher deceleration rate for  
20 calculating the yellow change interval?

21 A This comes back to a question you asked earlier about  
22 engineering being comprised of science versus--I said human  
23 factors. You said humanities. It would be nice for an  
24 engineer to use a number like 20 feet per second.

25 Q Squared?

1 A Squared, yes; I---

2 Q (interposing) That's all right.

3 A I apologize.

4 Q Go ahead.

5 A I'm keeping it simple. But we also have to look at  
6 what people are comfortable with. And somewhere between  
7 maybe 10 to 15, 16, 17, no higher than that, is about what  
8 people seem to be comfortable with at different speeds. It's  
9 in a range of what humans--if you just let them go decelerate  
10 what they're going to do.

11 Q And if a driver ahead--let's say Driver A is ahead of  
12 Driver B and Driver A decelerates much more rapidly than  
13 Driver B feels comfortable about decelerating. What's going  
14 to happen?

15 A You mean like one is following the other? They're  
16 colinear?

17 Q Correct.

18 A And they're both traveling at the same speed?

19 Q Right, to start with.

20 A Depending on the headway between them, there could be  
21 a rear-end crash.

22 Q Okay. The second item in here, you say about 1.5  
23 seconds for driver perception/reaction time; is that right?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Where did you get that, about 1.5 seconds?

1       A     At the time that I was writing this back in late  
2 2005-2006, I was seeing values typically about 1 second being  
3 used around the country for the most part. NCDOT was moving  
4 towards 1.5 seconds.

5           Now, I'll change gears a little and talk about crash  
6 reconstruction. In the crash reconstruction world, there's a  
7 magic perception/reaction number that's used almost  
8 universally of 1.5 seconds. They're not related to traffic  
9 signals, but just related to a driver's known response to a  
10 known stimulus, in other words seeing a stop sign. And my  
11 intended audience here is a bunch of cops and engineers doing  
12 crash reconstruction work. There again, I'm not going to try  
13 to---

14       Q     (interposing) And traffic enforcement---

15       A     ---reinvent the world.

16       Q     ---work too; is that correct? Well, I don't know. I  
17 shouldn't have interrupted you.

18       A     No, that's fine. Well, many of the officers who do  
19 reconstruction work are on what we call a traffic team, and  
20 if they're not running radar, they're doing investigations.  
21 But these guys are used to seeing 1.5 seconds in everything  
22 they do. And there again, I'm trying to drive home two or  
23 three important points. I'm not trying to make them reinvent  
24 the world.

25           It's easier to use that value, and that value is

1 within an acceptable range for perception/reaction that  
2 people were starting to use in '05 and '06 in the ITE  
3 calculation.

4 Q Is that the--let me--it's sort of a multiple choice  
5 question.

6 Ms. Martineau: You know I don't like your multiple  
7 choice questions.

8 Mr. Stam: I know.

9 Q But the last choice could be something else other than  
10 what I've presented. Is 1.5 seconds perception/reaction time  
11 the mean, average, for drivers, the median average for  
12 drivers, one standard deviation from the mean, average, the  
13 85th percentile, the 95th percentile, or is that 100 percent  
14 of drivers normally react within--perceive and react within  
15 1.5 seconds, or something else?

16 Now, I've presented it as multiple choice because I  
17 just want your true answer of all of the above or none of the  
18 above or some combination of the two.

19 A You're going to hate my answer: their response to  
20 what stimuli or what expected response? As I discussed  
21 earlier, in crash reconstruction 1.5 seconds typically is a  
22 good starting point for known stimulus, known response.

23 A driver is driving along in a test situation and a  
24 red light pops up on the dashboard and they have to slam on  
25 their brakes, someone like that, or they see a stop sign and

1 they slam on their brakes. It's been tested about 23 million  
2 times and we see it, but your question didn't tell me what  
3 response.

4           You asked me what would be a typical time, is it the  
5 median 1 percent, whatever. To what response? I mean to  
6 what stimulus? I'm sorry for being---

7       Q   (interposing) All right. Let me reask my question.  
8 If you tested a statistically significant number of drivers--  
9 I don't know how many that would be. I know polling. I  
10 don't know drivers. But we would test 1,050 voters if we  
11 wanted to get a really statistically significant number. You  
12 may want to test 20,000. I don't know, whatever that number  
13 is.

14           If you took all of your subjects to an identical  
15 situation on the road, hazards, traffic, et cetera, an  
16 identical situation, would you come up--is the 1.5 figure the  
17 average, mean, or median or is it one standard deviation  
18 above the mean, two standard deviations, the 85th percentile,  
19 the 95th percentile? What is it?

20           Ms. Martineau: What's the stimulus, though, that you  
21 want him to---

22       Q   (interposing) What I said was for every driver an  
23 identical stimulus, whatever you say it is, but the stimulus  
24 you're talking about for traffic that you're measuring and  
25 you come up with 1.5, identical. Where does--what are you

1 measuring when you say 1.5?

2 A It's impossible to answer your question as asked  
3 because the perception/reaction time is going to vary based  
4 on the stimulus and based on what the possible responses  
5 could be.

6 The only--in crash reconstruction work the most common  
7 thing we're looking at is all of a sudden Driver A sees  
8 Driver B run a stop sign. How long did it take the  
9 nonoffending driver to do something? How long did it take  
10 them to swerve and hit their brakes, as we would expect a  
11 reasonable evasive response to be? Those are the kind of  
12 situations we look at.

13 Now, I do get involved in a lot of work that involves  
14 other things, like perception/reaction in a work zone, at  
15 night, to an unknown sign or a pavement marking or something  
16 like that. We use a wide range of perception/reaction times  
17 there, and we have to build it based on the circumstances.

18 Q Let me---

19 A (interposing) And I'm sorry for the---

20 Q (interposing) No, no.

21 A There's no way to answer exactly what you asked.

22 Q Mr. Marceau, you're doing a great job of answering. I  
23 really appreciate it. I'm understanding exactly what you're  
24 saying, and that means you're answering. My question may not  
25 have been precise enough.

1           The same question but with this change, and that is a  
2 driver is coming up upon a signal light. The driver knows  
3 that there is a signal light ahead but doesn't know when the  
4 yellow will occur, multi-lanes both sides, you know, four  
5 lanes each way let's just say, businesses at every corner,  
6 possibly people coming out. That's the road situation.

7           A     Okay.

8           Q     Now, the human factor is you have a wide variety of  
9 drivers, from the Richard Petty race car driver--although he  
10 did hit somebody on I-85 one time when he was running for  
11 election.

12          A     He had a flashback. He thought he was racing.

13          Q     Right, but you have the race car driver, who  
14 presumably is on top of the game. You have the little old  
15 man who's 85, a little slow on his reactions, and everything  
16 in between. You know what the stimulus is, zero grade, clear  
17 weather, da, da, da, da, da. It's not raining. So my  
18 question is the same question.

19                When you say 1.5 seconds perception/reaction, are you  
20 measuring the average, mean or median, standard deviation,  
21 above or below? I've seen a reference to 85th percentile in  
22 some of the literature. I've seen a reference to 95th  
23 percentile. Do you know what you're measuring when you say  
24 1.5 seconds perception/reaction time?

25          A     I have no idea.

1 Q Okay. If you will turn to page 71 and 72 and just  
2 briefly peruse that because I'm going to ask you a little bit  
3 about red interval timing?

4 A Do you want me to read it word for word?

5 Q No, no, no. Read it to yourself and then I'm going to  
6 ask you some questions about it.

7 A Okay.

8 (Witness peruses document.)

9 I remember writing this a long time ago.

10 (Witness peruses document.)

11 Okay.

12 Q Are you done reading that section?

13 A Section 4.4, the red interval?

14 Q Yes.

15 A Sure. I took a look at it.

16 Q All right. Explain to the judge what the red interval  
17 is.

18 A The red interval is intended to clear the cars through  
19 the intersection.

20 Q And why do you need a red interval?

21 A It is one of the factors of safety that we design into  
22 traffic signals to help avoid crashes.

23 Q Does it depend upon--I mean how is it calculated? And  
24 I don't mean the exact precise terms. But it's legal to  
25 enter an intersection when a light is yellow; is that

1 correct?

2 A Correct.

3 Q A car could be moving just into the intersection with  
4 the opposing traffic waiting there. If a vehicle from the  
5 opposing lane of travel enters while the other vehicle has  
6 not cleared, you might have a crash.

7 A You likely would have a crash.

8 Q Right. So how do you measure how long the red  
9 clearance interval should be?

10 A There have been different iterations of the exact  
11 formula over the years. But in general, some variation of  
12 the width of the intersection divided by speed is going to  
13 give you the time it takes to cross through.

14 Q And what speed do they use?

15 A Typically the same approach speed that's used for the  
16 yellow calculation.

17 Q Now, when you say approach speed, the car going  
18 through presumably is at the--what do you use, the speed  
19 limit?

20 A The speed limit is used unless there's been a speed  
21 study done.

22 Ms. Martineau: Are we talking about through or left-  
23 hand turns?

24 Mr. Stam: We're talking about through traffic  
25 right now.

1 Ms. Martineau: Okay.

2 Mr. Stam: We're giving that car enough time to  
3 get through.

4 By Mr. Stam:

5 Q So you're saying use the approach speed, which would  
6 be the speed limit, times the distance of the intersection;  
7 is that correct?

8 A No. We're considering the width of the intersection  
9 plus or minus length of car and pedestrian consideration.  
10 But generally the width of the intersection divided by the  
11 speed is going to give us a time for a car to make it through  
12 that intersection.

13 Q What's--is it Greenfields' rule or law or Greenshield?

14 A Greenshields.

15 Q Yeah. Explain Greenshields.

16 A Greenshields deals with green signal time. There's no  
17 pun intended on his name, but it deals with green signal  
18 time.

19 Q And is that related to how fast it takes for a queue  
20 to start up?

21 A Yes, exactly.

22 Q All right. So in the example I gave--do you mind if I  
23 use this board right here?

24 A It's not mine. Help yourself.

25 Q I just want to make sure we're talking about the same

1 thing. So straight through, Vehicle A is entering the  
2 intersection (indicating).

3 A Okay.

4 Q Vehicle B is sitting here (indicating).

5 A Correct.

6 Q And so what is--I'm sorry. Is it Greenshields?

7 A Greenshields.

8 Q What is Greenshields' law about, how fast they get  
9 going?

10 Ms. Martineau: Who's "they," B?

11 Mr. Stam: The cars in B, C, D, in that queue.

12 Ms. Martineau: Okay.

13 A What Greenshields' law is used for--and it's actually  
14 still used today by many agencies whether they know they're  
15 using it or not. It's looking--it used to look at how much  
16 green time do we need to get a column of vehicles moving. In  
17 other words, if you expect four cars to queue up, how much  
18 green time would you want to give to that green signal to get  
19 those cars started up and moving?

20 In crash reconstruction work we don't use that. I use  
21 it in my teaching to explain to people that there's a  
22 start-up time. Greenshields' formula takes into account  
23 that the first vehicle has to get rolling and move out and  
24 the subsequent vehicles are typically going to roll out a  
25 little faster.

1 Q All right. My only question is going to be on the  
2 first vehicle. How long does it take the first vehicle to  
3 roll out under Greenshields' formula?

4 A Four seconds.

5 Q Four seconds, okay. So that if A is proceeding  
6 through and it's going to take B four seconds to get wound up  
7 and proceed, there's some lag time, is there not, in here?

8 A I like that term, "get wound up and proceed." I've  
9 never used that, but yes, you're right. There is lag time,  
10 exactly.

11 Q All right. But what happens if B is not in the queue  
12 but B is back here at the speed limit (indicating) and is  
13 just anticipating when the light's going to change? Can you  
14 rely on that lag time then, because if B is at let's say 45  
15 miles an hour here (indicating) and A is at 45 miles an hour  
16 proceeding through, is that what the all-red clearance  
17 formula is designed to---

18 Ms. Martineau: (interposing) When you say "that,"  
19 what do you mean by "that"?

20 Q That situation.

21 A A long time ago---

22 Ms. Martineau: (interposing) Objection to the form  
23 of the question. Go ahead.

24 Q Is that what that situation is designed--the all-red  
25 clearance formula is designed to obviate or ameliorate or

1 avoid or whatever?

2 Ms. Martineau: Objection. Go ahead.

3 A The all-red clearance is intended to clear the  
4 proceeding continuing car through the intersection to add a  
5 factor of safety before opposing traffic is given a green  
6 signal, right of way transfer to opposing traffic. We could  
7 look at that red clearance in a number of situations, that  
8 being just one of them.

9 Q Okay.

10 A A number of years ago someone asked me about a similar  
11 situation. It might have been 35 and 35. It doesn't matter.  
12 But, you know, if a car is in position exactly correctly--and  
13 I remember stepping through it with that student and showing  
14 them how I was not concerned about it happening.

15 It was--the traffic signal was at the I-40 exit next  
16 to the Home Depot just outside of Asheville. I remember it.  
17 It was an interstate ramp, and they were concerned that the  
18 crash had occurred because there was a problem with the  
19 signal.

20 And I walked him through it and showed him why it was  
21 physically impossible and it wasn't going to happen unless  
22 you had a driver that was coming in--Driver B was coming in  
23 so hot that they would have ended up sliding out into the  
24 intersection by the time they tried to get stopped and  
25 everything anyway. The crash didn't happen that way. The

1 driver just blew the red light.

2           Going back to your original question, I think, is the  
3 red interval designed just for that situation, no. It's  
4 designed for general safety and many sorts of questions.

5           Q    Okay. But going back to this situation, in deter-  
6 mining the all-red clearance interval, it's the approach  
7 speed, the speed limit of the car that is already in the  
8 intersection. Is that what is used for the  $v$  in that part of  
9 the equation?

10           Ms. Martineau: I'm going to object to the form of  
11 the question.

12           A    For through traffic we're using the approach speed to  
13 calculate the yellow and the red for the same car, for the  
14 yellow and then their continuing red. It's--maybe I missed  
15 the point of your question.

16           Q    Well, are we using the approach speed for both---

17           Ms. Martineau: (interposing) When you say "we," do  
18 you mean traffic engineers in general? Do you mean North  
19 Carolina traffic engineers? Do you mean ITE traffic  
20 engineers?

21           By Mr. Stam:

22           Q    Mr. Marceau, in determining the appropriate yellow  
23 change interval and the appropriate all-red interval, should  
24 an engineer use the approach speed for through traffic for  
25 both the yellow change interval and the red change interval?

1 A Yeah. Current practice is to use one speed limit in  
2 the formula.

3 Q Okay, one speed limit in the formula.

4 A We're using the same speed for both calculations.  
5 We're not changing the speed.

6 Q Thank you. Okay. If you would turn to page 77, and  
7 it goes over to 78?

8 (Witness complies.)

9 Q If you would take a minute to peruse Section 5.2,  
10 titled Dilemma Zones?

11 (Witness peruses document.)

12 Ms. Martineau: While he's perusing and--off the  
13 record.

14 The Reporter: Off the record. 10:47 a.m.

15 (Discussion off the record.)

16 The Reporter: On the record. 10:48 a.m.

17 The Witness: I remember this.

18 By Mr. Stam:

19 Q What is the dilemma zone?

20 A A dilemma zone is a region or an area--in traffic  
21 engineering terms, a dilemma zone is a range or an area  
22 upstream from a traffic signal, in advance of a traffic  
23 signal, before a driver would get to it, where a driver may  
24 have a concern--may have a problem making a decision, do I go  
25 or do I stop, when he sees a yellow signal.

1 Q Now, imagine a driver who's driven every day for 40  
2 years, in the prime of life, never had a ticket in her life,  
3 and you compare that with a 16 year old who just finished  
4 driver's ed. They are two different drivers, and one will  
5 have more dilemmas than the other.

6 My question is does the driver with 40 years of  
7 experience driving every day--how long have you been a  
8 driver? Then I'll break up my question that way.

9 A I started driving when I was 16. I'm 51, so quite a  
10 long time, 35 years?

11 Q 35 years. So let's take you, Mr. Marceau. Are there  
12 dilemma zones that even affect a driver like yourself, not an  
13 inexperienced driver, but an experienced, good driver who's  
14 alert?

15 A Dilemma zones are not related to a certain age or  
16 driving experience. They're just there.

17 Q All right. And what causes--let me back up. Have you  
18 read Gazis' article, "The Problem of the Amber Signal Light  
19 in Traffic Flow"?

20 A Yes, I have.

21 Q You have read it?

22 A Yes.

23 Q And you've heard the discussion of dilemma zones?

24 A Yes.

25 Q What causes a dilemma zone within the context of

1 traffic signals and yellow change intervals?

2 A Well, as I stated earlier when you first asked me  
3 about dilemma zones, a dilemma zone is simply a region that  
4 traffic engineers have defined as a region where drivers may  
5 have trouble making a decision do I go or do I stop when  
6 presented with a yellow signal.

7 Q And is that zone such that not only they have trouble  
8 making a decision, but in fact there is no solution to the  
9 problem if they decelerate at the rate assumed by your paper,  
10 DOT, and if they perceive and react in the time assumed by  
11 DOT for whatever purpose the average driver may be in but  
12 within that time? Are there zones to which there is no  
13 solution?

14 Ms. Martineau: Can I object to the form of the  
15 question?

16 Mr. Stam: Yes, please.

17 Q But you understand you go ahead and answer although  
18 she's objected.

19 A Yes.

20 Ms. Martineau: He's not saying whether or not that  
21 car is stopping or going through.

22 Mr. Stam: Correct.

23 A Good question. Yellow times are calculated from a  
24 specific point in time, not an entire zone. We can come back  
25 to that in a moment. The dilemma zones that are presented--

1 these were actually taken from an NCDOT publication--or a  
2 reference sheet I had. Excuse me. I wish I had pulled it  
3 out of my file and brought it for you. I mean not my file on  
4 this case, but my old file of stuff from way back when.

5 NCDOT got these from a professor down at Georgia Tech  
6 named Dr. Peter Parsonson. I heard he might have died a year  
7 or two ago. I'm not sure. Dr. Parsonson was an older  
8 professor. He was a great guy.

9 And Dr. Parsonson, through observations at inter-  
10 sections, had put together this chart. It was like in the  
11 '90s. I remember I had a fax from Lisa Moon. She sent me  
12 this chart. I don't know if you guys know Lisa.

13 Q Yes.

14 A I've known Lisa for about 20 years. And she sent me  
15 this chart---

16 Q (interposing) Are you talking about the chart on page  
17 78?

18 A Yes, yes, as a matter of fact. I mean I've seen it in  
19 other sources. But I remember Lisa and I were having a  
20 discussion in the days before probably e-mail. We were  
21 faxing. And I just---

22 Q (interposing) You are old, then.

23 A Yeah, I know, but I just remembered that. But this  
24 chart refers to the dilemma zones that Dr. Parsonson and his  
25 grad students observed through their own observations--and I

1 don't recall how they did their study. But they stood out in  
2 traffic and they watched where they thought people were  
3 having trouble and they made note of these distances. I can  
4 picture it.

5           It's a chart of all kinds of distances at different  
6 speeds. He drew like a cloud shape and said in general this  
7 is kind of the area. NCDOT used to have a very good  
8 relationship with Georgia Tech's traffic engineering program,  
9 and they used and borrowed that information to create this  
10 chart. And I was using it as a reference, trying to help the  
11 police officers understand what I was talking about.

12       Q    Do you think you still have that chart?

13       A    Oh, I know I do. I know I do.

14       Q    I wonder if you could look in your file---

15       A    (interposing) It's an ancient NCDOT sheet. It's like  
16 1990-something.

17       Q    All right. I'm going to ask you if you could find  
18 that chart and---

19           Ms. Martineau: (interposing) You can ask me.

20       Q    I'm asking you through the lawyer for Cary if you  
21 could find that chart and get it to us.

22       A    I'll be glad to.

23       Q    I would appreciate that. I'd learn something. Do you  
24 or do you not know what causes dilemma zones having read the  
25 chart, read Gazis, and your own observations?

1       A    My understanding as a traffic engineer has always been  
2 that it is an area where people seem to have trouble making a  
3 decision.  When you give people a decision to make, you're  
4 going to get slightly different responses from different  
5 drivers, and that's why---

6       Q    (interposing)  Even experienced drivers?

7       A    Absolutely.

8       Q    Right.

9       A    Like I said, making a correct decision hopefully gets  
10 better as we improve in our driving experience.  That's why  
11 we have a graduated driver licensing program in this state  
12 and in many other states.  But this area can still exist out  
13 there if we're looking at a range of drivers.

14           And I don't know that I ever learned how--I don't  
15 think--I mean I've talked to Dr. Parsonson many times.  I  
16 don't think I ever asked him, "How did you guys go out and  
17 measure this stuff in the '60s or whenever you were doing  
18 it?"

19       Q    But even the most experienced driver can be in that  
20 dilemma zone; is that not correct?

21       A    The intent is to--the intent is to not have a dilemma  
22 zone through several design parameters, not just yellow  
23 lights, the yellow light timing.  There's a bunch of other  
24 stuff at play at an intersection.  We're trying to remove the  
25 possibility of someone having to make--having to be

1 uncomfortable about making decisions. They have to make  
2 decisions, but we want to remove the uncomfortableness, if  
3 you will.

4 Q Do you know what creates the necessity for making a  
5 decision between stop and go in the first place?

6 Ms. Martineau: Why people have to make a decision  
7 between stop and go?

8 Q Why people would have to make a decision between stop  
9 and go in the context of a yellow change interval?

10 A It's a result of us using technology. Back in the  
11 original days, we had police officers that directed traffic,  
12 and being an ex-cop I can testify about this. When a police  
13 officer stands out in the middle of Wake Forest Road in  
14 Raleigh directing traffic, they have two signals. We have  
15 stop, where you hold your hand up, and we have go, where you  
16 wave your hand.

17 They also have what we might call a you don't have to  
18 stop. The officer, as I was trained to do--watch an officer  
19 directing traffic. They will look about four or five cars  
20 back and they'll point at a driver and get their attention  
21 and go, "You get ready to stop," and they'll bring the other  
22 cars on. That's the way they transfer right of way.

23 When we started using electrical and mechanical  
24 devices, traffic signals, to direct traffic in place of  
25 police officers, we removed that. We removed the officer

1 making a decision and telling people what to do and we had to  
2 transfer that decision making over to the human driver, and  
3 that's why people have to make a decision.

4 Q If you would turn to page 104 and 105 in the excerpt,  
5 and take a minute to remind yourself? And for the record it  
6 is Section 8.3, Red Light Running Cameras.

7 (Witness peruses document.)

8 A Okay. I took a look at it.

9 Q The very first sentence says, "It is undeniable that  
10 red light running contributes to intersection crashes." Does  
11 yellow light running contribute to intersection crashes?  
12 Does a person entering an intersection on a yellow light  
13 contribute to intersection crashes?

14 A I've never heard of one. I'm trying to remember where  
15 I took that photo. I'm sure it's in Cary. I just can't  
16 remember where.

17 Q On page 105?

18 A On 104.

19 Q Page 104.

20 A Or either one of them, for that matter.

21 Q All right.

22 A That is Maynard at Chapel Hill Road.

23 Q On page 104 or 105?

24 A Both of these. I mean the intersection has changed a  
25 lot since those days, but I'm pretty sure that's where it is.

1 Anyway, it's a moot point.

2 Q Are you familiar that around 2004, '05, '06 DOT  
3 changed the way it calculated yellow change intervals?

4 A Yes. It was an NCDOT ITE task force that looked at  
5 how yellow intervals--yellow and red, actually both--were  
6 being calculated in North Carolina. I was asked to be on  
7 that task force. I was already on another one, so I didn't  
8 serve on both.

9 Mr. Stam: Are we are at Exhibit 4?

10 The Reporter: Yes, sir.

11 (Plaintiffs Exhibits 4-7 were  
12 marked for identification.)

13 Q I'm going to hand you what's been marked for  
14 identification as Exhibits--I think I'll give you 4, 5, 6 and  
15 7 together.

16 Ms. Martineau: While he's looking at those, can we  
17 take a brief break?

18 Mr. Stam: Sure.

19 The Reporter: Off the record. 11:01 a.m.

20 (A brief recess was taken.)

21 The Reporter: On the record. 11:19 a.m.

22 The Witness: Okay. I took a quick look at  
23 everything.

24 By Mr. Stam:

25 Q All right. And Exhibits 4 through 7, I understand you

1 just saw them for the first time this morning. Is that  
2 correct?

3 A No. I actually--I saw these--I received at least what  
4 I think are 4, 5, and 6 of the e-mail chains from Town  
5 Council from Elizabeth late yesterday, but I didn't look at  
6 them.

7 Q Very recently?

8 A Yes.

9 Ms. Martineau: And also just for the record, these  
10 are not e-mails that Mr. Marceau was copied on or---

11 Mr. Stam: (interposing) I'm going to ask him  
12 about that.

13 Ms. Martineau: And of course he can't be a mind  
14 reader.

15 By Mr. Stam:

16 Q You first saw them yesterday?

17 Ms. Martineau: Some of them.

18 Q Some of them?

19 A Right.

20 Q Was that 4, 5, 6, and 7?

21 A I didn't even look at them. I was handed them and I  
22 promised to review them and I never did.

23 Q And I'm just going to ask--because you're a designated  
24 expert for the Town of Cary and this is some correspondence  
25 between the town traffic engineer for Cary, I just want to

1 ask if you can read his mind.

2 Ms. Martineau: Are you a mind reader?

3 A No. You know, the tuner on the crystal ball is not  
4 working.

5 Q All right. Look at Exhibit 4 there, the first and  
6 second sentence. He's faced with a proposal apparently,  
7 writing to Pamela Alexander at DOT, that on Harrison Avenue  
8 with a 45 mile an hour speed limit somebody is talking about  
9 reducing the yellow change interval down to 3.0 or 3.3  
10 seconds for left turns. Why would the traffic engineer say  
11 this could create a safety problem?

12 Ms. Martineau: Objection to the form of the  
13 question. I mean I think that's a better--if you have a  
14 question as to why Mr. Moore wrote what he wrote, you should  
15 ask Mr. Moore.

16 A I have no idea why Dick considered this to be a safety  
17 problem.

18 Q Okay. Would you consider it a safety problem,  
19 reducing the yellow change intervals where there's a 45 mile  
20 an hour speed limit on left turns from 4.5 down to 3.0 or  
21 3.3?

22 A As far as this specific intersection, I want to look  
23 at it and run the numbers and check it myself. I haven't  
24 looked at this intersection. I don't know.

25 Q Okay. If you would go down about two thirds--halfway

1 through the page, the paragraph that begins "The operating  
2 speeds." Would you just read that one short paragraph?

3 A Certainly. "The operating speeds on Harrison Avenue  
4 are higher speeds. While the left turning speed may be 20-25  
5 miles per hour at the stopbar, the approach speed approaching  
6 the traffic signal is much greater."

7 Q Is that correct in your opinion, that the approach  
8 speed is much greater than 20 to 25 miles per hour?

9 Ms. Martineau: At Harrison Avenue?

10 Q At---

11 A (interposing) Which intersection? This was at  
12 Harrison.

13 Q At Harrison Avenue where there are left turns.

14 A Which intersection?

15 Q Well, in general. Is the approach speed much greater  
16 than the speed taken at the stop bar?

17 Ms. Martineau: In what scenario?

18 Mr. Stam: In any scenario.

19 Ms. Martineau: Well, objection to the form of the  
20 question. Go ahead and answer.

21 A I can't answer that question as you asked it because  
22 there are too many possible scenarios. It could be less. It  
23 could be greater. It could a little less. It could be a lot  
24 less. It could be a lot greater or it could be a little  
25 greater. It could be all over the place.

1 Q All right. Well, let's use our little diagram here.  
2 Here are two vehicles stopped at a red light that are in the  
3 left turn lane (indicating). They want to go that way  
4 (indicating).

5 A Okay.

6 Q So they're stopped. Do you see what I'm saying?

7 A Correct.

8 Q They're stopped at zero. So their approach speed to  
9 the stop bar would be less than 20 to 25 miles an hour; is  
10 that correct?

11 Ms. Martineau: In your scenario?

12 Q In this scenario.

13 A At that point in time their speed is zero.

14 Q All right. What about the car, the vehicle, that's  
15 free flowing for which there is no queue, a 45 mile an hour  
16 speed limit? To get through the intersection they have to  
17 decelerate; is that correct?

18 A I would hope so.

19 Q So at some point they get to 20 miles per hour or  
20 something thereabouts. Is their approach speed--is the  
21 approach speed of that vehicle, say Vehicle C, much greater  
22 than 20 miles an hour or much less?

23 Ms. Martineau: You're saying this is for an inter-  
24 section without a dedicated left turn lane?

25 Mr. Stam: No. This has a dedicated left turn

1 lane.

2 Ms. Martineau: Well, then there's going to be a  
3 queue.

4 Mr. Stam: Did we get that on the record?

5 The Reporter: Yes, sir.

6 By Mr. Stam:

7 Q Is there always going to be a queue when there is a  
8 dedicated left turn lane?

9 A No, not at all.

10 Q Okay. So if there is no queue and they're starting at  
11 45 miles an hour, what is their approach speed?

12 A At what point?

13 Q At whatever point you think is relevant for the yellow  
14 change interval used by NCDOT.

15 A You lost me in the question. I'm sorry.

16 Q Okay. Where would you--you're familiar with the ITE  
17 formula for the yellow change interval; is that correct?

18 A Yes, I am.

19 Q All right. And one of the factors is the approach  
20 speed; is that correct? It says design speed is the speed  
21 limit unless there is a speed survey, da, da, da. You're  
22 familiar with that?

23 A Correct.

24 Q All right. For a left turning vehicle, where should  
25 the approach speed be measured?

1           Ms. Martineau:    Objection to the form of that  
2 question.

3           A    I have no idea.  We don't.

4           Q    Okay.  Where does the physics in the yellow change  
5 interval mandate that the engineer measure the approach  
6 speed?

7           Ms. Martineau:    Objection to the form of the  
8 question.

9           A    I have never been asked that or never considered that.  
10 I don't know.

11          Q    Going to Exhibit 5, if you would--and these are in I  
12 guess reverse chronological order, like an e-mail chain.

13          A    Correct.

14          Q    But I would like to look at the one first at the  
15 bottom of the first page of Exhibit 5 that begins "Good  
16 morning Greg."  Do you know who Greg is?

17          A    Greg Fuller.

18          Q    Do you know what his position is with DOT?

19                Ms. Martineau:    Currently?

20          Q    Do you know what his position was in June of 2006?

21          A    I want to say he was in charge of signals, ITS, but  
22 I'm not positive.  I mean I've seen Greg rising through the  
23 ranks over the years.

24          Q    He deals with signals?

25          A    Yes.  His career has been in traffic engineering.

1 Q He's the signal engineer guy, is that right, for DOT,  
2 more or less?

3 A He's one of them.

4 Q Okay. Would you read the first paragraph of the Good  
5 morning Greg e-mail from Dick Moore, Town Traffic Engineer  
6 for the Town of Cary?

7 A It looks like Dick was writing to Greg and he said:  
8 "The Town of Cary is disappointed that NCDOT by these  
9 comments will increase the number of Red light  
10 violations by Cary residents at the intersection of  
11 Walnut and Meeting Street. Because most red light  
12 camera installations have been removed across the  
13 country because of shorter yellows being installed, we  
14 can only assume that NCDOT is opposed to Red light  
15 cameras."

16 Q Would you comment on that?

17 Ms. Martineau: Objection to the form of the  
18 question. You can ask him a question.

19 Q Would you comment on that?

20 Mr. Stam: That is a question, and you objected  
21 to form.

22 Ms. Martineau: Objection to the form of the  
23 question.

24 Mr. Stam: He can now answer.

25 A Comment on--I mean there's a lot of stuff there. This

1 is the first time I've ever read this--well, the second time.  
2 I read it five minutes ago.

3 Q Right. And I understand you haven't had a chance to  
4 analyze it or---

5 Ms. Martineau: (interposing) Well, it's not his  
6 words. If you have a question for him, ask him a question.  
7 I don't want him just--you know, he's here to answer your  
8 questions. So if you have a question---

9 Mr. Stam: (interposing) I did.

10 Ms. Martineau: ---for Mr. Marceau ask it.

11 Mr. Stam: I've asked a question.

12 By Mr. Stam:

13 Q Do you have any comment on the paragraph that you  
14 read?

15 A No. They are strong words. There seems to be a  
16 dispute between Greg and Dick about some signals. I don't  
17 know the whole history behind it, so I can't really offer a  
18 comment.

19 Q Do you know Dick Moore?

20 A I've worked with a Dick a few times.

21 Q Is he a competent traffic engineer?

22 A I have no idea.

23 Q Did you work with him on traffic issues?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Did he seem to know what he was talking about?

1 A No.

2 Q Okay. If you would go to the top of the first page of  
3 Exhibit 5?

4 A Where it starts out with just "Dick"?

5 Q "Dick," right.

6 A Okay.

7 Q "Please don't assume our comments."

8 A This looks like Greg's response back to Dick.

9 Q Right.

10 A Do you want me to read that?

11 Q If you'll read it and then I'm going to ask you a  
12 question about it.

13 A Okay. Sure. "Dick, Please don't assume"---

14 Q (interposing) Oh, I'm sorry. You don't need to read  
15 it for the record.

16 Ms. Martineau: Thank you.

17 A Oh, I'm sorry.

18 Ms. Martineau: You're okay.

19 Q Just read it to yourself and then I'm going to ask you  
20 a question about it.

21 (Witness peruses document.)

22 A Okay. I'm ready to hear questions.

23 Q All right. If you would go down to the sentence on  
24 the tenth line I think that begins "If the Town of Cary," and  
25 just read that one sentence, "If the Town of Cary"?

1       A     Okay. Here we go. "If the Town of Cary believes  
2 drivers"--and this is from Greg Fuller to Dick Moore.

3           Ms. Martineau:     You want him to read this out loud?

4           Mr. Stam:            That sentence, yes.

5           Ms. Martineau:     Okay.

6       A     "If the Town of Cary believes drivers should be given  
7 additional leeway, the red light camera system can increase  
8 the time into the red clearance before a violation is  
9 recorded."

10       Q     Okay. Do you understand what he is suggesting?

11       A     Sure. The amnesty time could be increased.

12       Q     All right. Does Cary have any amnesty time in its  
13 current signalization before the red light cameras record a  
14 violation?

15       A     Well, there is no current system. It's turned off.

16       Q     Well, I mean--I'm sorry--before it was turned off.

17       A     Yes. The Town of Cary did use an amnesty.

18       Q     How much?

19       A     Two tenths of a second.

20       Q     Two tenths of a second, okay.

21       A     If I'm not mistaken, it's double I think what red  
22 lights use in other locations. I believe it typically is .1,  
23 but I'm not positive about that.

24       Q     All right. Now, if you would go to number 6?

25       A     Exhibit 6?

1 Q Exhibit 6. And I'm just looking at the first message  
2 on the first page because the rest of it is, you know, just  
3 the rest of that e-mail chain.

4 (Witness peruses document.)

5 A Yeah. It looks like this is Kevin Lacy's follow up to  
6 Greg's response to Dick. Boy, that's a mouthful.

7 Q Okay. These are two DOT employees---

8 Ms. Martineau: (interposing) When you say "these,"  
9 do you mean Greg and Kevin?

10 Mr. Stam: Yeah. I was going to get to that.

11 Ms. Martineau: Okay.

12 The Witness: Kevin is Greg's boss.

13 By Mr. Stam:

14 Q He was his boss at the time or now or do you know?

15 A He is now, and if I'm not mistaken he was back in 2006  
16 also.

17 Q And so he was suggesting that a way to solve the  
18 safety and enforcement problem was just to have a grace  
19 period into the all-red interval.

20 Ms. Martineau: Objection to the form of the  
21 question, mischaracterization.

22 Q Is that correct?

23 A No. It's not correct at all.

24 Q All right. What is he suggesting?

25 A Well, he doesn't--that I'm aware of here. He doesn't

1 mention safety or anything like that. He just says he was  
2 reviewing Greg's recommendations to the town, to Dick Moore.

3 Q Well, Dick Moore's concern was safety, was it not?

4 A I'm not really sure what Dick's concern was.

5 Q Okay. Is that a delay time or a grace period?

6 Ms. Martineau: What is? What Kevin's e-mail is?  
7 You keep saying "that," but there's so much going on. Please  
8 let us know what you're talking about by "that."

9 A What Greg is talking about is--what we know as an  
10 amnesty time--is a delay between the onset of the phase red  
11 and the ability for the red light camera to capture a  
12 violator, capture a violator's image and then record it.

13 Q All right. Would you look at Exhibit 7, please?

14 (Witness peruses document.)

15 A Okay. It's another e-mail.

16 Q And you have not seen this before yesterday or today;  
17 is that correct?

18 A No, and I don't know if I even received this  
19 yesterday.

20 Q Well, I think actually this one is this morning, 7 and  
21 8.

22 A Okay.

23 Q What is Exhibit 7?

24 A It looks like a chain of e-mails that originated with  
25 Lori Cove. Apparently there's a--I'm assuming a citizen--

1 someone in Cary who has received several red light citations  
2 over some time period. She has complained about them in the  
3 past and seems to be really hammering at several people.

4 And it looks like she got another red light ticket,  
5 and she--Lori is letting all the people who have apparently  
6 been involved in this in the past know that this woman may be  
7 talking to them, coming to see them.

8 And Greg mentioned in one of his follow-up e-mails  
9 that this lady had called him and she was misquoting some-  
10 thing. And he told her, "We don't have any authority over  
11 the red light cameras that are owned by the Town of Cary,"  
12 and that's the basis of it.

13 Q Okay. At the bottom there's a message from the Town  
14 of Cary to a group of people, other people in Cary plus--  
15 well, lots of people in Cary. You note that she did appeal.  
16 "She lost her appeal and I haven't heard from her since until  
17 today." Do you see that there?

18 A I'm sorry. You said a message to everybody in Cary?

19 Q Well, all the---

20 Ms. Martineau: (interposing) Well, I think the  
21 document---

22 Q ---people to which it was to---

23 Ms. Martineau: ---speaks for itself.

24 Q ---are apparently officials of the Town of Cary, at  
25 least the ones I can discern because their e-mail address is

1 @townofcary.org.

2 A I'm sorry. You lost me. Ask me your question again.

3 Q The e-mail dated December 19th, 2008, does it appear  
4 to be from an official of the Town of Cary to a lot of other  
5 officials of the Town of Cary?

6 Ms. Martineau: Objection to the form of the  
7 question. Answer if you know.

8 A No. It's from the town engineer. Officials I  
9 consider to be elected people.

10 Q I'm not talking about elected people. I'm talking  
11 about an employee of the Town of Cary.

12 Ms. Martineau: Are you asking him if he knows  
13 whether or not Lori Cove was a town employee or a town  
14 engineer on December 19, 2008?

15 A Lori is with the Town of Cary. She was then. And she  
16 sent it to people with the Town of Cary, also people in the  
17 DOT division office, people in DOT traffic engineering, and  
18 two people who--or at least one person. I don't know.

19 Q Do you read this that she had actually appealed and  
20 lost her appeal or something had happened in August of 2007?

21 A "She" being the citizen, Ms. Ellwood, was concerned.  
22 She had picked up apparently several or a bunch of traffic  
23 citations and was upset about it. Let's see. "She came by  
24 in August of 2007 to see me." I don't know when she got her  
25 citations and when she appealed, but it was in '07 that she

1 came by to see Lori.

2 (Plaintiffs Exhibit 8 was  
3 marked for identification.)

4 Q Okay. Would you take a look at Exhibit 8?

5 A Certainly. And I will tell you I can't read this  
6 thing. Oh, there it is. It says Harrison southbound at  
7 Weston.

8 Q I'm going to tell you what it purports to be, and if  
9 it purports--you know, obviously whether it is that or not.  
10 Mr. Ceccarelli, sitting here with me, got the data from the  
11 Town of Cary, pushed a little button on his computer, and it  
12 put out a graph, and here's the graph. And it purports to  
13 show the number of violations per month at Harrison Avenue  
14 southbound at Weston Parkway. Are you familiar with that  
15 intersection?

16 A Yes. I live very close to it.

17 Q All right. And the spike appears to be in the months  
18 of July and August of '07. Now, here's my question to you as  
19 an engineer who teaches forensics, talks to police officers  
20 all the time. If you saw that graph of violations per month  
21 for almost anything, what would you as an engineer first  
22 hypothesize or think about if you saw a drastic spike in  
23 violations that immediately went down after the spike?

24 Ms. Martineau: Objection to the form of the  
25 question.

1 Q Did the drivers all of a sudden go wild in those two  
2 months?

3 A Those office people on Weston Parkway go crazy in the  
4 summer. I used to work over there. I know. They had a sale  
5 at Moe's. I don't know. No.

6 Q Okay. Neither of us were serious right then.

7 A In all seriousness---

8 Q (interposing) In all seriousness.

9 A ---as a forensic engineer, when I see a spike--and  
10 it's a dramatic spike; I won't argue that--my first question  
11 is twofold. One, I want to understand the system which is  
12 operating, and by system I mean the sphere we're working in,  
13 the globe we're working in, and two, I'm going to start  
14 looking for things that changed in there. People's behavior  
15 doesn't usually dramatically change overnight unless some-  
16 thing causes it to change, and I want to understand what  
17 caused it to change.

18 Q Now, there being no spike in the summer of '05 or '06  
19 or '08 or '09 or '10, is it likely that there was a change in  
20 driver behavior for example of Rosalind Ellwood, who was  
21 complaining?

22 A Well, let's define driver behavior. Driver behavior  
23 is defined by running red lights. Well, yes, quite obviously  
24 there was. Driver behavior as far as are they doing it any  
25 different in their normal approach to this intersection that

1 they hadn't done in the past? Maybe or maybe not.

2 I would want to start looking at the intersection, the  
3 signal, the geometrics. I'm going to start looking at  
4 things, as I said, the sphere and the environment of this  
5 intersection, and find out what was going on out there on the  
6 ground at that time.

7 (Plaintiffs Exhibit 9 was  
8 marked for identification.)

9 Q I'll show what's been marked for identification as  
10 Plaintiffs Deposition Exhibit 9.

11 A Before I look at that, let's go off the record and  
12 take a break for a few minutes.

13 Mr. Stam: Sure.

14 The Reporter: Off the record. 11:40 a.m.

15 (A brief recess was taken.)

16 The Reporter: On the record. 11:48 a.m.

17 By Mr. Stam:

18 Q Let me show you what's been marked for identification  
19 as Exhibit 9. You can see it's been an exhibit to many other  
20 depositions. Have you read any of the depositions in this  
21 case so far?

22 A Yes, I have.

23 Q Which ones?

24 A I read David Spencer's, Mr. Ceccarelli's, Ms.  
25 Millette's, Lisa Moon's, and Dr. George's, Elizabeth George.

1 It's Elizabeth I believe. I read hers.

2 Q All right. Mr. Fuller's?

3 A I did not read it. I have it. I haven't had a chance  
4 to read it.

5 Q And Dr. Shovlin's?

6 A No.

7 Q Have you had a chance to see this exhibit, which was  
8 an exhibit to Ms. Moon's and Dr. George's deposition?

9 Ms. Martineau: I don't think that we've got the  
10 exhibits back yet from the court reporter, but I don't know.  
11 I don't know if he's seen it or not.

12 A I want to say I saw this on your web site a long time  
13 ago, maybe possibly, but I haven't seen it with respect to an  
14 exhibit to a deposition.

15 Mr. Stam: Off the record.

16 The Reporter: Off the record. 11:49 a.m.

17 (Discussion off the record.)

18 The Reporter: On the record. 11:49 a.m.

19 By Mr. Stam:

20 Q So you've not seen this before?

21 A No, not with respect to an exhibit. If I have, it was  
22 on Plaintiff's web site and I just happened to glance over  
23 it.

24 Q Okay. Well, let me tell you what it purports to be.  
25 And that is Mr. Ceccarelli obtained data directly from the

1 Town of Cary to his computer about certain intersections, the  
2 number of violations per month at the intersection, and he  
3 pushed a button or whatever he does and it turned it into a  
4 graph, some program he has. I don't know what it is. And  
5 I'd just like to go over a couple of these.

6 The first page purports to be the intersection where  
7 Mr. Ceccarelli obtained his citation. Are you familiar with  
8 that intersection, Cary Town Boulevard and Convention Drive?

9 A Yes. I'm very familiar with it.

10 Q Going from his direction, west to east, from Maynard--  
11 do you know where Maynard is?

12 A Yes.

13 Q ---proceeding east, what is the speed limit there?

14 Ms. Martineau: Objection. Answer if you can.

15 A It is 45 miles an hour, as best I recall. It's been  
16 about a week since I've been there.

17 Q All right. How long have you lived in Cary or worked  
18 in Cary?

19 A I've been in the general Cary area for 34 years as of  
20 today. My parents bought a house on Halloween day in '78.  
21 I've been around here for a while.

22 Q Okay. In November of 2009, what was the speed limit  
23 there?

24 Ms. Martineau: Objection. Answer if you can.

25 A I don't know.

1 Q We'll come back to that.

2 A Okay.

3 Q Assuming for the purpose of discussion that it was 45  
4 miles per hour, as you believe it is today---

5 A (interposing) In 2009 it was 45 miles an hour.

6 Q Okay. Thank you.

7 A I had to think about that for a second.

8 Q All the witnesses have so testified.

9 A Well, I had to think about it. I should know that.

10 Q This chart purports to show a dramatic decline in  
11 citations when something happened. And I'll purport to you  
12 that what happened is they fixed the traffic signal because  
13 they goofed and they left a 35 mile an hour signal plan there  
14 for a couple of decades, even though it had been 45 miles per  
15 hour for years.

16 Ms. Martineau: Objection; move to strike.

17 Q That's our position in the case. It's also the  
18 position of all the witnesses, but it's not the position of  
19 the Town of Cary.

20 Ms. Martineau: Same objection. Move to strike;  
21 mischaracterization of the witnesses' testimony.

22 Q But assuming that that is true, what does this graph  
23 tell you as an engineer?

24 A The first thing I see is that there was a downward  
25 trend and Mr. Ceccarelli's citation blew that, but aside from

1 that I do see a drop. I do see a drop. I see other drops.  
2 I do see a drop that is centered right about the time on this  
3 graph--it's shown just after March of 2010--when, as you've  
4 told me, the yellow time for Phase 2 through moved from four  
5 seconds to four and a half seconds. I do see a drop there.

6           There are a couple things that caught my attention,  
7 and this is really the first time I've reviewed this. I see  
8 other up and down spikes all over the place, I mean some  
9 serious ones. That drop right there is similar to other  
10 spikes I see back in '08. These are just general comments.  
11 But yes, I do see a spike that's centered about the time that  
12 the yellow time changes.

13           Something that's odd to me is why doesn't that drop  
14 start when the yellow time changes, why was it already on a  
15 decline--it looks like a month and a half, maybe almost two  
16 months--before the yellow time changed. That seems odd to  
17 me.

18           You asked me a question before about Harrison at  
19 Weston. I'm a forensics guy. That means I'm curious. I  
20 would want to figure out why it's changed. What's bothering  
21 me too is why the change doesn't occur at the same time as  
22 the timing changed, what other factors are going on. This is  
23 what I'm asking.

24           Q Well, this is only counts per month. If you had a  
25 daily count, you may have a more precise---

1 A (interposing) Got you.

2 Q Let's look at the second---

3 A (interposing) That may answer why the decline doesn't  
4 line up with the change at the time.

5 Q Is a sustained change likely to be due to a change in  
6 driver behavior? Obviously you can have changes from month  
7 to month, seasonal, depending who's shopping where or the  
8 weather or whatever. But is a sustained change likely to be  
9 due to changes in driver behavior?

10 A Well, there again, there are two parts to driver  
11 behavior. One part is are they running red lights. And a  
12 drop would indicate a change in that behavior, eventual  
13 resulting behavior. But behavior leading up to the inter-  
14 section, such as associated with decision making, there  
15 again, I don't have enough information to say yes or no or  
16 maybe.

17 Q All right. Turn to the second page, if you would.

18 (Witness complies.)

19 Q I'll tell you what this purports to be. One of the  
20 plaintiffs is Lori Millette, who was cited for running a red  
21 light turning left onto Cary Parkway coming off of Kildaire  
22 Farm Road northbound. Are you familiar with that inter-  
23 section?

24 A Very much so.

25 Q And again, this is a chart. Mr. Ceccarelli will

1 testify that he took the data from the Town of Cary's  
2 records, pushed a button on his computer, produced a graph,  
3 and then he inserted the comments. So he says, "4.0 second  
4 Left Turn Yellow (should)"--that's his opinion--that it  
5 should be 4.5, but it was 4.0.

6           And then all of a sudden right there where the spike  
7 goes up is when the town made it a three second violation.  
8 You don't know where in the month that happened, so you can't  
9 know exactly. Then she gets a citation as part of that  
10 spike. She's convicted, and then the town turns off the  
11 camera there and it goes to zero. I don't know if it stayed  
12 turned off through 12/10, but it stayed off through the end  
13 of that graph.

14           Does that chart suggest to you as a forensic accident  
15 reconstructionist that driver behavior on Kildaire Farm Road  
16 suddenly changed in November/December of 2009?

17           Ms. Martineau: Objection; move to strike the  
18 testimony of Mr. Stam. Go ahead.

19           A You asked me as a crash reconstructionist and I'll  
20 testify. Yeah, as a crash reconstructionist and also as a  
21 traffic transportation engineer, there again, I better  
22 understand now why the line doesn't match up, so I won't  
23 introduce that. I understand that you can only do month by  
24 month. I know a little more about the history of this  
25 intersection.

1           As I said earlier when we were talking about Harrison  
2 at Weston, I want to look at the sphere. I want to look at  
3 the environment in which we're working, and then I'll look at  
4 the people operating in that.

5           Why are these resultant behaviors happening? What  
6 changed up front to make all this happen? And I've got to  
7 tell you I'm not surprised to see a graph like at this inter-  
8 section. I'm not shocked at all to see it. As a matter of  
9 fact, I could have predicted it.

10          Q    Is it because drivers have dramatically changed their  
11 behavior to scoff at the law or did something else happen?

12          A    No, not at all. When the signal plan came out--I  
13 forget who produced it--where the yellow time for that left  
14 turn, northbound left from Kildaire onto Cary Parkway, came  
15 out--what was it, late '08, '09, whenever it came out, I  
16 think it was around the end of the plan maybe, where we went  
17 from a four second yellow to a three second yellow, that plan  
18 wasn't done just to change yellow times. The phasing at that  
19 intersection changed dramatically in two very huge ways.

20               My mother lives not far from this intersection, and  
21 she has in all these years complained to me about only two  
22 things about traffic and they both had to do with this inter-  
23 section, not about yellow times. I promise you.

24               At the time that they went from four seconds to three  
25 at this particular intersection, as well as other

1 intersections around Cary, the town was using going from a  
2 lead-lead left turning phasing operating to a lead-lag. It  
3 processes more cars per hour. But to effect that you need to  
4 have the correct technology in place. If not, you end up  
5 building what we call a yellow trap crash situation into the  
6 intersection.

7           And the signal heads that were in place and the  
8 phasing that was in place, a traditional late phase, using  
9 protective---

10       Q   (interposing) That's discussed in your book, the  
11 yellow trap?

12       A   Exactly, exactly, yellow trap crash.

13       Q   Okay.

14       A   What happens is if we were to try to operate lead-lag  
15 phasing with those five section left turn signal heads--we  
16 had a green ball and a green arrow--we would, a, introduce a  
17 yellow trap, or b, have to shut the whole intersection down  
18 with an all-red at inappropriate places just to bring  
19 everybody to a stop, to then restart the lighting left turns  
20 or the lighting through movements, and we don't want to do  
21 that. It's dumb and it confuses everybody.

22           We have to find a way to convey a message to drivers  
23 through a left turn arrow to make it happen. And the town  
24 selected using--as is being done across the state--selected  
25 using the four section signal head with a flashing yellow

1 arrow.

2           The town did a great job in my opinion, publishing  
3 articles in *The Cary News*, in *The News & Observer*. They  
4 involved the media, letting people know what was coming.  
5 They'll start seeing these flashing yellow traffic signals.  
6 People got all upset. I got more complaints. My neighbors  
7 all came and complained to me. I'm like an elected official.  
8 You know. You get it.

9           And the fact that they changed to a different signal  
10 indication and the fact that they also changed the phasing--  
11 all the drivers for many years at this intersection in a left  
12 turn got used to being able to travel through. And quite  
13 often they would see--for throughs and a left would see their  
14 signals expire concurrently. They no longer did.

15           All of a sudden we had left turns who had a green when  
16 throughs didn't and we had throughs that had a green when  
17 left turns didn't and it was a very different world. The  
18 same thing was happening at Cary Parkway and Chapel Hill  
19 Road, which is closer to my house. I had a chance to watch  
20 it quite a bit, and drivers were very upset about it.

21           The other part is this intersection is the reason the  
22 panel changed this type of phasing and changed these signal  
23 heads. One is for safety. The other is this intersection,  
24 especially in the p.m. peak hour, is what we call saturated  
25 flow. We've got 50 pounds of mud and we're trying to put it

1 in a 30 pound sack. It doesn't work. There are too many  
2 cars for the roadway capacity.

3 And the town can by eminent domain take the buildings  
4 on either side and widen the road or they can try to utilize  
5 green interval timing to process more cars. And by doing  
6 that, they use a lead-lag. When we have saturated--my point  
7 to all that is when we have saturated traffic conditions, we  
8 have frustrated drivers.

9 By and large the leading cause we see people running  
10 red lights, especially those running them just a little bit  
11 past the red interval initiation, is frustrated drivers just  
12 trying to make it through all over the place.

13 Q Look at this chart if you've finished your answer.

14 A I'm not done yet.

15 Q Sure.

16 A So we have several combinations. One, we have a  
17 change in phasing. All of a sudden people are going, "Wait a  
18 minute. I should still have a green. What's this flashing  
19 yellow arrow thing?" I hear this from people. I see it  
20 myself. I actually designed one of the first intersections  
21 in the state using this, in Fayetteville.

22 And we have changed the phasing, so we've done  
23 something that drivers aren't used to, and then we have a  
24 whole bunch of really frustrated drivers. That turn in  
25 particular, that turning movement, has a high percentage--if

1 we look at the right turn off of Cary Parkway onto Kildaire,  
2 a left turn, they oppose each other, and there was a high  
3 movement of vehicles there.

4           If you do traffic counts at that intersection, we have  
5 a lot of people trying to go through there. There's only one  
6 turn lane because we can't widen the road, and they're  
7 frustrated and they bust red lights. And so I'm not  
8 surprised that we have a spike right there. I'm sorry. That  
9 was a long-winded explanation.

10       Q    I'm glad. Before the change you were running 50 to  
11 100 violations per month.

12           Ms. Martineau:   According to this exhibit.

13           The Witness:       I'm sorry. According to?

14           (Ms. Martineau indicates.)

15           The Witness:       You're correct, yes.

16           By Mr. Stam:

17       Q    I hadn't actually finished my question.

18       A    Okay.

19       Q    Before the change you were running 50 to 100 viola-  
20 tions per month. It appears that that went up four to  
21 fivefold after this change. Now, here's my question. The  
22 frustrated drivers going through, are they the 50 to 100 who  
23 are going through anyway or is it the next 300 or 400 people  
24 per month who just got shorted on the light?

25           Ms. Martineau:   Objection; move to strike the

1 testimony of Mr. Stam.

2 A I don't know.

3 Q Do you have an opinion?

4 A No. I've never really considered it.

5 Q Okay. If you'd look at the next page, Cary Parkway

6 and Kildaire Farm Road?

7 A The same intersection.

8 Q But westbound; right?

9 A Correct.

10 Q Westbound. That's really the same issue you saw.

11 Let's go to the next page, Walnut Street and Meeting Street.

12 Are you familiar with that intersection?

13 A I received a red light citation there. I was driving

14 my wife's car and the citation came in the mail. She was

15 getting ready to pay it and she remembered she was out of

16 town that day. And my daughter said, "Well, Daddy was

17 driving your car that day," and I was very embarrassed,

18 someone in my profession to get a red light camera citation.

19 Q Did you know that for years the Town of Cary on their

20 citations would say if you weren't driving, you can only get

21 out of it if you finger the person who did?

22 Ms. Glover: Objection.

23 Ms. Martineau: Objection; move---

24 A (interposing) I remember something.

25 Ms. Martineau: ---to strike the testimony of Mr.

1 Stam.

2 Q You remember that?

3 A I do remember.

4 Q You remember that? But they had to change it last  
5 year because we pointed out to them that that was unlawful.

6 Ms. Martineau: Same objection; move to strike.

7 Q "If you'd like to get your \$50 back, talk to us."

8 A In a humorous fashion. I do remember that.

9 Q Okay.

10 A I got a citation there a long time ago.

11 Q Did you know the Town of Cary had collected \$1 million  
12 of citations at that one intersection?

13 Ms. Martineau: Same objection; move to strike.

14 A I had no idea.

15 Q And did you know it was vastly more than most of the  
16 other intersections in town?

17 Ms. Martineau: Same objection; move to strike the  
18 testimony of Mr. Stam.

19 Q Do you have any idea why that might be?

20 Ms. Martineau: Same objection.

21 A Why the town had collected more revenue or why there  
22 were more violations there than at other intersections?

23 Q More violations.

24 A More violations?

25 Q And this is--I purport again this is a chart taking

1 the town's own data, pushing a button, converting it into a  
2 graph. It looks like right before the change maybe they had  
3 to turn it off for a little bit to do the change. I don't  
4 know what happened later. But all of a sudden it goes up  
5 when you go to 3.2 seconds. You know that intersection.

6 A I know it very well.

7 Q Why would there be so many more citations at that  
8 intersection, if there are?

9 A I'm not surprised. Going back to my earlier dis-  
10 cussion along that same thread, same vein, red light running  
11 quite often, if not most, typically occurs when frustrated  
12 drivers just tend to be--they want to be. It's intentional.  
13 "Maybe I can make it."

14 They reach the same decision point as everybody else,  
15 and they make the decision to just go ahead and go because  
16 there's an overriding desire that "Maybe I'll make it  
17 through. I'm in a hurry. I'm frustrated. I don't want to  
18 wait another second."

19 This particular corridor, the Walnut Street corridor  
20 through the CrossRoads area, has been studied, explored, and  
21 reviewed more times by me, by my engineering firm. There  
22 have been so many different solutions proposed to this inter-  
23 section. The entire shopping center was never designed to be  
24 the way it is and the roads leading into it were never  
25 intended to be the way they were, and it's Band-Aid on top of

1 Band-Aid.

2 My point to that is there are--this is 100 pounds of  
3 mud trying to fit into a 30 pound sack. It doesn't fit, and  
4 there are very, very frustrated drivers. That might have  
5 been why I ran the red light there. I don't remember. But  
6 there are many, many frustrated drivers on that corridor.

7 Also a large number of those drivers just came off of  
8 an interstate, a high speed road type situation, and they're  
9 coming here just to go shopping at that shopping center.  
10 They're coming from ramp 1 and they are making a quick right  
11 and then a quick left. And my own review of coworkers one  
12 time asking---

13 Q (interposing) Right and left. I don't understand how  
14 you would do that, but---

15 A (interposing) You come off the ramp and you make a  
16 right.

17 Q Oh, okay.

18 A You come off the ramp from US 1.

19 Q The ones going northbound?

20 A Correct.

21 Q Okay. I've got it.

22 A I remember kind of polling some of my coworkers one  
23 time about some other issues. And what they brought out was  
24 when you're making that right turn and then a subsequent left  
25 to go into the shopping center, especially once the dual left

1 turns were put in, it's very confusing because what we call  
2 the weaving distance is rather short.

3           And one of my coworkers said, "I got a red light  
4 citation. I didn't even know I busted the light. I mean I  
5 was so focused on traffic around me I just drove right  
6 through it. I was focused on getting in the shopping center  
7 and not hitting anybody and changing lanes." So there's a  
8 lot of stuff at play here. I'm not surprised there is a high  
9 number--that there were a high number of red light violations  
10 at this intersection.

11       Q    Is that a complex intersection?

12           Ms. Martineau:   Objection to the form of the  
13 question.

14       A    The intersection itself, no, but the approach, and I  
15 don't mean to---

16       Q    (interposing) I mean the approach.

17       A    The general path that people take to it can--whether  
18 they're coming down Walnut or they're coming off of US 1. In  
19 either direction it can be.

20       Q    So why in the world did they go down to three seconds  
21 for a yellow change interval at a confusing intersection  
22 where the speed limit is 45 miles an hour?

23       A    When signal plans are being upgraded, the yellows and  
24 reds are calculated using the current practice. And if the  
25 current practice dictated three, then they would use three.

1 (Plaintiffs Exhibit 10 was  
2 marked for identification.)

3 Q I show you what's been marked for identification as  
4 Plaintiffs Exhibit 10. This is excerpts from a longer paper  
5 I have and your counsel has the longer paper, but I think you  
6 had mentioned teaching in Oregon or that there were studies  
7 from Oregon.

8 Ms. Martineau: That was your witness that talked  
9 about Oregon.

10 Q Mr. Marceau, did you talk about Oregon this morning?

11 A I might have. I've taught classes.

12 Q Yeah. I thought so.

13 Ms. Martineau: Okay.

14 A The original publisher for my book was a company  
15 called Kinetic Energy Press out of Salem, Oregon, and I  
16 taught a class at the Hillsboro County Sheriff's Department a  
17 few years ago. I've been out there working before.

18 Q Are you familiar with this particular paper by any  
19 chance?

20 A I read this. I mean it's been a long time ago. I  
21 don't know why I read it, maybe just general--I read so much  
22 stuff.

23 Q I'm going to particularly ask you about page--and what  
24 we have here is the title page, page 7, 8, 10, and 11. And  
25 I'm particularly going to ask you about page 8. So if you

1 just want to take a minute to--when I say minute, take as  
2 long as you want--to just peruse it. I'm going to ask about  
3 page 8, but you look at any part you want. I want to make  
4 sure you have enough context there.

5 A Well, ask me a particular question and I'll look at  
6 that. There's a bunch of stuff on here, and I'll look at  
7 that particular component.

8 Q Okay. Well, let's look at page 8. This appears to be  
9 a summary of various brake reaction times studies for the  
10 85th percentile and the 95th percentile for four different  
11 studies that were used here by the Transportation Research  
12 Institute of Oregon State. And my first question is this:  
13 would you explain to the court what we mean by 85th and 95th  
14 percentile?

15 A We're looking at the majority of drivers. That's the  
16 easiest layperson term to describe it. We're not looking at  
17 the average, the mean, in other words the 50th. We're  
18 looking at the higher percentage of drivers being covered by  
19 this time, this standard, whatever it might be.

20 Q Do you happen to know how many standard deviations  
21 from the mean the 85th or 95th percentile would be? I don't  
22 know.

23 A You know---

24 Q (interposing) But you know the term "standard  
25 deviations"?

1       A     Yeah. I haven't used that in a few--I took a  
2 statistics class one time in grad school and I've never used  
3 it since.

4       Q     Okay. But for the 85th percentile, you would get a  
5 large majority?

6             Mr. Ceccarelli: The standard does not apply.

7       Q     It doesn't apply. I withdraw everything I said about  
8 standard deviation.

9       A     Well, I would agree that it doesn't apply.

10       Q     Okay. 85th percentile is a large majority. 95th  
11 percentile would be almost everybody but not everybody. Is  
12 that approximately correct?

13       A     That's a good lay description of it, yes.

14       Q     All right. So they use four studies here, and the  
15 footnotes at the bottom of page 8 give the citations to the  
16 studies. Are you familiar with these studies, any of these  
17 four studies on perception/reaction time, Gazis, Wortman,  
18 Chang, or Sivak?

19       A     Sivak, I think I've seen that, number 4. I mean I  
20 know the names, but no, I'm not familiar with the studies. I  
21 may have seen Sivak's, but I don't really remember.

22       Q     Okay. You are familiar with Gazis' article you said  
23 earlier?

24       A     Yes, the article where he talks about dilemma zones  
25 and yellow time calculations.

1 Q All right. Now, if you would look at---

2 Mr. Stam: Can we go off the record for just one

3 second?

4 Ms. Martineau: Sure.

5 The Reporter: Off the record. 12:15 p.m.

6 (A brief recess was taken.)

7 The Reporter: On the record. 12:16 p.m.

8 By Mr. Stam:

9 Q Do you see Table 1 there, Perception-Reaction Times

10 Considering Complexity and Driver State?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Would you take a look at that, I mean take a moment to

13 actually focus on it?

14 (Witness peruses document.)

15 A Okay. Sure.

16 Q Does that chart seem reasonable to you, the

17 conclusions of the Transportation Research Institute, for the

18 different kinds of complexity of the intersection and

19 differences amongst drivers?

20 A I'm going to want to sit down and really review this

21 before I offer an opinion on that. I'm not going to shoot

22 from the hip on that one because I'm going to want to, you

23 know, think about each one of these, whether it was a design

24 or after design or how the driver is acting and think of

25 situations where I've actually run into these myself and then

1 offer an opinion, but I'm not going to shoot from the hip on  
2 that. It would be dumb to do that.

3 Q Okay. Well, going back to NCDOT and the Institute for  
4 Traffic Engineer formula for determining the yellow change  
5 interval, it's in your book that you use 1.5 seconds as  
6 perception/reaction time.

7 A I think I said perception/reaction times are about  
8 1.5.

9 Q Right, about.

10 A Right.

11 Q And if you look at the studies there at the top of  
12 page 8 called Brake Reaction Times Studies, would it be fair  
13 to say that 1.5 is intended to be the 85th percentile  
14 calculation?

15 Ms. Martineau: Who intends? When you say "intended  
16 to be"--objection to the form of the question. Go ahead.

17 Q Mr. Marceau, you use about 1.5. And I asked you at  
18 the very beginning of our deposition whether you are  
19 intending that to be the average, mean, median, 85th, 95th or  
20 whatever, and your answer a couple hours ago was what?

21 A Well, first of all, let's back up. I don't use 1.5.  
22 I use whatever current practice calls for, which has changed  
23 over time.

24 Q Which is 1.5; correct?

25 A In North Carolina current practice right now is 1.5.

1 Q That is what we're talking about, North Carolina.

2 A Okay.

3 Q All right.

4 A Now, continue with the rest of your question.

5 Q My question is now that you have seen this paper and  
6 the results of some of the people that you have heard about,  
7 isn't it correct that when you use 1.5, you're only talking  
8 about the 85th percentile of the population so that--well,  
9 I'll stop my question there.

10 A No. Your question is invalid. First of all, we have  
11 no idea what these studies were about. It says brake  
12 reaction time. Reaction to what, a guy in a costume jumping  
13 out in front of a car, a red light? I don't know.

14 When we use a perception/reaction time for traffic  
15 engineering purposes, specifically for a yellow decision  
16 making perception/reaction, we have a known stimulus with  
17 known responses to a learning or learned audience, the  
18 drivers.

19 I have no idea--and that's--you know, it's a number we  
20 use. I have no idea what these studies are about. So my  
21 trying to compare a number in current practice of 1.5 by  
22 NCDOT to these would be--it's impossible. I can't do it.

23 Q Take a look at Table 1.

24 A Okay.

25 Q Low volume road, alert driver, low complexity. That

1 appears to be the simplest case, is it not, low volume, alert  
2 driver, low complexity?

3 A Not necessarily.

4 Q All right. Of the descriptions in the left column of  
5 Table 1, which is--which description most closely approxi-  
6 mates the Lori Millette intersection, northbound on Kildaire  
7 Road intersecting with Cary Parkway? Would that be a low  
8 volume road or a two-lane, primary rural road, urban  
9 arterial, rural freeway, or urban freeway?

10 A It's going to fall between--and let's back up for a  
11 second. Something just dawned on me as I was reading the  
12 intro. Table 1--the table before Table 1, which doesn't even  
13 have a number to it, which is weird because that should be  
14 Table 1 and this should be Table 2, but the one on top says  
15 Brake Reaction. It sounds like they're reporting study  
16 results. This second table is not study results. These are  
17 values that some people have suggested could be used. They  
18 are not results of any validity.

19 So anyway, all that being said, using these type of  
20 parameters as far describing the state for Lori Millette's--  
21 when she received her citation at that intersection at 5  
22 o'clock on a--I think it was a Friday night as a matter of  
23 fact--I would say that the driver's state would be alert, and  
24 I would say the complexity would be moderate, which I don't  
25 think falls anywhere in this chart.

1           Somebody who is navigating down Kildaire Farm Road has  
2 got to be alert or they just got killed. I mean it's not  
3 easy to make it down that road. But the complexity, it's not  
4 low complexity and it's not high complexity. It's somewhere  
5 in the middle.

6           Mr. Stam:           Let's go off the record.

7           The Reporter:       Off the record.                   12:22 p.m.

8           (A brief recess was taken.)

9           The Reporter:       On the record.                   12:27 p.m.

10                               (Plaintiffs Exhibit 11 was  
11                               marked for identification.)

12           By Mr. Stam:

13           Q    I'll show you what is marked for identification as  
14 Exhibit 11. See if you can identify that.

15           (Witness peruses document.)

16           A    It looks like this is an e-mail from Buddy Murr to  
17 Greg Fuller, but I'm trying to find out why Amanda had it and  
18 why it's printed in her e-mail. But anyway, it looks like  
19 it's a--okay.

20                    It looks like it started with an e-mail from Rob  
21 Ziemba going to Greg and Buddy, and it's links to two  
22 articles in *The News & Observer*. One is about a class action  
23 ruling article and one is about "Lawsuit doesn't stop red  
24 light." We have two newspaper articles and Rob was saying,  
25 "Hey, did you see these over the weekend?"

1 Q And Buddy Murr, who purports to be the state signals  
2 engineer, sends an e-mail to Greg Fuller, who is something in  
3 signals?

4 A He's Buddy's boss.

5 Q Buddy's boss--clipping page 68 from--what is the NCHRP  
6 03-95 study?

7 A It's a national--it's a national highway research  
8 project. It's the National Center for Highway Research  
9 Projects, and they publish journals and studies and have  
10 meetings. They look at everything from pavement markings to  
11 roadways to signs, all kinds of stuff, in a roadway environ-  
12 ment. It's kind of a theoretical research tank kind of  
13 group.

14 Q Is it the kind of stuff you rely on in your work?

15 A I never have. It's kind of one end of the spectrum as  
16 far as research goes. I don't know that I've ever used one  
17 of their reports. I mean I've seen their reports over the  
18 years, but I've never relied on one.

19 Q Would you read to yourself that paragraph? And then  
20 I'm going to ask you about it.

21 A Okay. Buddy says, "On page 68"---

22 Ms. Martineau: (interposing) To yourself.

23 The Witness: I'm sorry. I apologize.

24 Q Where it starts "Speed limit" and ends "speed limit."

25 A Got you. Thank you.

1 (Witness peruses document.)

2 A Okay. There are words chopped off. I was trying to  
3 figure out what they probably were.

4 Q That's all I know. I got this from DOT.

5 A I think I can figure it out.

6 Q The "l-i" probably means in lieu of. I'm guessing.  
7 But I don't think there's anything chopped off that will  
8 affect my questions here. When you are trying to apply the  
9 ITE yellow change interval formula, the v in the formula  
10 means what?

11 A The approach speed.

12 Q Okay. Is it the 85th percentile speed if you do a  
13 speed study? I know what it says is use the speed limit  
14 unless you do a survey. Is that correct?

15 A That's correct.

16 Q All right. Now, if you use a higher speed for v,  
17 would that result--and the only change is a higher speed for  
18 v.

19 Ms. Martineau: Are we talking about through traffic?

20 Mr. Stam: Yeah.

21 Ms. Martineau: Okay.

22 Mr. Stam: Well, actually both, but let's limit  
23 it to through traffic now.

24 By Mr. Stam:

25 Q If you use a higher value for v, would that not result

1 in a longer yellow change interval?

2 A It should.

3 Q And if you use a lower value for v than the speed  
4 limit, then you would have a shorter yellow change interval;  
5 is that correct?

6 A You should.

7 Q Okay. But in North Carolina we normally don't do  
8 speed studies at our intersections; is that right?

9 A No. In all these years I think I've seen one, ever.

10 Q Normally not?

11 A No.

12 Q So would it not be actually more accurate then to use  
13 the speed limit plus seven miles an hour than to use the  
14 speed limit? We admit that a speed survey would be more  
15 accurate, but we don't do speed surveys. But somebody has  
16 and says the average is seven miles an hour over for  
17 straight-through. Wouldn't it be more accurate to use speed  
18 limit plus seven?

19 Ms. Martineau: Objection; move to strike the  
20 testimony of Mr. Stam.

21 A Well, first of all, your question has an inaccuracy in  
22 it. You asked me that we already know that 85th percentile  
23 speed studies are more accurate than the speed limit, and we  
24 don't know that. It could be different. It could be the  
25 same. It could be more accurate. We don't know.

1           In some places the 85th percentile speed could be  
2 higher than the posted. In some places it could be lower  
3 too. We don't know. So to say that one is more accurate  
4 than the other, we don't know, and that's never what ITE  
5 intended this statement to mean.

6           Q    But if you've only seen one speed survey---

7           A    (interposing) In all these years.

8           Q    ---in all these years---

9           A    (interposing) And it wasn't related to the design of  
10 a traffic signal. It was related to something else that we  
11 happened to have in place at the time.

12          Q    Right. But if somebody else has gone to the trouble  
13 of doing speed surveys and says that the average for the 85th  
14 percentile was seven miles per hour higher, would not that be  
15 more accurate, to use---

16          A    (interposing) I have no---

17          Q    ---seven miles per hour?

18          A    I have no--I'm sorry. I thought you were done.

19          Q    All right.

20          A    I have no idea if it's more accurate. I think it's  
21 something that we might want to look at as an industry, as a  
22 profession, and--first of all, let's back up. Traffic  
23 engineering, and I'm assuming most other branches of  
24 engineering, is constantly evolving and changing.

25                There's always groups of researchers--they've always

1 got a bunch of grad students doing research project. So  
2 we're always considering new information and new ways of  
3 doing things. I doubt you'll find an engineer that's not  
4 trying to make things better all the time. We can define  
5 better in a lot of ways, but this sounds like Buddy dug up  
6 some research that somebody had done somewhere.

7 Q Yeah. In 2012 Buddy and Greg found the latest  
8 research---

9 A (interposing) Well, the study was done---

10 Ms. Martineau: (interposing) Objection; move to  
11 strike the testimony of Mr. Stam.

12 A The study was done in 1995.

13 Q Right.

14 A So it's pretty old.

15 Q All right. But for some reason Buddy Murr--and I  
16 can't remember. Is Greg his boss or is Buddy the boss?

17 A Greg's the boss.

18 Q All right--told his boss, "Well, this is what we got  
19 from this 1995 study." Okay. Next question, do you see my  
20 diagram?

21 Ms. Martineau: Objection; move to strike the  
22 testimony of Mr. Stam.

23 Q Do you see my diagram?

24 A Yes.

25 Q This is Lori Millette's intersection going this way

1 (indicating), Cary Parkway.

2 A Got you.

3 Q She's going north on Kildaire.

4 A Okay.

5 Q 45 mile an hour speed limit. That's the only posted  
6 speed limit. At some point in time there are two drivers  
7 right next to each other going 45 at some point approaching  
8 the intersection.

9 A Okay.

10 Q Labeled here turning (indicating). This vehicle  
11 (indicating), Lori Millette, intends to turn left. This  
12 vehicle (indicating) intends to continue straight through.  
13 Which of those vehicles is going to need more time to proceed  
14 through the intersection without violating the law, the  
15 straight through vehicle or the left-turning vehicle?

16 A More time to proceed straight through?

17 Mr. Ceccarelli: To the intersection.

18 Q Proceed to the intersection to enter the intersection  
19 lawfully.

20 (Ms. Martineau and Ms. Glover confer.)

21 Ms. Martineau: Also--I'm sorry. If I could, Ms.  
22 Glover made a good point. You're representing this is Lori  
23 Millette's intersection and there are two left turn lanes in  
24 that intersection. So if we're going to do it, let's---

25 Ms. Glover: (interposing) You're not showing the

1 turn bays at all.

2 Ms. Martineau: Right.

3 The Witness: It is a single left turn lane.

4 Ms. Glover: I'm sorry. But we're not seeing the  
5 left turn bay.

6 Mr. Ceccarelli: It doesn't matter.

7 Ms. Martineau: Well, if he is representing that he  
8 is drawing a diagram on the board, then let's be accurate.  
9 Why don't you just make your diagram not like you've done  
10 anything and just ask him your question?

11 By Mr. Stam:

12 Q At Lori Millette's intersection, how many left turn  
13 lanes are there?

14 A One.

15 Q All right.

16 Ms. Glover: How many through lanes?

17 Q How many through lanes?

18 A Two.

19 Q Two. All right. I'd better make two, then.

20 A One's a shared through right.

21 Q All right. We'll get it accurate.

22 Ms. Glover: Ask him do you know how long the left  
23 turn bay is.

24 Q We know that Walnut is like 300 or 400 feet. I don't  
25 know the one here (indicating), but this one is straight

1 through or turn right (indicating).

2 A Correct.

3 Q The middle one is straight through.

4 A Correct.

5 Q This one is turn left (indicating).

6 A Correct.

7 Q Okay.

8 Ms. Glover: And you're assuming that the car in  
9 the left-turning lane is in the left--actually in the left  
10 turn bay, so the length of that left turn bay is--you're  
11 representing that on your diagram?

12 Mr. Stam: Right.

13 Ms. Martineau: Okay.

14 Mr. Ceccarelli: It's irrelevant. It doesn't matter.

15 Ms. Martineau: That's not for you to decide, Mr.  
16 Ceccarelli, okay?

17 Mr. Stam: Hey, this is a deposition. This  
18 ain't argument. Okay.

19 By Mr. Stam:

20 Q Let's say 300 feet back.

21 Ms. Martineau: I'd have to know if the left turn  
22 lane is 300 feet in length. So that's why I'm---

23 Q (interposing) I'll tell you what we're going to do.  
24 This is going to be Walnut Street and Meeting Place  
25 (indicating).

1 Ms. Martineau: Well, that does have two lanes.

2 A Why don't you just make it an intersection with no  
3 name?

4 Ms. Martineau: Right.

5 Q No, I'm going to use Walnut Street and Meeting Place  
6 because we know it's more than a 300 feet left turn bay.

7 Ms. Martineau: Then you have to redo your drawing.

8 Q This is Walnut Street (indicating). This is Meeting  
9 Place (indicating). And there are two left turn lanes;  
10 correct?

11 A Correct.

12 Q And two straight throughs? Is it four lanes there?

13 A It may have been increased to three after Lowe's came  
14 in. There was a subsequent widening after Lowe's, and it may  
15 actually be two throughs and a through right. I'm not  
16 positive.

17 Q There's at least two going through and at least two  
18 left turn lanes; is that right?

19 A Well, no. There's definitely two left turn lanes.  
20 That's a finite number. But there's at least two if not  
21 three through, and one may be a shared through right. I  
22 cannot remember if there's a right turn bay or not there. I  
23 don't think so.

24 Q All right. But my question is going to be about this  
25 one (indicating) versus this one (indicating).

1       A     So a rightmost left turn versus---

2       Q     (interposing) Left turn (indicating), through  
3 (indicating), and they are at least 300 feet back from the  
4 intersection. And the reason I say 300 is, as you know, 294  
5 feet is the critical distance if you're going 45 miles per  
6 hour. But this left turn bay, assume for the purpose of my  
7 question, is at least 300 feet back.

8               So you have two vehicles. One is going to turn left.  
9 One is going to go through. Which of those two vehicles  
10 needs more time to lawfully enter the intersection?

11              Ms. Martineau: What's the speed of those vehicles?

12       Q     45 mile an hour speed limit, at least 300 feet back.

13       A     As the question is set up--and I know you took a long  
14 time to set it up--I can't answer it and here's why. I will  
15 need to know--your question was--to me. My understanding of  
16 the ultimate question is which of the vehicles, the through  
17 or the left, needs more time to make it lawfully to the  
18 intersection or into, whichever term we wish to use.

19       Q     Correct.

20       A     And my response is it's going to depend on several  
21 factors. I have not considered it in this scenario. I  
22 haven't worked this through in my head already. I'd be glad  
23 to. But the information I would be asking is where--at what  
24 speed is each driver traveling and what are the traffic  
25 conditions out here in the roadway at the time, and what are

1 the drivers going to do before they get to this point.

2 Q Assuming free flowing traffic.

3 A Okay.

4 Q Are you now able to answer?

5 A And our drivers are both traveling at what speed?

6 Q 45 miles an hour. Let's say it's 2:00 a.m. in the  
7 morning, no other traffic. They're each going 45 miles an  
8 hour at least 300 feet back. Which of them needs more time  
9 to lawfully enter the intersection, the vehicle that's going  
10 to make a turn, which presumably will be decelerating, or the  
11 vehicle that is not making a turn, presumably maintaining its  
12 speed?

13 Ms. Martineau: Objection to the form of the  
14 question.

15 A Because the left turning vehicle--we would hope is  
16 decelerating so they don't crash into whatever the restaurant  
17 is over there on the far left corner.

18 Q Bob Evans?

19 A Bob Evans, yeah. Because they're decelerating, their  
20 average velocity over that distance, over that 300 feet, will  
21 be less and it will take them more time to go from that 300  
22 foot point to the stoplight. That is opposed to the driver  
23 who is holding, I'm assuming, a constant velocity of 45 miles  
24 an hour.

25 Q So why does Cary and/or DOT give the through driver

1 more time than the left-turning driver?

2 A More---

3 Ms. Martineau: (interposing) Give more time?

4 Q Why does Cary give less time, 3.2 seconds, to the  
5 left-turning driver rather than 4.5 or whatever it is to the  
6 through driver?

7 Ms. Martineau: And you're talking about yellow time?

8 Q Yes, yellow change time.

9 A That was my question, because---

10 Q (interposing) It's an enigma.

11 Ms. Martineau: Objection; move to strike.

12 Q You can answer my question.

13 Mr. Stam: Are you answering the question or are  
14 you asking Mr. Marceau?

15 Q Go ahead and answer the question if you can answer it,  
16 Mr. Marceau.

17 A The reason that we give the yellow times that we do--  
18 when I say "we," I mean the traffic engineering community--is  
19 because we're using the accepted practice methods in place  
20 when we're doing the calculations to come up with the yellow  
21 time. We're using values that are accepted engineering  
22 practice for those calculations, and the time that comes out  
23 is the time that comes out.

24 (Plaintiffs Exhibit 12 was  
25 marked for identification.)

1 Q I'm showing you what's been marked for identification  
2 as Exhibit 12.

3 A Oh, I remember this. This is Steven's article.

4 Q Are you familiar with this document?

5 A Yes. I know the author and the document.

6 Q Where does the physics in the yellow change formula,  
7 which is at the bottom of the second column of the first  
8 page, to wit page 20, mandate the engineer measure the  
9 approach speed?

10 Ms. Martineau: Objection to the form of the  
11 question.

12 A You lost me. Your question was where does the physics  
13 in the yellow change formula mandate that the engineer  
14 measure the approach speed?

15 Q Right.

16 Ms. Martineau: Same objection.

17 A That's impossible to answer.

18 Q Okay. I'll represent to you that the scribbles on  
19 there are from me, my handwriting, and that they're not part  
20 of the original document.

21 A Well, yeah. I know that. It came out of an ITE  
22 journal.

23 Q Right. Is that term, though, that's---

24 A (interposing) Which term?

25 Q The term that's circled that says "yellow." Is that

1 the yellow change part of it, and then the second term of the  
2 equation that says "all red" the way to measure the red  
3 clearance interval, all-red clearance interval?

4 A It's the way to calculate it, not to measure it.

5 Q To calculate it, I'm sorry. You're right. Does that  
6 sound right, that that's the way to calculate the yellow  
7 change interval and the all-red clearance interval?

8 A When this article was written back in 2004 or 2005  
9 when the task force originally convened, that was the current  
10 ITE method for calculating yellow and red.

11 Q Okay. I thought this was the new way to measure it.

12 A It's the way to calculate it, not to measure it.

13 Q To calculate it, right.

14 A The---

15 Q (interposing) And look--if you need to, look at the  
16 last page where you'll see---

17 A (interposing) I was trying to find a way to form my  
18 words. The formula itself didn't change. The engineering  
19 judgment around the use of their formula, in particular the  
20 caps, the high end, the low end, as well as some of the  
21 variables within the formula did change. But the general  
22 idea behind how you calculate a yellow and a red really  
23 didn't change at all.

24 Q Because physics doesn't change; is---

25 Ms. Martineau: (interposing) What did you say?

1 Q ---that right?

2 Ms. Martineau: Objection.

3 Mr. Stam: Because physics doesn't change.

4 Ms. Martineau: Objection to the form of the  
5 question; move to strike.

6 By Mr. Stam:

7 Q The laws of motion in the universe don't change.

8 A Not until we get near the speed of light they don't.

9 Q Right. Now, in this equation, there's one term that's  
10 used twice. Which is it? When I say "term," I mean one  
11 letter that's used twice.

12 A I understood. Velocity.

13 Q Velocity. When the same term is used twice in the  
14 same equation, do you use the same value for that equation or  
15 not?

16 A The way this is written, yes.

17 Q All right. Now, look at the all-red clearance  
18 interval,  $w$  plus  $l$  over  $v$ .

19 A Okay.

20 Q Earlier in your deposition I believe you told me that  
21 the  $v$ , as used for the all-red clearance interval, would be  
22 the design speed.

23 A Right. It's whatever--when we're designing a traffic  
24 signal, it's whatever speed we plug in.

25 Q Right.

1       A     We don't use roadway design speed. That's way too  
2 high.

3       Q     Because that vehicle that's lawfully entered the  
4 intersection and proceeding through, we have to presume it's  
5 going the speed limit.

6           Ms. Martineau:    Objection to the form of the  
7 question; move to strike.

8       Q     Is that correct, or it could be?

9       A     The only discussion I've even seen on that was an ITE  
10 discussion years ago, and they said--they talked about  
11 drivers at the lawful speed, at the maximum lawful speed, and  
12 that was the--I can't remember all of it. I just remember  
13 seeing it. It was written in an ITE paper somewhere.

14       Q     All right. Whatever it is should be the same  
15 throughout the equation; is that correct? In other words, if  
16 the same term--I've already asked that question.

17       A     The way this equation is written--if in fact it was  
18 written  $v_1$  and  $v_2$ , that would indicate to me that we're  
19 looking at two different velocities. The way this equation  
20 is written, it indicates  $v$ . So we use the same value to  
21 replace that variable wherever that variable shows up.

22       Q     Okay. And you've used that document?

23       A     Did you ask me do I use it?

24       Q     Right. Do you use that document in your work?

25       A     I have, certainly. Yes.

1 (Plaintiffs Exhibit 13 was  
2 marked for identification.)

3 Q All right. I show you what's been marked as  
4 Plaintiffs Deposition Exhibit 13 and ask you if you are  
5 familiar with this document.

6 (Witness peruses document.)

7 A I'm familiar with the book. It looks like several  
8 pages were copied out of it.

9 Q Okay. I have attached the pages that I think have  
10 something to do with the yellow change interval and the red  
11 clearance interval. And if there are other parts to that  
12 book that you think are relevant when you're reading and  
13 signing your deposition, please feel free to indicate any  
14 other pages that you think are relevant. Do you use this  
15 book in your work?

16 A Yes, I do.

17 Q All right. If you would turn to page--well, I don't  
18 have the page numbers, but it's the third sheet.

19 A It's page 412.

20 Q Is that 412?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Do you know it well?

23 A I've been there before. I mean someone wrote it on  
24 this copy, but I know it's page 412. I hate this page out of  
25 this particular book. It has typos and I don't like typos.

1 Even in my own book I find typos years later and it kills me.

2 Q The second full paragraph, do you find a couple of  
3 typos there?

4 A The second full paragraph?

5 Q I mean the second full paragraph from the bottom.

6 Tell me what errors---

7 A (interposing) I'll read the paragraph. It's short.  
8 It's only two sentences.

9 Q All right.

10 A "As can be seen from the formula above"--and they are  
11 referring to a yellow time calculation. "As can be seen from  
12 the formula above, slower speeds result in higher values of  
13 yellow clearance time," and that is incorrect. It's  
14 inversed.

15 Q So it should read slower speeds result in slower  
16 values?

17 A Lower.

18 Q Lower values.

19 A Slower or lower.

20 Q All right.

21 A "When calculating the needed time"--the first sentence  
22 is the one that has an error in it.

23 Q All right. But I'm more interested in the second  
24 sentence. Would you read the second sentence?

25 A Sure. "When calculating the needed time,

1 consideration should be given to the values for the  
2 15th-percentile speed, particularly at wider intersections."

3 Q Now, 15 from 100 is 85, which means to me they are  
4 probably using the 85th percentile in making these calcula-  
5 tions. Is that how you read that?

6 A Ask that again?

7 Q Well, the 15th percentile speed--in other words, 15  
8 percent of the people going through a--coming to a light are  
9 going to be---

10 A (interposing) We look at the bottom 15 percent.

11 Q All right. So what does it mean that consideration  
12 should be given to those 15 percent people at wider inter-  
13 sections? What would happen if you don't consider those 15  
14 percent people as they zip through the intersection at maybe  
15 a lower speed---

16 Ms. Martineau: (interposing) Objection to the form  
17 of the question.

18 Q ---than your formula calls for?

19 A I hate to bug you. Ask me that again. I was already  
20 thinking of where I had seen a reference to this when you  
21 were asking the question and I lost track. I'm sorry.

22 Q Intersection (indicating). You don't want cars  
23 crashing into each other. What's going to happen if you  
24 assume that everybody is going your design speed, but 15  
25 percent of the people are going slower?

1 A Well, that's not what the 15th percentile refers to.

2 Q Okay.

3 A But if 15 percent were going slower--I never--I never  
4 thought about this. I'm sorry.

5 (Plaintiffs Exhibit 14 was  
6 marked for identification.)

7 Q Okay. I show you what's marked for identification as  
8 Exhibit 14 and ask if you can identify it.

9 (Witness peruses document.)

10 A This is the latest edition of the MUTCD.

11 Q Is that a really long document?

12 A Oh, yeah. It looks like these are some pages copied  
13 out of it.

14 Q I have copied what I--the only pages that other  
15 witnesses have said have anything to do with this question.  
16 I'd just ask you to look through those pages. Is this a  
17 volume you use in your work all the time?

18 A Quite frequently.

19 Q Frequently. And just tell me if there are parts of  
20 that book that you think I have not included. I've got  
21 Section 4D.26 - Yellow Change and Red Clearance Intervals,  
22 and then Page 512 says a little bit about it. And then at  
23 the very end is page 1, which I don't know why I have it at  
24 the end.

25 A Yeah. You missed two really important sections.

1 Q All right. Which are those?

2 A 4D.10.

3 Q 40.10?

4 A No. 4 letter D point 1-0, and I could be wrong. I'm  
5 shooting from the hip here.

6 Q Well, let's mark---

7 A (interposing) Is it 4D.10 or 4D.06?

8 Q Ms. Martineau has a copy of the whole thing here.

9 Mr. Stam: Ms. Martineau, could he look at that?

10 Ms. Martineau: I don't have the latest edition of  
11 2009. I think I have the original 2009 edition, but he's  
12 welcome to look at it.

13 Mr. Stam: All right.

14 The Witness: I probably have it. Let's see.

15 By Mr. Stam:

16 Q I want to make sure I have all the relevant sections,  
17 or the ones that you think are relevant.

18 A I don't think it changed between--this is the original  
19 2009 (indicating).

20 Ms. Martineau: I'll represent that the revisions of  
21 the 2009 have nothing to do with what we're talking about as  
22 far as I know.

23 A No, because the first inclusion of 4D.26 wasn't in  
24 2009. I don't think there were changes there, maybe some  
25 definition changes. We'll start at the beginning of Chapter

1 4 or Section 4 as they call it.

2 Q What page? When you get to it, tell me what page it  
3 is.

4 A Okay. I keep mine organized by sections. It's  
5 easier.

6 (Pause.)

7 Part 4 starts on page 433.

8 Q Okay. What's it entitled?

9 A Highway Traffic Signals.

10 Q Okay.

11 A The sections you want to go to--you want to skip  
12 through all the 1 stuff, which is at the beginning.

13 Q And I will read it and look it up later. I just want  
14 to know where you're referring to and what it's about.

15 A Yeah. There are three sections in particular that you  
16 want to look at. This sounds crazy, but I never look at  
17 paper copies. I keep electronic copies and flipping through  
18 the paper here seems weird. I know that sounds dumb, but--  
19 okay. Section 4D.04. It wasn't 06. It's 4 letter D.04.

20 Q Entitled what?

21 A Meaning of Vehicular Signal Indications. This is  
22 where the MUTCD writes out for us what different signal  
23 indications mean. It talks about the meaning of a steady  
24 green signal indication and it also discusses what a yellow  
25 signal indication means, what is the meaning of a yellow

1 light in other words.

2 Q Can I just look at that for a second?

3 A Certainly.

4 (Document handed to Mr. Stam.)

5 Yellow light is in Section B.

6 Q Page 451.

7 (Mr. Stam peruses document.)

8 Q Okay. So Page 451 is relevant.

9 A When you're working with the MUTCD, I probably  
10 wouldn't go with page numbers. I'd go with section numbers.  
11 It's easier.

12 Q All right. It's 4D.04 sub--well, just all of 4D.04.

13 A 4D.04, section B, paragraph B, refers to yellow  
14 signals.

15 Q Okay. Any other sections?

16 A Yeah. I believe the next one is 4D.10 as in 4 David  
17 10. Let me try to find that for you.

18 Q .10?

19 A Correct.

20 (Witness peruses document.)

21 No. I'm sorry. In 2009 they started changing some  
22 things with respect to signals. It used to be 10. I'm  
23 sorry. I'm not finding it right now. And then of course  
24 Section 26 discusses the---

25 Q (interposing) Which we have.



1 Q Take your time.

2 Ms. Martineau: What's your question about Exhibit  
3 16?

4 Q Do the eight equations appear to be valid equations?

5 A I don't know. I would want to work through all these.  
6 Several of them I've seen before, but a couple of them I have  
7 not, or at least not in this format. I mean there are many  
8 ways to present the same information mathematically, and I  
9 would just want to work through them to satisfy myself that  
10 I'm actually familiar with all these. There are some terms  
11 in here I'm not familiar with.

12 Q All right. Which terms are you not familiar with?  
13 Maybe it's a terminology question.

14 A I mean I'd have to go through each one. I think they  
15 are calling some things different than what I might call  
16 them, but I'll be glad to take an afternoon and work through  
17 them. It's no big deal. I mean a couple of them look  
18 familiar, but I think that things have just been rotated  
19 around. I could probably satisfy myself that they're all  
20 fine, but I'm going to do it before I say they are.

21 Ms. Martineau: Right.

22 Q Well, let's do this. Instead of taking time to do it,  
23 when you read and sign your deposition, if you have any  
24 comments on those equations, please feel free to comment.

25 Ms. Martineau: Well, he's here to answer your

1 questions about it, not do math. If you have a question, ask  
2 him the question.

3 Mr. Stam: Okay.

4 Q Is Equation 1 a proper equation for determining the  
5 critical distance, if you know, velocity, time, perception  
6 time? Do you know what the a is? Is that acceleration rate,  
7 and G?

8 A I don't know.

9 Q Do you know what the term "critical distance" means?

10 A Yes, I do.

11 Q How would you define the term "critical distance"?

12 A In transportation engineering we respect traffic  
13 signals. And yellow time that we're talking about today is  
14 the distance where we are asking a driver to make a decision,  
15 the point in time we're asking a driver to make a decision.

16 Q Anything else?

17 A That's how I define it.

18 Q All right. Is Equation 2 a proper way of deriving the  
19 yellow change interval or determining the yellow change  
20 interval?

21 A Can you ask that question again?

22 Q Is Equation 2 a proper approach to determining the  
23 yellow change interval?

24 A I have no idea. I've never seen it presented this  
25 way. I mean I'll be glad to work through it for you, but

1 I've never seen it presented this way.

2 Q All right. I'll go directly to Exhibit 17 where c is  
3 the critical distance. Would you look at the four equations  
4 there for a moment?

5 A I don't see a c on this page.

6 Ms. Martineau: Me either.

7 Q Maybe we've got the wrong exhibit.

8 Mr. Ceccarelli: Wrong one.

9 Q Can you show me that again?

10 (Mr. Stam peruses document.)

11 Q Oh, that's my 15.

12 A Is this a restatement of 15?

13 Q Yeah. Let me give you a different 17.

14 A Yeah. This is 15 all over again.

15 Mr. Ceccarelli: Yeah.

16 Q I gave you the wrong 17. I'm sorry.

17 A We already have that as 15 over here.

18 Mr. Stam: All right. I'll throw that away.

19 This is 17.

20 (Plaintiffs Exhibit 17 was  
21 re-marked for identification.)

22 By Mr. Stam:

23 Q Would you take a look at Exhibit 17 where the c is  
24 intended to mean the critical distance, and assuming you know  
25 the other abbreviations, do those four equations appear to be

1 appropriate and valid for a 45 mile per hour speed limit and  
2 a 1.5 perception/reaction time?

3 A I have not used this particular format for this  
4 application, and again, I'll tell you I'll be glad to work  
5 through it. I'm an engineer. You give me an equation and  
6 I'll work through it until I understand it or I can show  
7 there's a problem with it. I'll be glad to do that. I've  
8 just never seen it presented like this, which is not uncommon  
9 in my business. I mean we just work through it.

10 Q You have the option when you read and sign of  
11 commenting or not. I hope you will, but---

12 A Okay.

13 (Plaintiffs Exhibits 18 and 19  
14 were marked for identification)

15 Q I show you what's been marked for identification as  
16 Exhibits 18 and 19. They both show stickers from another  
17 deposition, Mr. Hennings, another engineer. Do you know John  
18 Hennings, by any chance?

19 A I think I've worked with him over the years. I know  
20 he's with Accident Research. I think I might have a case  
21 with him right now actually. I think we were both retained  
22 by the same counsel.

23 Mr. Stam: And I don't have copies. We'll make  
24 copies before we go.

25 Q Yesterday Mr. Hennings wrote these out as his solution

1 to the problem for the straight through intersection and the  
2 turning radius.

3 Ms. Martineau: Objection to the form of the  
4 question; move to strike the testimony of Mr. Stam.

5 Q And my question is do you have any comment on Exhibit  
6 18 as an approach to determining the yellow change interval  
7 at straight through intersections?

8 A It looks like from Exhibit 18, since this is his first  
9 calculation, that--is it Hennings?

10 Q John Hennings.

11 A Hennings is suggesting that a flat rate of 2.5  
12 seconds, I'm assuming, be used for yellow time.

13 Q This is straight---

14 A (interposing) Yeah, for straight through.

15 Q For straight through.

16 A So he's suggesting that his entire calculation here be  
17 replaced with just 2.5 seconds, which seems really odd. I  
18 don't know if that's what he meant or--I have no idea. I  
19 have no idea what he was intending.

20 Q I think he's intending to use 2.5 as the perception/  
21 reaction time that would solve the problem.

22 Ms. Martineau: Objection to the form of the question  
23 as to "solve the problem"; move to strike.

24 Q Rather than 1.5.

25 A I'm confused. What problem is he trying to solve?

1 Q Well, the problem is people get citations for red  
2 lights even though the perception/reaction time constant that  
3 is used is based on an 85th percentile in a relatively non-  
4 complex environment.

5 A I disagree with many elements of that statement.

6 Q Okay. Which ones?

7 A Well, first of all, at least in my deposition, we  
8 haven't established that 1.5 percent--perception/reaction  
9 time is the 85th percentile of people in a similar situation  
10 given similar responses and similar stimuli, so that kind of  
11 throws it all out the window. But I'm still confused by his  
12 equation itself.

13 I mean if this is an equation, what he's showing me is  
14 yellow time equals 2.5 seconds. I hear what you're saying.  
15 You think he was simply saying that he wants to replace  
16 perception/reaction with 2.5 instead of 1.5 is what I'm  
17 hearing maybe, and maybe he just didn't finish his calcula-  
18 tion. He started it and never finished it. I don't know.

19 Q What about Exhibit 19?

20 (Witness peruses document.)

21 A This looks like what he is proposing to do is to take  
22 a vehicle at some initial velocity and then at some terminal  
23 velocity of 20 miles an hour and pick an average in the  
24 middle and to put that average velocity into the equation.  
25 That's what it looks like he's attempting to do in this

1 equation here that he wrote, but he's--oh, I see what he's  
2 done.

3 He's gone ahead and he's written a new equation. It  
4 looks like he's proposing a new equation for yellow time that  
5 artificially increases all the yellow times is what he's  
6 done.

7 Q Now, when you say artificially---

8 A (interposing) Yeah, it sure does.

9 Q What do you mean by artificially?

10 A Well, take a look at this. I'm going to go ahead and  
11 write something out here.

12 Q Okay.

13 A If we look at the ITE formula for yellow time and we  
14 say yellow equals  $t$  plus--we'll use  $v$ . I'm going to pretend  
15 like he did that the road is flat, so we don't have any grade  
16 or gravity, any resistance calculation to worry about. So  
17 it's just  $v$  over  $2a$ . This is ITE's base formula.

18 What he has done--and that's--that's what he's showing  
19 here. He's showing velocity over two times deceleration. If  
20 he in fact wants to consider an average velocity, what he  
21 should have done is replace this with the average velocity.  
22 I'll wait for Mr. Ceccarelli to get done here.

23 (Pause.)

24 By the time you go ahead and square this initial  
25 velocity and then divide it by an average velocity, we're not

1 talking apples to apples. It's oranges to apples. And what  
2 he's doing is he's artificially jacking this up by several  
3 seconds. Now, I'm not talking about the perception/reaction  
4 time being different. Let's forget about that. That doesn't  
5 matter.

6 Q Put that to the side.

7 A Put that to the side. But what he's doing is he's--it  
8 looks like he's--is this guy a traffic engineer of some kind?  
9 It looks like he's a--like an experimental researcher traffic  
10 engineer maybe.

11 And he's proposing a new yellow time calculation from  
12 what I see that would indicate--it would produce yellow times  
13 that are several seconds higher than what's in current  
14 practice. That's what it looks like he's produced.

15 Q Yellow times?

16 A Yellow times, yellow interval times, that are higher  
17 than what we would do--what we would get if we used the  
18 current ITE/NCDOT methodology.

19 (Plaintiffs Exhibit 20 was  
20 marked for identification.)

21 Q I show you what's been marked as Exhibit 20 for you  
22 but was also 26 for Henning, where he actually calculates  
23 using his formula. Do you follow that?

24 A I see that.

25 Q Now, on Exhibit 18, where does the 2 come from in this

1 formula?

2 A That's been a long time ago. I don't remember.

3 Q Okay. Well, let me refer you back to Exhibit 12.

4 A Are you asking me about the origin--the derivative--  
5 the derivation of this formula or are you asking me about  
6 where we recently saw it published?

7 Q No. I'm asking the derivation.

8 A Oh. It's been a long time. I was satisfied that it  
9 worked a long time ago and I haven't checked it since. I  
10 mean I turn the switch on and the lights come on. I don't  
11 check that every day either. I'm being sarcastic.

12 Q Let me show you Marceau 12, which has this chart on  
13 page 24. You're familiar with that chart?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Now, I believe that you testified about 20 minutes ago  
16 that if you had two vehicles at 45 miles an hour at least 300  
17 feet away from the intersection, one intending to go straight  
18 through into the intersection lawfully, and the other  
19 intending to turn left and enter the intersection lawfully, I  
20 believe that your opinion was that the turning vehicle would  
21 need more time to do that.

22 A Assuming they're at same originating speed and they're  
23 at the same originating distance and that--the assumption is  
24 that the turning driver is going to slow down so as not to  
25 crash, it would take a longer time for the turning driver to

1 go from the point of origin to the intersection.

2 Q And I asked you why then DOT and Cary allows about 4.5  
3 seconds for the through driver but only 3.2 seconds for the  
4 turning driver at that intersection.

5 Ms. Martineau: Objection to the form of the  
6 question; move to strike as to the Town of Cary.

7 A I think what you asked me was why--and I forget who  
8 you said, what group--uses a shorter yellow time for a left  
9 versus a through.

10 Q Yeah. Do you recall what your answer was?

11 A My answer, as best I recall---

12 Q (interposing) With free flowing traffic was my  
13 summary.

14 A There's no free flowing traffic on Walnut Street.

15 Q At 2:00 a.m. in the morning?

16 A Yeah, okay. But my answer then and my answer would be  
17 now is that the yellow times in use are the ones that are  
18 calculated by current engineering practice.

19 Q Okay. Now, I would like to see if you would be able  
20 to calculate how to get the yellow change interval for the  
21 left turning driver, 45 miles an hour--hopefully they'll be  
22 at 20 miles an hour by the stop bar or less.

23 Using their formula, what is the value for v? Is it  
24 20 miles an hour? Is it the average between 45 and 20? Is  
25 it 45 miles an hour, or is it something else? What is the

1 value for v by which ITE and the NCDOT formula determines the  
2 yellow change interval in that circumstance?

3 A Under the current standards?

4 Q Yes.

5 A I would use 20 miles an hour.

6 Q Okay. But your testimony was if they're not in a  
7 queue, they'll actually be approaching at a higher speed.

8 A Certainly.

9 Q Okay.

10 A Let's remember if it's 2:00 a.m. and you're  
11 approaching an intersection, you're approaching a red light.  
12 At 2:00 a.m. there's no people in the queue and the light is  
13 red.

14 Q Assume it's green.

15 A It's not. That's not the way the signal works. It  
16 can't be green.

17 Q Why can't it be green?

18 A Because it rests in red.

19 Q On Walnut Street?

20 A Yes. That's a protected left turn.

21 Q Okay.

22 A Only throughs rest in green. Phases 2 and 6 rest in  
23 green at night. The left turn phase rests in red. You have  
24 to come to a stop, so it's a moot point.

25 Mr. Stam: Okay. If we could take five minutes?

1 Ms. Martineau: Sure.

2 The Reporter: Off the record. 1:23 p.m.

3 (A brief recess was taken.)

4 The Reporter: On the record. 1:29 p.m.

5 By Mr. Stam:

6 Q At Walnut Street and Meeting Place a car is ahead of  
7 you up in the queue and they've just got a green light and is  
8 going through, but you're 300 feet behind. Wouldn't it show  
9 a green light for an approaching vehicle?

10 A You know, by the fact that you're asking that question  
11 and the question you asked me before we just went on break  
12 tells me that I didn't do a good job of explaining something  
13 earlier.

14 Way back, an hour or so ago, you were asking me about  
15 some graphs Mr. Ceccarelli pulled together showing the  
16 increase and decrease in the number of red light camera  
17 citations at certain intersections, and I think several times  
18 I said I would want to look at the entire sphere in which we  
19 were operating. Part of what I was talking about is looking  
20 at all the possibilities.

21 When I say possibilities, I mean at any intersection  
22 based on how the signal is designed and how the phasing is  
23 set up, there are possibilities of how a vehicle can arrive  
24 at that intersection.

25 For example at this intersection you just asked me

1 about your previous question before we went off the record  
2 would help explain your current question. You asked me if it  
3 was 2:00 a.m. or something and the driver is arriving and the  
4 signal is red.

5           You just asked me now I'm 300 feet back. I'm the  
6 approaching driver. There's one car ahead of me and they  
7 just got a green light. What will happen is as soon as that  
8 car leaves the detection loop, the signal is going to gap out  
9 because I'm too far back to actuate it.

10       Q    How far back can you actuate it?

11       A    That has varied over the years, but the current at  
12 that intersection is only about 40 feet. It's not very far.  
13 So if that first car gaps out, if we've got between a one and  
14 three second gap time on that phase, and that car gaps out,  
15 I'm going to receive my yellow very soon after I'm in the  
16 left turn bay. Does that make sense?

17       Q    It does.

18       A    There's a 300 foot gap between the car ahead of me and  
19 me.

20       Q    I understand what you're saying. Suppose in the  
21 left--the farthest left turning lane there are vehicles every  
22 30 feet in sort of a queue.

23       A    So we have a long stack of vehicles.

24       Q    A long stack of vehicles---

25       A    (interposing) Sure.

1 Q ---in the left lane, and I'm in the second left  
2 turning lane. By second I mean the one not---

3 A (interposing) You're in the rightmost left turn lane.

4 Q The rightmost turning lane.

5 A Okay.

6 Q So the light goes green for this queue (indicating).

7 A Correct.

8 Q Are you telling me that---

9 A (interposing) And you're like 300 feet back?

10 Q And I'm 300 feet back going 45 miles an hour.

11 A Got you.

12 Q Are you telling me that my light, the light for this  
13 lane (indicating), is going to be red, but it's going to be  
14 green for the left-ish light?

15 A No. Those left turns are tied together.

16 Q All right. So then in that situation, in free flowing  
17 traffic, 300 feet back, 45 miles an hour, having to  
18 decelerate because I'm intending to turn---

19 A (interposing) Sure.

20 Q In that case, won't the driver in the rightmost left  
21 turning lane need more time to legally enter the intersection  
22 than the driver in the third, fourth, or fifth lane who is  
23 intending to go through?

24 A Two separate things here. The question about which  
25 driver needs more time to enter the intersection, my answer

1 doesn't change. In that situation, Driver B, the one who's  
2 in a lane with no cars in front of them, may never see a  
3 yellow light, and if they do, they're going to be very close  
4 to the intersection when they do because all the cars in the  
5 leftmost lane are going to keep actuating the signal.

6           If they're only 30 feet apart, that means that they've  
7 only got--there's really no effective gap between them and  
8 they're going to continuously hold the green because the gap  
9 time will be between one to two or one to three seconds. So  
10 they're going to hold the green long and steady.

11           So by the time our parallel left turning driver,  
12 Driver B, gets to the intersection, he may never see a  
13 yellow. If he does, he's going to be very close to the stop  
14 line where, a, he's already reduced his speed to make the  
15 turn and nobody is going to have a problem making a decision  
16 about continuing or stopping. So it doesn't matter. It's a  
17 moot point.

18           Q    Are you saying the light stays green as long as there  
19 are people in the queue?

20           A    Who are moving over the loops, yes. That's how it was  
21 designed.

22           Ms. Martineau:    Until it times out.

23           A    Green lights have---

24           Q    (interposing)   Your---

25           A    (interposing)   I'm sorry.

1 Q Your counsel said until it times out.

2 A That's what I was going to explain.

3 Q All right.

4 A Green lights--well, let me back up. There are two  
5 kinds of traffic signals. There's what we call a pretimed  
6 traffic signal and we have an actuated traffic signal. A  
7 pretimed is like we used to have in the middle of downtown  
8 Apex. It went 20 seconds in green for this direction and  
9 then 30 seconds for that direction, all day and all night.

10 And that was a great idea until the mayor decided that  
11 he got tired of having to wait on a green light at 2:00 in  
12 the morning when he was coming home from a party. And so he  
13 got DOT to put in an actuated--that's how it works.

14 Q Which mayor was this?

15 A ---to put in an actuated traffic signal. We went from  
16 the pretimed traffic signals that are not sensitive whatso-  
17 ever to traffic to actuated traffic signals. In an actuated  
18 traffic signal we have two green times. We have a minimum  
19 and a maximum.

20 So for example, on a left turn I don't know what the  
21 min and max is. But I might guess that the minimum might be  
22 in the range of maybe seven to ten seconds, maybe ten  
23 seconds, and a maximum could be as high as maybe 30 or 40  
24 seconds because there's a big turning volume.

25 If one car pulls up, it's 2:00 a.m. and they wait on a

1 red and they get a green, when they pull forward, the very  
2 second that the last metal component of their vehicle passes  
3 over and leaves the detection loop back behind the stop line,  
4 the signal controller starts looking for the next car, and if  
5 doesn't see one it gives up the green. It goes to yellow and  
6 red.

7 Q So if it's not within 40 feet, it will go immediately  
8 to yellow?

9 A I said 40 because I don't know how long the loop is.

10 Q All right.

11 A Not immediately. It looks for a gap. It's looking  
12 for a gap between vehicles. We don't expect vehicles to be  
13 following bumper to bumper. So we're looking for a  
14 predetermined gap between cars. My point is if you have a  
15 queue of cars in the left-hand most left turn lane and that  
16 queue of cars keeps driving over that loop and actuating it,  
17 it's going to extend the green, as Elizabeth said, until it  
18 maxes out.

19 A green expires because, a, it maxes out--there's just  
20 a bunch of cars that keep actuating it--or b, because it gaps  
21 out. There's a lack of cars, and the gap time as determined  
22 is reached.

23 Q But if it maxes out---

24 A (interposing) If it maxes out.

25 Q ---then the car in the rightmost left turning yellow

1 could need more time to legally enter the intersection than a  
2 through intending vehicle.

3 Ms. Martineau: Well, why can't that car just stop?

4 A The left turning car by now, as I said, I would hope  
5 is through the intersection or very close to it when they get  
6 their yellow. The whole point here is---

7 Q (interposing) Well, what if it's not?

8 A Think about this.

9 Q What if the reason it turned yellow was because the  
10 green maxed out?

11 A Then you'd have a driver in a left turn who's slowing  
12 down to make a left--in a left turn lane that's slowing down  
13 to make a left turn. If they're at full speed, say 45-ish  
14 miles an hour, I expect them to be, you know, fairly far  
15 back, unless they're trying to beat the light.

16 Q So they're slowing down. Maybe they're at 32.5 miles  
17 per hour.

18 A A nice average speed.

19 Q A nice average speed.

20 A Between 45 and 20.

21 Q Right. So if they're at 32.5 miles an hour at that  
22 point, why does the formula assume they're at 20 miles an  
23 hour?

24 A The formula doesn't assume they're at 20 miles an hour  
25 at that point in time. The formula simply uses the inputted

1 20 miles an hour as a design speed. There's no place in the  
2 formula where the variables are listed below that says we're  
3 using 20 miles an hour because we assume that to be a speed  
4 at this point.

5 Q A different question.

6 A Okay.

7 Q If a vehicle is in the straight through lane, can  
8 that vehicle still turn left by later moving into the left  
9 turn lane at the same place?

10 A Well, they cannot do it safely.

11 Q Are you saying to me that if they're 300 feet back,  
12 let's say at Lori Millette's intersection, and there are two  
13 cars there, one in the turning lane and one in the straight  
14 lane, that the one in the straight lane cannot safely move  
15 into the turning lane?

16 Ms. Martineau: Objection to 300 yards back in the  
17 left intersection.

18 A You lost me a bit. Are you saying that we've got some  
19 cars in the left turn lane and a driver in the through lane  
20 decides to cut in front of them?

21 Q Ms. Glover has hypothesized at Lori Millette's  
22 intersection the left turn lane doesn't go 300 feet back.

23 Ms. Glover: I have no idea.

24 Q She has no idea. So maybe---

25 A (interposing) It goes 200 feet.

1 Q Okay. So what's to keep a car 300 feet back, moving  
2 the first 100 feet during the perception/reaction time over  
3 here (indicating), and then decide to move over to the left  
4 turning lane for the final 200 feet? Is there some law that  
5 stops that?

6 A No.

7 Mr. Stam: Would you all give us just a minute?  
8 We'll step out to see if we have anything further.

9 Ms. Martineau: That's fine.

10 The Reporter: Off the record. 1:40 p.m.

11 (A brief recess was taken.)

12 The Reporter: On the record. 1:42 p.m.

13 Mr. Stam: No further questions.

14 C R O S S - E X A M I N A T I O N 1:42 p.m.

15 By Ms. Martineau:

16 Q I have a couple of questions just to follow up on  
17 something that Mr. Stam asked you about today, one of which  
18 is there was a lot of talk about the ITE formula that is on  
19 Exhibit--it's one of these exhibits.

20 A I think it came up in one or two of them actually.

21 Q Right. It also has how NCDOT recommends designing  
22 yellow times for left turns. Have you designed--you've  
23 created traffic plans; correct?

24 A Many hundreds.

25 Q Okay. Did you actually sign and seal a signal plan, a

1 traffic signal plan that calculated yellow times for left  
2 turns as well as straight throughs?

3 A I would sign and seal my calculations separate from  
4 signing and sealing a signal plan.

5 Q Okay.

6 A An engineer is required to sign and seal their  
7 calculations.

8 Q All right. You're aware that yellow times for left  
9 turns in general are shorter than yellow times for straight  
10 throughs, let's say for example if you were designing for a  
11 45 miles an hour road?

12 A The times that we use on the signal plans on generally  
13 shorter, although sometimes they may be the same, depending  
14 on protected versus permitted left turns. The pure  
15 calculated values for left turns are going to be a shorter  
16 calculated time than for through movement.

17 Q Okay. As a traffic signal engineer, do you feel that  
18 it is appropriate in some circumstances to have shorter  
19 yellow times for left turns?

20 A Absolutely.

21 Q Why?

22 A It's common practice. We use a lower speed.

23 Q But beyond just being common practice, do you agree or  
24 disagree that it is appropriate that dedicated left turns  
25 have shorter yellow times?

1       A    Absolutely.  Going back to---

2       Q    (interposing)  Tell him why.

3       A    I'm sorry.  I jumped the gun there.  Going back to  
4 what we've just been talking about, there are only a finite  
5 number of situations in which a driver can arrive in a left  
6 turn situation for a given intersection.  And as I said  
7 before, we need to look at the whole sphere, the whole big  
8 picture, if you will, or small picture around that inter-  
9 section.

10               And if we look at the possibilities of arrivals and  
11 what traffic conditions could be combined with how the  
12 traffic signal is operating at that moment, the calculation  
13 using 20 miles an hour, if you will, a lower speed for left  
14 turns is extremely appropriate.  It's appropriate and it  
15 works.  It matches the possibilities of how a driver can  
16 arrive in that left turn lane, if in fact we have a dedicated  
17 left turn.

18       Q    You were asked some questions today about using a 2.5  
19 perception/reaction time versus NCDOT, 1.5 perception/  
20 reaction time.  And I'll represent to you that Mr. Henning  
21 yesterday said that he felt a 2.5 perception/reaction time  
22 plugged into the ITE formula was a better idea than the  
23 practice of using 1.5.  Do you agree with that?

24       A    No, I don't agree.  I'd love to see his research or  
25 what he's quoting.

1 Q Why don't you agree with that?

2 A A couple reasons. Based on research that I've been a  
3 part of over the years, something around one second-ish is  
4 perfectly fine. And number one, one second is the current  
5 ITE formula. 1.5 happens to be the North Carolina use of  
6 that same formula, and that is our current practice, but 2.5  
7 seconds is extremely long.

8 2.5 seconds comes from an ASTA recommendation to ITE.  
9 2.5 seconds has been used for many years in roadway design--  
10 which is very separate from traffic design--for roadway  
11 design, to deal with unexpected responses to unexpected  
12 stimuli, for example, stopping sight distance. It's a very  
13 different scenario. There has been talk over the years of  
14 using one uniform time for everything, but one uniform time  
15 simply doesn't fit. It just doesn't fit.

16 Q Do you know what the generally accepted practice among  
17 traffic signal engineers is for using perception/reaction  
18 time today?

19 A For yellow and red calculations?

20 Q Right, yellow and red.

21 A Well, they're using a yellow calculation when they're  
22 running the whole thing together. What I see most often is  
23 one second.

24 Q Do you know what North Carolina traffic signal  
25 engineers use for perception/reaction time in North Carolina

1 today?

2 A 1.5 seconds, and it has been used for a while actually  
3 in North Carolina.

4 Q Are you familiar with what North Carolina traffic  
5 signal engineers--what their generally accepted practice was  
6 for using perception/reaction time back in 1999?

7 A It was one second.

8 Q Are you familiar with the generally accepted  
9 engineering practice for--what calculation North Carolina  
10 traffic signal engineers use for determining yellow and red  
11 clearance times today?

12 A The standard ITE formula.

13 Q Okay. You are currently licensed in many states;  
14 correct?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Okay. Are you familiar with how other jurisdictions  
17 calculate red and yellow times?

18 A Yes, not just from doing design work, but because I  
19 get involved in forensic cases in other states I am reviewing  
20 signal plans. Also when I'm teaching I have my students  
21 usually bring plans from their home cities and states, so I  
22 get to see a lot of plans and designs from around the  
23 country.

24 Q Do you know whether or not--you've looked at Mr.  
25 Henning's proposed yellow time calculations; correct?

1       A    Yes, if that's in fact--it looks to me like that's  
2 what he's doing.  He's proposing some new yellow time  
3 calculation.

4       Q    Is that calculation anything that you've ever seen  
5 being used by traffic signal engineers?

6       A    Not by anybody, no.

7       Q    And you read Mr. Ceccarelli's deposition; correct?

8       A    Yes, I did.

9       Q    And you saw what he proposed for yellow times;  
10 correct?

11      A    No.  I never got the exhibits.

12      Q    Okay.

13      A    I heard some talk about it, but I didn't actually see  
14 the exhibits.

15      Q    Are you familiar with what MUTCD's guidances are for  
16 the length of yellow time?

17      A    Between three and six seconds.

18      Q    Okay.  Do you think it would be proper to use a yellow  
19 time of above six seconds?

20      A    Oh, it may be proper.

21      Q    How about at any of the intersections at play in this  
22 case?

23      A    No, no, no.  I mean I do work in other states where  
24 they've put traffic signals on 70 mile an hour roads and 65  
25 mile an hour roads, and you see some very high yellow times.

1           Ms. Martineau: Thank you. Those are the follow-up  
2 questions I have based on Mr. Stam's questions.

3                   **R E D I R E C T   E X A M I N A T I O N** 1:49 p.m.

4           By Mr. Stam:

5           Q    Do you know what the minimum yellow time was in North  
6 Carolina as decreed by NCDOT up until 2004?

7           A    I want to say it was four seconds simply because the  
8 controllers could--well, not the controllers. The  
9 controllers were programmed for a minimum of four, but the  
10 monitors would kick out if we ran a--if the monitor was  
11 equipped in a monitor absent of yellow or a short yellow.  
12 They were programmed from the factory at four seconds I think  
13 was the reason we went with a minimum of four.

14          Q    You think that was the reason?

15          A    Yeah. I'm real certain. A lot of times stuff will be  
16 tied to equipment abilities, and a lot of the monitors  
17 couldn't handle anything shorter than four seconds. I mean  
18 I'm going from memory.

19          Q    But it was four seconds?

20          A    It was four seconds, yes.

21          Q    All right. Second question: you mentioned one second  
22 as the standard during your redirect, but I didn't get what  
23 you were saying one second was the standard for.

24          A    When Elizabeth asked me that question, she was asking  
25 me, you know, what I see as accepted standard engineering

1 practice. And I was referring to just generally, in all  
2 areas of the country, where I look over lots of plans. The  
3 most typical time I see for perception/reaction time for  
4 yellow is one second.

5 Q Okay. But your book says 1.5 is the---

6 A (interposing) I said about 1.5.

7 Q About 1.5. Finally, would you agree that whatever  
8 method of calculation for the yellow change interval, it must  
9 conform to the laws of motion, which is a subject of physics?

10 A I don't disagree with that.

11 Mr. Stam: No further questions.

12 Ms. Martineau: That's it.

13 Mr. Stam: Thank you very much.

14 (The deposition was closed at 1:51 p.m.)

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF WAKE

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Alexandra Hatcher, Notary Public-Reporter, do hereby certify that **Daren Marceau, P.E.** was duly sworn or affirmed by me prior to the taking of the foregoing deposition, that said deposition was taken by me and transcribed by me, and that the foregoing pages 6 through 132 constitute a true and correct transcript of the testimony of the witness to the best of my ability, and that the witness reserved the right to review his testimony.

I do further certify that I am not counsel for or in the employment of either of the parties to this action, nor am I interested in the results of this action.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, this 1st day of December, 2012.

*/s/ Alexandra Hatcher*

Alexandra Hatcher, CVR  
Notary No. 19931480077

**S I G N A T U R E**

I have read the foregoing pages 6 through 132, which contain a correct transcript of the answers made by me to the questions herein recorded. My signature is subject to corrections on the attached errata sheet, if any.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Daren Marceau, P.E.)

State of \_\_\_\_\_  
County of \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that the following person personally appeared before me this day and I have personal knowledge of the identity of the principal or have seen satisfactory evidence of the principal's identity in the form of a \_\_\_\_\_ or a credible witness has sworn to the identity of the principal, acknowledging to me that he or she voluntarily signed the foregoing document for the purpose stated herein and in the capacity indicated: \_\_\_\_\_.

(Name of Principal)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Official signature of Notary)

(Official Seal)

\_\_\_\_\_, Notary Public  
(Notary's printed or typed name)

My commission expires \_\_\_\_\_.

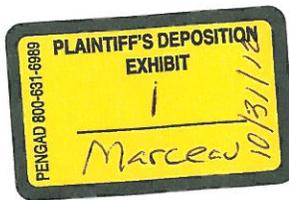
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I, Alexandra Hatcher, the officer before whom the foregoing deposition was taken on October 31, 2012, certify that the foregoing transcript was delivered to the witness either directly or through the witness' attorney or through the attorney retaining the witness on \_\_\_\_\_ and that as of this date I have not received the executed signature page.

Therefore, more than 30 days having elapsed since receipt of the transcript by the witness, the sealed original transcript was filed with attorney for Plaintiffs on \_\_\_\_\_ by means of US Priority Mail, in accordance with Rule 30(e) of the North Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Alexandra Hatcher, CVR  
Court Reporter



# Curriculum Vitae

## Daren E. Marceau, P.E.

*President, Forensic Traffic Specialists, PLLC*

### Professional Summary

After several years as a police officer followed by many years in the engineering design business Daren Marceau now serves as an investigator and expert witness with a focus on traffic crash reconstruction involving traffic control devices. Mr. Marceau is a nationally recognized author and lecturer on traffic signals, signs, and pavement markings, their role in traffic crashes, and reconstructing crashes involving traffic control devices. His experience includes investigating and reconstructing passenger and commercial vehicle, bicycle, pedestrian, sport utility, and motorcycle accidents. In addition to being a court-qualified expert in traffic signal design, civil and traffic engineering, and several other areas of engineering and human factors, Mr. Marceau also possesses significant professional and personal experience in bicycling and motorcycling.

### Professional Development

Pedestrian and Bicycle Accident Reconstruction, Institute of Police Technology and Management  
Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced Highway Work Zone Safety, Institute for Transportation Research and Education

Work Zone Traffic Control Safety Certification, International Municipal Signal Association

Traffic Signal Technician Certification, International Municipal Signal Association

Commercial Vehicle Inspection, Accident Investigation, and Reconstruction, Institute of Police Technology and Management

Basic Law Enforcement Training, Raleigh Police Department, North Carolina

Traffic Signal Design at Local Intersections, Georgia Institute of Technology

Traffic Signal Design, North Carolina Department of Transportation

Traffic Signal Operation in Signal Systems, Institute for Transportation Research and Education

Crash Data Retrieval Tool Operator Course, Institute of Police Technology and Management

### Instructor

Traffic Control Devices and Their Role in Traffic Crashes

Numerous technical sessions on traffic signal design and special topics in traffic signal operations

Low speed/soft tissue injury collisions: understanding the collision, vehicle, and occupant dynamics

Bicycle and pedestrian collisions

Accident Reconstruction at Traffic Signal Intersections, basic and advanced classes

Traffic Crashes Waiting To Happen: Traffic Control Devices That Violate Expectancy

### Affiliations

National Society of Professional Engineers

International Law Enforcement Educators and Trainers Association

Institute of Transportation Engineers

Expert Witness Council, Institute of Transportation Engineers

National Association of Professional Accident Reconstructionists

National Association of Traffic Accident Reconstructionists and Investigators

International Municipal Signal Association

### Authored Publications

Accident Reconstruction at Traffic Signal Intersections, © 2006 Kinetic Energy Press

### Professional Experience

President, Forensic Traffic Specialists, PLLC, 2007-present

Forensics and Traffic Signal Design Practice Builder, Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., Raleigh, NC, 2003-2007

Associate and Project Manager, Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., 1995-2003

Graduate Research Assistant, North Carolina State University, 1994-1995

Survey Instrument Technician, J.Y. Phelps Surveying, 1992-1994

Police Officer, Raleigh, NC Police Department, 1986-1988

### Professional Credentials

Master of Science in Civil Engineering, North Carolina State University, 1995

Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, North Carolina State University, 1994

Registered Professional Engineer: North Carolina #24910, Virginia #40957, South Carolina #24139, Florida #63229, and Georgia #PE030533

Certified Property and Liability Claims Instructor, North Carolina Department of Insurance

Certified Traffic Signal Technician and Signal Inspector, and Signs and Markings Technician, IMSA

# North Carolina State University CIVIL ENGINEERING CURRICULUM

Degree earned: B.S. in Civil Engineering  
For students entering after July 2010 (Sum2 '10)



## FRESHMAN YEAR

<u>Fall Semester</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Spring Semester</u>	<u>Credits</u>
CH 101 Chemistry – A Molecular Science	3	CSC 112 Intro. to Computing-Fortran	3
CH 102 General Chemistry Laboratory	1	EC 205 Economics (GEP Soc Sci Req*)	3
E 101 Intro. to Engineering & Prob. Solving	1	MA 241 Calculus II	4
E 115 Intro. to Computing Environments	1	PY 205 Physics for Engrs. & Sci. I	4
ENG 101 Academic Writing and Research	4	PE XXX Phys. Ed/Healthy Living Elective*	1
MA 141 Calculus I	4		15
PE 10X Fitness & Wellness Course*	1		
	15		

## SOPHOMORE YEAR

<u>Fall Semester</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Spring Semester</u>	<u>Credits</u>
CE 214 Engr. Mechanics - Statics	3	CE313 Mechanics of Solids	3
GC 120 Foundations of Graphics	3	CE 382 Hydraulics	3
MA 242 Calculus III	4	MA 341 Applied Diff. Equations I <u>or</u>	3
PY 208 Physics Engr. & Sci. II	4	MA 305 Elem. Linear Algebra	3
GEP Requirement*	3	MSE 200 Mech. Prop.of Structural Materia	3
	17	GEP Requirement*	3
			15

## JUNIOR YEAR

<u>Fall Semester</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Spring Semester</u>	<u>Credits</u>
CE Area Intro Elective I <sup>1</sup>	3	CE Area Intro Elective IV <sup>1</sup>	3
CE Area Intro Elective II <sup>1</sup>	3	CE Area Intro Elective V <sup>1</sup>	3
CE Area Intro Elective III <sup>1</sup>	3	CE Elective I <sup>2</sup>	3
CE 390 Engineering Economics	1	Basic Science Elective <sup>3</sup>	3
ST 370 Prob. & Statistics for Engrs.	3	CE Lab if needed (CE324, CE381)	0
GEP Requirement*	3	GEP Requirement <sup>1</sup>	3
	16		15

## SENIOR YEAR

<u>Fall Semester</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Spring Semester</u>	<u>Credits</u>
CE Elective II <sup>2</sup>	3	CE Elective V <sup>2</sup>	3
CE Elective III <sup>2</sup>	3	CE Elective VI <sup>2</sup>	3
CE Elective IV <sup>2</sup>	3	CE Elective VII <sup>2</sup>	3
CE/MA/SCI Elective <sup>4</sup>	3	GEP Requirement*	3
COM 110 Public Speaking <u>or</u>	3	GEP Requirement*	2-3
ENG 331 Comm. for Engr. & Tech.			14-15
MAE 301 Thermodynamics <u>or</u>	3		
ECE 331 Principles of Electrical Engr.	18		

**Minimum Credit Hours Required for Graduation = 126**

\*GEP REQUIREMENTS to be selected from the list approved by the College of Engineering.

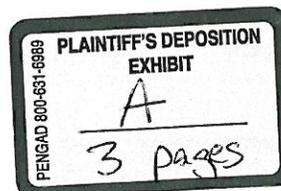
<sup>1</sup>CE Area Intro Elective to be selected from the approved list (on back)

<sup>2</sup>CE ELECTIVES to be selected from the approved list (on back)

<sup>3</sup>Basic Science Elective Select one: BIO 183, MEA 101

<sup>4</sup>CE/MA/SCI Elective to be selected by student and adviser

A



10/14/10

**CIVIL ENGINEERING CURRICULUM**  
**COURSE LISTING WITH PRE- AND COREQUISITES IN PARENTHESES**  
 For students entering after July 2010 (Sum2 '10)

Fall Semester

CH 101 (CoReq. CH 102)  
 CH 102 (CoReq. CH 101)  
 E 101  
 E 115  
 ENG 101  
 MA 141  
 PE 10X\*

Spring Semester

**FRESHMAN YEAR**

CSC 112 (CoReq. E 115 and MA 141)  
 EC 205 (GEP Requirement)\*  
 MA 241 (C- or better in MA 141)  
 PY 205 (C- or better in MA 141)  
 PE XXX Phys. Ed//Healthy Living Elective\*

**Matriculation Requirements:** 1. C- or Better in CH 101, CH 102, E 101, MA 141, MA 241, PHY 205  
 2. Satisfactorily (S) in E 115

**SOPHOMORE YEAR**

CE 214 (GPA 2.5, C- or better in PY 205, CoReq. MA 242)	CE 313 (MA 242, C- or better in CE 214)
GC 120	CE 382 (CE 214, CoReq. MA 341, MA 305 or ST 370)
MA 242 (C- or better in MA 241)	MA 341 (MA 242) <u>or</u>
PY 208 (C- or better in PY 205 and MA 241)	MA 305 (CoReq. MA 242)
GEP Requirement*	MSE 200 (CH 101)
	GEP Requirement*

**JUNIOR YEAR**

(All CE courses listed below also require Junior Standing in CE, CEM, or ENE)

CE Area Intro Elective I <sup>1</sup>	CE Area Intro Elective IV <sup>1</sup>
CE Area Intro Elective II <sup>1</sup>	CE Area Intro Elective V <sup>1</sup>
CE Area Intro Elective III <sup>1</sup>	CE Elective I <sup>2</sup>
CE 390 (CSC 112, CoReq. MA 341 or	Basic Science Elective
ST 370 (MA 241)	CE Lab if needed (CE 324, CE 381)
GEP Requirement*	GEP Requirement*

**SENIOR YEAR**

CE Elective II <sup>2</sup>	CE Elective V <sup>2</sup>
CE Elective III <sup>2</sup>	CE Elective VI <sup>2</sup>
CE Elective IV <sup>2</sup>	CE Elective VII <sup>2</sup>
CE/MA/SCI Elective <sup>4</sup>	GEP Requirement*
COM 110 <u>or</u>	GEP Requirement*
ENG 331 (Junior standing)	
MAE 301 (MA 242, PY 208) <u>or</u>	
ECE 331 (MA 241, PY 208)	

\*GEP Requirements to be selected from the list approved by the College of Engineering

<sup>1</sup>CE Area Intro Elective to selected from the approved list

<sup>2</sup>CE Electives to be selected from the approved list

<sup>3</sup>Basic Science Elective (select one): BIO 183, MEA 101

<sup>4</sup>CE/MA/SCI Elective to be selected by student and advisor

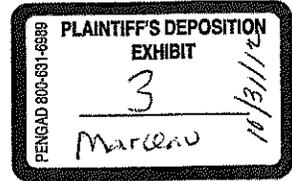
### CE ELECTIVES

- Pick at least one CE AREA Introductory course (I) in five different areas for a total of five (5) courses.
- Pick an additional seven (7) courses, at least one of which must be a Capstone Design Course (C).  
At least one course must be an additional design course (D) in an area different from that of the capstone.
- Pick at least three (3) CE laboratory experiences (L)

		Hrs	Sem	Pre and Co-Requisites	
<b>Coastal Engineering and Water Resources</b>					
L	CE 381	Hydraulics Sys. Meas. Lab	1	F/S	CoReq. CE 382
I D	CE 383	Hydrology & Urban Water Systems	1	F/S	C- or better in CE 382
I	CE 487	Intro. To Coastal and Ocean Engineering	3	S	Senior standing and CE 382
D	CE 488	Water Resources Engineering	3	F	CE 339 or equivalent; CoReq. CE 383
C D	CE 480	Water Resources Engineering Project	3	F	CE 390, C- or better in CE 382 and CE 383
<b>Computing and Systems</b>					
I	CE 337	Civil Engineering Computing	3	S	CSC 112, CoReq. MA 341 or MA 305
I	*CE 339	Civil Engineering Systems	3	F	CSC 112, CoReq. MA 341 or MA 305
<b>Construction Engineering and Management</b>					
	*CE 261	Construction Engineering Systems	3	S	CEM Majors; CoReq. ST 370
I D	CE 367	Mech. and Elec. Systems in Buildings	3	S	CE 382
I	CE 463	Construction Estimating Plan. And Control	3	F	CE 261 (Priority to CEM)
1 D	CE 466	Building Construction Engineering	3	F	CoReq. CE 327 (Priority to CEM)
<b>Environmental</b>					
I	CE 373	Fundamentals of Environmental Engineering	3	F/S	CoReq. CHE 205 or CE 382
	CE 479	Air Quality	3	S	CE 373, CE 382; CoReq. ST 370
D	CE 476	Air Pollution Control	3	F	CE 373, CE 390, MAE 301; CoReq. ST 370
D	CE 477	Principles of Solid Waste Engineering	3	S	CE 373, CE 390, CE 382; CoReq. CE 342
D	CE 484	Water Supply and Waste Water Systems	3	F	CE 373, CE 382
<b>Geotechnical</b>					
I L	CE 342	Engineering Behavior of Soils & Foundations	4	F/S	C- or better in CE 313; CoReq. CE 382
	CE 435	Engineering Geology	3	Alt S	MEA 101 and Junior standing
D	CE 443	Seepage, Earth Embank., and Retain. Str.	3	Alt S	CE 390, C- or better in CE 342
C D	CE 440	Geotech. Engineering Project (Foundations)	3	F	CE 390, C- or better in CE 342
<b>Structural</b>					
L	CE 324	Structural Behavior Meas.	1	F/S	C- or better in CE 313
I D	CE 327	Reinforced Concrete Design	3	F/S	CE 332, C- or better in CE 313
	CE 325	Structural Analysis	3	F/S	CSC 112, C- or better in CE 313
	CE 425	Introduction to Matrix Structural Analysis	3	F/S	C- or better in CE 325
I D	CE 426	Structural Steel Design	3	F/S	C- or better in CE 313
C D	CE 420	Structural Engineering Project (Buildings)	3	S	CE 327, CE 390, CE 426, CoReq. CE 425
C D	CE 421	Structural Engineering Project (Bridges)	3	F	CE 327, CE 390, CE 426, CoReq. CE 425
<b>Transportation</b>					
I D	CE 305	Traffic Engineering	3	F/S	CE or CEM Majors, ST 370
	CE 401	Transportation Systems Engineering	3	F	C- or better in CE 305
D	CE 402	Traffic Operations	3	F	C- or better in CE 305
D	CE 403	Highway Design	3	S	C- or better in CE 305
D	CE 413	Principles of Pavement Design	3	F	CE 332; CoReq. CE 342
C D	CE 400	Transportation Engineering Project	3	S	CE 390, C- or better in CE 305; and one of the following: CE 401, CE 402, CE 403 or CE 413
<b>Other Civil Engineering Courses</b>					
	CE 215	Engineering Mechanics-Dynamics	3	F/S	Minimum GPA $\geq$ 2.5, Grade of C- or better in CE 214 and MA 242
I L	CE 332	Materials of Construction	3	F/S	MSE 200, Jr. standing in CE or CEM
L	CE 301	Civil Engineering Measurements & Surveys	3	F/S	CEM, CE or ENE majors (Priority to CEM)

\*Credit for Both CE 261 and CE 339 is not allowed.

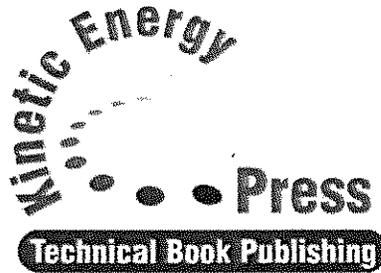
- Notes: 1. Due to departmental constraints, not every course may be taught in every semester suggested in the table above. Students should check with the online course schedule for courses to be taught in the upcoming semester.
2. Undergraduates with a major GPA  $>$ 2.5 and appropriate prerequisites may elect 500-level courses to satisfy their CE electives.



# Accident Reconstruction At Traffic Signal Intersections

A Manual for Law Enforcement Personnel,  
Accident Reconstruction Professionals,  
Traffic Engineers, and Forensic Engineers

Daren E. Marceau, P.E., M.S.  
Forensic Traffic Specialists PLLC



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ask if more than one max green is associated with the controller, and if so, which one was timing at the time of the accident.

#### 4.3 Yellow Interval Timing

Traffic engineers refer to yellow intervals as the *yellow change interval*. Specific guidelines usually exist in each jurisdiction for calculating yellow times since yellow is usually expected to mean a driver needs to slow down and prepare to stop before the red signal.

Yellow change interval calculations take into consideration a normal deceleration rate of about 11 feet per second and a driver perception/reaction time of about 1.5 seconds. The yellow calculations also account for the *approach grade*. Since gravity causes downhill acceleration, more yellow time is allowed for a vehicle on a downhill, or negative grade, approach.

Some traffic signal agencies calculate standard yellow times for any given approach speed and/or grade and publish them in a table. For example, a flat 45 mph phase might use 4.0 seconds of yellow, and a flat 55 mph phase might use 5.1 seconds of yellow time. This method leads to consistency between intersections, and provides a consistent message to drivers passing through many intersections.

Other agencies prefer to calculate every yellow clearance time for every phase on every approach for every signal. This method provides custom yellow times for every intersection. It also provides the driver with consistent feelings of perceived deceleration at every intersection, but it does not provide consistent yellow times between intersections for drivers.

Understanding yellow change interval times is critical for the crash investigator. Many times, locating the vehicles in and around the intersection before the crash can be tied to yellow intervals. Yellow intervals are easily read on the signal controller screen. This is yet another instance where the local traffic engineer can help, in this case by downloading the yellow times to be used in accident

analysis.

#### 4.4 Red Interval Timing

The yellow change interval is intended to provide drivers with time to slow and to come to a stop at the intersection. In all jurisdictions of which we are aware, it is legal to enter an intersection on yellow but not on red. Thus a driver is allowed to enter the intersection at the last moment of a yellow interval before the red signal is displayed. Traffic engineers usually try to accommodate this legal driver as they proceed across the intersection by not providing a green signal to conflicting traffic until the clearing driver has sufficient time to move completely through the intersection.

In most jurisdictions the *red clearance interval* is calculated as some function of the distance from the stop line to the far side of the intersection, or the *clearance distance* a driver would navigate in going through the intersection. Typically this clearance distance is divided by the speed for the approach, and a clearance time is the resultant value. It is common to see red clearance intervals from 1 second to 3 seconds for typically sized intersections.

For example, consider an intersection where the northbound Phase 2 yellow is 4 seconds and the red interval is 2 seconds. As the Phase 2 green expires and the clearance intervals begin to time, conflicting phases have been sitting on red for some time. When Phase 2 receives a red signal, Phase 4 — a side street — has been in red and will remain in red until the Phase 2 red expires after 2 seconds. Then and only then will Phase 4 receive its green indication. As a result, the entire intersection is in red for a period — in this instance, it is timed for 2 seconds. This is called an all-red interval. Many agencies use this method. The all-red method forces all phases to sit on red for a short time while that one last driver who entered the intersection late, but legally, safely crosses through the intersection.

Returning to the previous example, by the time the Phase 4 driver starts forward — based on the all-red time and the start-up time to move forward — the Phase 2

driver is well past the far side of the intersection. It is because of this "extra clearance" from the start-up delay that some jurisdictions don't use an all-red clearance time. In some locations, as soon as the Phase 2 driver receives a red signal, the Phase 4 driver receives a green indication. With the start-up delay, some locations trust the Phase 2 vehicle should be well through the intersection.

Some agencies say the practice of no all-red time promotes less wasted time at intersections. Other agencies favor an all-red for what they claim as increased safety. This option for signals to use or not use the all-red simply means that an accident investigator must consider the all-red possibility in assessing factors in the crash. Like the yellow interval times, it is easy to obtain the red times from the controller.

Most signal agencies maintain a *logbook* in their signal cabinets or some other form of recordkeeping back at their office. Every time a technician or engineer goes into the signal cabinet to maintain, repair, or change anything a written record is made of the visit, the date, and the purpose. It is always a good idea to review the logbook to look for any changes that might have had an impact on the operations of the controller or that may have occurred after a certain accident.

Also, a monitor in the signal cabinet can send the intersection into flashing mode if abnormal operation takes place. Agencies are expected to keep records of any need to reset flashing or repair out-of-service signals. If the agency has no record of the signal at the accident needing maintenance or repair on the date of the crash, it is customary to trust that the signal was operating as designed and constructed. It is accepted to assume that the yellow and red clearance intervals programmed into the controller were being used as programmed. This line of reasoning has been used in trials. We are not aware of any jurisdictions regularly disallowing analysis and testimony based on signal controller clearance timing values.

#### *4.5 Pedestrian Interval Timing*

Just as green, yellow, and red intervals are calculated for vehicular phases, pedestrian phase *WALK* and flashing *DON'T WALK* intervals are also calculated.

talking with the local traffic engineer to understand how delays are used in local situations.

Key points about delays should be remembered during accident investigation and reconstruction:

- Delays are associated with the loop, not with the phase. For example, Phase 4, the minor street phase, might have three loops with one loop in each lane. A 15-second delay might be used on the right-turn loop, a 3-second delay might be programmed on the left-turn loop, and no delay might be programmed on the through lane loop. Phase 4 will be called from all of these loops, but after different waiting times.
- Loop detectors can fail, so during an accident investigation be sure to ask a signal technician or engineer to assist during the review of design plans and controller/detector settings, and actually observe traffic on the loop. Failed loop detectors often place a permanent call to the controller for service thus a green interval will be timed on every cycle.

## 5.2 Dilemma Zones

Traffic engineers understand that drivers presented with yellow signal indications at a certain distance from the stop line sometimes have trouble deciding if they should stop or move through the intersection. Traffic engineers call this distance from the stop line the *dilemma zone*. The dilemma zone is defined as the range of distance from a stop line where a driver is uncertain as to whether to slow and stop or to continue through the intersection.

There are near (downstream) and far (upstream) limits of dilemma zones for each approach speed. When determining detection loop locations, traffic engineers incorporate the desire that drivers should not receive a yellow signal when they are inside the dilemma zone. Figure 5.3 shows the distances from the stop line associated with dilemma zones for various speeds.

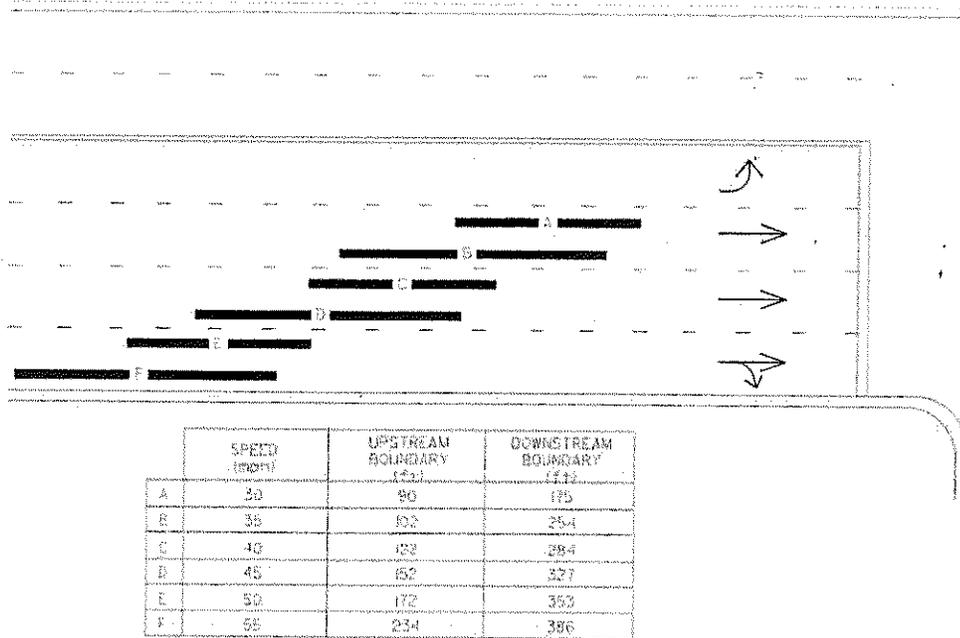


Figure 5.3 – Dilemma Zone Distances  
Adapted from class notes for NCDOT's Traffic Signal Design class, circa 1999.

To limit the number of drivers being caught in the dilemma zone, it is common practice to locate an additional loop beyond the far end of the dilemma zone. When the signal controller senses a vehicle is entering the dilemma zone by this additional loop being activated, it will extend the green to allow the vehicle to get closer to the stop line before showing a yellow signal.

### 5.3 Detector Extension

A loop can be programmed to continue telling the signal controller that a vehicle remains on the loop even after it has left the loop. Called *detector or loop extension*, the loop continues to show a vehicle as being detected for a predetermined time after the rear bumper of the vehicle leaves the loop.

Figure 5.4 shows a car entering the near edge of the detection area provided by a 6-foot by 6-foot square loop placed 300 feet in advance of the stop line. If the car is 20-feet long and it is traveling 45 mph then it will take 0.4 seconds for the

its detection capabilities. As traffic is rerouted onto new lanes, the signal technician can easily draw new detection zones on the video monitor in the signal cabinet to detect traffic in the new lanes. This can be done without disruption to traffic, and with much greater worker safety than sending a crew into traffic to install loops.

### 8.3 Red Light Running Cameras

It is undeniable that red light running contributes to intersection crashes. Many traffic agencies now use automated video systems to catch drivers as they violate red lights. Most *red light camera* systems use traditional loop detection to identify an offender running a red light, and then use a camera with a telephoto lens to photograph the offending vehicle's license plate.



Figure 8.2 – Red Light Camera Detection Loops

A typical red light camera system includes a series of small in-pavement loops installed near the stop line. The signal from these loops is monitored by a processor either in the traffic signal cabinet or in another cabinet, which is connected to the traditional signal cabinet with conduit and wiring. An example of a series of red light loops is shown in Figure 8.2, and a red light camera is shown in Figure 8.3.

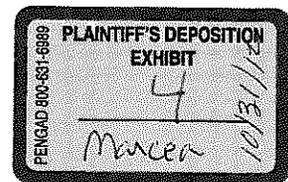
Red light cameras are often in a tamper-resistant housing, and, as shown in Figure 8.3, may include an auxiliary strobe light to illuminate the offending vehicle at night.

The red light running processor senses a vehicle in motion over the loops. When this motion is concurrent with a red signal interval on the monitored phase, the red light system declares a violation situation. Systems differ slightly, but many will capture one photo of the offending vehicle across the stop line with the red signal displayed and one photo with a close-up of the license tag on the vehicle. Both photos are mailed to the registered owner of the offending vehicle and a civil penalty or fine is demanded. Some systems even capture and print on the photos the length of time that the signal had been in the red interval when the vehicle triggered the red light system, as well as the speed of the vehicle. As the offending vehicle passes over the series of detection loops, each loop acquires and then subsequently drops the presence call from the vehicle. The system is programmed to calculate, based on the rate of acquisition and drop, the vehicle's speed.



Figure 8.3 – Red Light Camera

Investigators should be aware that red light cameras might be owned by a local or state agency, but they might be operated under contract by a private firm. Many traffic agencies contract services to outside vendors for red light system management and maintenance. A conversation with the local traffic engineer should identify the correct party from whom red light photos and data may be obtained.



**Subject:** Signal Plan Review Comments - Harrison Avenue at SAS Entrance

**Date:** Fri, 3 Feb 2006 09:23:00 -0500

**From:** Dick.Moore@TownofCary.org

**To:** "Pamela L. Alexander" <palexander@dot.state.nc.us>

**CC:** al.rager@sas.com, Bryan.Hayes@townofcary.org Dale.Privette@TownofCary.org, Don Darity <ddarity@rameykemp.com>, "Greg A. Fuller" <gfuller@dot.state.nc.us>, Mike.Billings@TownofCary.org, "Richard E. Mullinax" <rmullinax@dot.state.nc.us>, Steve Johnson <stevejohnson@dot.state.nc.us>, Tom.Reilly@townofcary.org, Wesley.Vo@townofcary.org

Good morning Pamela,

The traffic signal plan proposes to reduce yellow times from 4.5 seconds(existing) to 3.0 to 3.3 seconds for left turns and side street phases along Harrison Avenue. With a speed limit of 45 mph for Harrison Avenue, it would appear that this major decrease in yellow time could create a safety problem.

MUTCD

Section 4D.10 Yellow Change and Red Clearance Intervals

Guidance:

A yellow change interval should have a duration of approximately 3 to 6 seconds. The longer intervals should be reserved for use on approaches with higher speeds.

Traffic signal controller manufacturers also design controllers for a minimum of 3 seconds for all normal conditions as a safety factor.

The operating speeds on Harrison Avenue are higher speeds. While the left turning speed may be 20-25 mph at the stopbar, the approach speed approaching the traffic signal is much greater.

The Town of Cary would recommend a slow reduction in yellow time (no more than 0.5 seconds per six months), and conduct accident studies at the intersection to ensure that the accident rate does not increase.

The North Carolina section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) "2005 Task Force for Yellow and Red Intervals" report indicates "excessive red time ... to be greater than 3.0 seconds." Long red clearance intervals encourages red light running.

As a result, the Town of Cary recommends all reds be no longer than 3 seconds.

We hope this information is helpful in your review of traffic signals maintained by the Town of Cary.

C. Richard(Dick) Moore  
Town Traffic Engineer  
Engineering Department  
Town of Cary  
318 North Academy Street  
Cary, North Carolina 27512-8005  
919-462-3937  
919-460-4935 fax  
dick.moore@townofcary.org (Note: new e-mail address)

"Pamela L.  
Alexander"  
<palexander@dot.  
state.nc.us>

02/01/2006 03:11  
PM

To  
Don Darity <ddarity@rameykemp.com>  
CC  
Dale.Privette@TownofCary.org, Steve  
Johnson  
<stevejohnson@dot.state.nc.us>,  
al.rager@sas.com,  
Dick.Moore@TownofCary.org,  
Wesley.Vo@townofcary.org,  
Tom.Reilly@townofcary.org,  
Mike.Billings@TownofCary.org,  
Bryan.Hayes@townofcary.org, "Greg A.  
Fuller" <gfuller@dot.state.nc.us>,  
"Richard E. Mullinax"  
<rmullinax@dot.state.nc.us>  
Subject  
Re: Signal Plan Review Comments

With regard to clearance calculations, unless there are mitigating circumstances at a specific intersection that would warrant changing from our standard practice, the standard practice should be followed. A personal preference is not sufficient justification to discard the recommendations of the NCSITE Task Force. Without mitigating circumstances at this location, Ramey Kemp & Associates should follow the standard practice for calculating clearance times. If you wish to discuss further, please let me know.

Don Darity wrote:

> Dale,  
>  
> Thank you for the response. By copy of this e-mail, I will forward your  
> comments to NCDOT-S&G for their input on the clearance issues. As you  
> are probably aware that this intersection is on the State system and  
> NCDOT dictates the way clearance times are calculated. I am also  
> requesting Steve Johnson respond to whether or not we can reuse the  
> existing cabinet pad. If cable routing and splice detail designs are  
> required, RKA will need approval from our client before proceeding with  
> the design work. All other comments will be addressed and corrected.  
>  
> Don Darity, P.E.  
>  
> Ramey Kemp & Associates, Inc.  
> 4928-A Windy Hill Drive  
> Raleigh, NC 27609  
> (919) 872-5115 - Phone  
> (919) 872-0480 x 103 - Direct Line  
> (919) 878-5416 - Fax  
>  
> -----Original Message-----  
> From: Dale.Privette@TownofCary.org [<mailto:Dale.Privette@TownofCary.org>]

>  
> Sent: Friday, January 13, 2006 10:01 AM  
> To: Don Darity  
> Cc: Dick.Moore@TownofCary.org; Wesley.Vo@townofcary.org;  
> Tom.Reilly@townofcary.org; Mike.Billings@TownofCary.org;  
> Bryan.Hayes@townofcary.org  
> Subject: Signal Plan Review Comments  
>  
> Good Morning Don,  
>  
> The Town of Cary has completed its review of the preliminary signal plan  
> you submitted for the intersection of Harrison Avenue and SAS Campus  
> Drive  
> (05-1327) on December 22, 2005. We have the following review comments  
> for  
> you to consider:  
>  
> 1. With regard to clearance calculations and timings shown in the  
> timing  
> chart, Dick Moore, Cary's Traffic Systems Manager, prefers that ALL  
> yellow  
> times in the Town of Cary be greater than or equal to 3.5 seconds. Mr.  
> Moore also prefers an absolute maximum all red time of 3.0 seconds at  
> ALL  
> signals in Cary. Please review your total clearance time calculations  
> and  
> make adjustments accordingly, keeping in mind Mr. Moore's preferences.  
> 2. Also, in the Timing Chart, you had indicated with an asterisk that  
> the  
> yellow clearance times may be field adjusted. We believe this is a  
> mistake.  
> 3. For proposed loop 1A, please bring the lead-in out of the forward  
> end  
> of this loop, then eastward across the northbound lanes and then  
> trenched  
> over to the signal cabinet.  
> 4. The Town of Cary currently has a fiber optic drop cable that is  
> spliced  
> into an interconnect center in the existing signal cabinet. Are you  
> proposing to reuse the existing cabinet foundation and install the new  
> cabinet on it? If so, we assume you will reuse the existing fiber modem  
> and cables, but there will need to be details in the specifications  
> directing the contractor to re-splice the Town's fiber drop into a new  
> interconnect center provided by the contractor.  
> If, however, you are proposing the installation of a new cabinet  
> foundation, then the Town will require you to develop cable routing  
> plans  
> and splice diagrams to be included in your plan set, in addition to the  
> specifications language and appropriate pay items.  
>  
> Please consider these comments and make changes to your plans as needed.  
> Let me know if you have any questions.  
>  
> Dale W. Privette  
> Senior Engineer  
> Town of Cary  
> Post Office Box 8005  
> Cary, NC 27512-8005  
> Tel. (919) 462-3833  
> FAX (919) 460-4935

--

Pamela L. Alexander, PE  
S & G Special Projects Engineer  
919-715-8333

**Subject: Re: Walnut Street Lane Addition Project - Plan Review Comments**

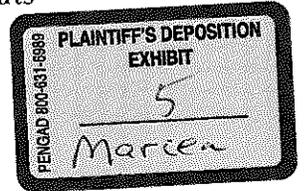
**Date:** Fri, 30 Jun 2006 07:54:18 -0400

**From:** "Greg A. Fuller" <gfuller@dot.state.nc.us>

**Organization:** North Carolina Department of Transportation

**To:** Dick.Moore@TownofCary.org

**CC:** Steve Johnson <stevejohnson@dot.state.nc.us>



Dick,

Please don't assume our comments concerning the clearance intervals mean we are opposed to red light cameras. As a matter of fact, a working group of the Department's Executive Committee for Highway Safety has been seriously discussing the red light cameras as a strategy to improve intersection safety statewide. As you know, the NCSITE Task Force discussed the red light cameras and agreed the presence or absence of red light cameras would not determine how the clearance intervals would be calculated. We feel a 0.5 second reduction every 6 months of the yellow change interval is excessive. I suggest we discuss this issue with Don Darity and Steve Johnson to see if we can determine a more appropriate timeframe to reduce the yellow change interval. If the Town of Cary believes drivers should be given additional leeway, the red light camera system can increase the time into the red clearance before a violation is recorded. Once again, we will use the standard practice recommended by the NCSITE Task Force unless there are extraordinary circumstances or additional engineering data at the specific location. Our personal opinions do not meet this criteria. We can meet to discuss further if needed. Thanks

Dick.Moore@TownofCary.org wrote:

> Good morning Greg,

>

> The Town of Cary is disappointed that NCDOT by these comments will increase  
> the number of Red light violations by Cary residents at the intersection of  
> Walnut and Meeting Street. Because most red light camera installations have  
> been removed across the country because of shorter yellows being installed,  
> we can only assume that NCDOT is opposed to Red light cameras.

>

> The Town of Cary continues to maintain:

>

> Red light cameras are an useful tool to make intersections safer and reduce  
> red light violations.

>

> No reduction of yellows at Red light camera locations.

>

> The North Carolina section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers  
> (ITE) "2005 Task Force for Yellow and Red Intervals" report indicates  
> "excessive red time ... to be greater than 3.0 seconds. Long red clearance  
> intervals encourages red light running and may increase accidents.

>

> Reduction of yellow time from 5.0 seconds to 3.0 seconds in ten(10) weeks  
> is too short and excessive and will create an increased safety hazard. We  
> recommend no more than 0.5 second reduction every six months.

>

> These issues were raised early in February in our meeting and in e-mails  
> and remain unresolved.

>

> C. Richard(Dick) Moore

> Town Traffic Engineer

> Engineering Department

> Town of Cary

> 318 North Academy Street

> Cary, North Carolina 27512-8005

> 919-462-3937  
> 919-460-4935 Fax  
> dick.moore@townofcary.org (Note: new e-mail address)  
> ----- Forwarded by Dick Moore/Cary on 06/29/2006 08:01 AM -----

> "Pamela L.  
> Alexander"  
> <palexander@dot.  
> state.nc.us> To  
> Don Darity <ddarity@rameykemp.com>,  
> Dale.Privette@TownofCary.org  
> 06/28/2006 01:56 cc  
> PM Hemang Surti <hsurti@rameykemp.com>,  
> Grant Livengood  
> <glivengood@mckimcreed.com>, Gordon  
> Rose <GRose@mckimcreed.com>,  
> Mike.Billings@TownofCary.org,  
> Dick.Moore@TownofCary.org,  
> Wesley.Vo@townofcary.org,  
> Bryan.Hayes@townofcary.org,  
> Jane.Stricklin@TownofCary.org,  
> "Richard E. Mullinax"  
> <rmullinax@dot.state.nc.us>, Steve  
> Johnson  
> <stevejohnson@dot.state.nc.us>,  
> "Kelly L. Becker, PE"  
> <kbecker@dot.state.nc.us>, "Greg A.  
> Fuller" <gfuller@dot.state.nc.us>  
> Subject  
> Re: Walnut Street Lane Addition  
> Project - Plan Review Comments

> Dale and Don, S&G responses in green. If you need to discuss further,  
> please let me know. Pam

> Don Darity wrote:

> Dale, below are our responses to your comments noted in blue:

> Don Darity, P.E.

> Ramey Kemp & Associates, Inc.  
> 4928-A Windy Hill Drive  
> Raleigh, NC 27609  
> (919) 872-5115 - Phone  
> (919) 872-0480 x 103 - Direct Line  
> (919) 878-5416 - Fax  
> -----Original Message-----

> From: Dale.Privette@TownofCary.org [  
> <mailto:Dale.Privette@TownofCary.org>]  
> Sent: Friday, June 23, 2006 9:31 AM  
> To: Don Darity; palexander@dot.state.nc.us  
> Cc: Mike.Billings@TownofCary.org; Dick.Moore@TownofCary.org;  
> Wesley.Vo@townofcary.org; Bryan.Hayes@townofcary.org;  
> Jane.Stricklin@TownofCary.org  
> Subject: Walnut Street Lane Addition Project - Plan Review Comments

> Don,

>  
> The Town has completed its review of your submittal dated May 31,  
> 2006 for this Town of Cary project. This project includes the  
> signalized intersections of Walnut Street at Dillard Drive (05-1732),  
> Walnut Street at Meeting Street (05-1558), and Walnut Street at US1  
> NB Ramp (05-0270). I am providing review comments regarding the  
> traffic signal and cable routing/splice plans only. Jane Stricklin,  
> project manager for this project, will provide review comments for  
> the traffic control and pavement marking plans under separate  
> correspondence. Our review comments follow:

> Walnut at US1 Ramp (05-0270)

> 1. You have provided a plan that only shows the final geometry of  
> Walnut Street. We are concerned that the existing detection (loops  
> and lead-ins) in the northbound lanes of Walnut Street will be  
> damaged by the construction of the additional NB lane. How do you  
> plan to maintain detection throughout construction? This situation  
> occurs at all existing signalized intersections where loop detection  
> is present. The only 2 alternatives that I know of to resolve this  
> are 1- prepare Temporary signal designs showing recutting of loops  
> during construction or installing video detection during construction  
> with loops in final; or 2- negotiate with selected contractor to  
> maintain loops w/o Temp Signal designs. The Town of Cary would be  
> responsible with all negotiations of contract.

> 2. Clearance Times - Your plan recommends a full 2 second decrease  
> to the Yellow time for phase 4 (5 sec existing). You plan recommends  
> a 1.3 second decrease for phase 1 (4.5 sec existing). The Town has  
> voiced its concerns with short yellow times in the past. If these  
> proposed times are approved by NCDOT, please consider staging the  
> reduction of yellow times from existing to proposed over an adequate  
> period of time to allow driver adjustment. This sounds reasonable,  
> however RKA would not be responsible for this implementation and I am  
> uncertain as how to show this on the signal designs. You can add a  
> note to the plan, such as, "Existing Yellow Change Interval for phase  
> 2 may be decreased by 0.2 seconds per week until the required value  
> is reached." See Design Manual 5.2.2:4.

> 3. On the electrical diagram (sheet Sig.2), under note #9, please  
> add "Channel 7, Address 3." to the end of the existing note. RKA will  
> comply.

> Walnut at Meeting (05-1558)

> 1. You have provided a plan that only shows the final geometry of  
> Walnut Street. We are concerned that the existing detection (loops  
> and lead-ins) in the northbound lanes of Walnut Street will be damaged  
> by the construction of the additional NB lane. How do you plan to  
> maintain detection throughout construction? Same as above.

> 2. Please show all NEW pedestrian heads and all NEW signal heads to  
> be  
> provided for the entire intersection. RKA will comply.

> 3. The existing signal plan of record shows the red light camera  
> loops in the dual southbound left turn lanes, approximately where  
> your loop 5C and 5D labels are shown. Please show the existing red  
> light camera loops on your plan. Also, please show the existing red  
> light camera and flash units on this plan (located in the NW  
> quadrant). Place a note on the plans that the red light camera and

> flash units to be relocated by others. It is my understanding that  
> NCDOT does not allow showing any Red Light Camera items on NCDOT  
> plans. Pam Alexander may need to elaborate on this issue. A note  
> can be added concerning relocation of cameras, etc. Red Light Camera  
> loops and equipment may be treated like other underground utilities  
> or geometric features and shown on the plans as long as they are  
> labeled "by others" or something similar. It needs to be clear that  
> they are not part of the signal operation.

>  
> 4. As you are aware, the signal cabinet for the intersection of  
> Meeting Street at Caitboo Ave. is located in the NE quadrant  
> currently. It is not shown on this plan. Are you assuming that this  
> cabinet will be relocated prior to this project being let for  
> construction? This cabinet needs to be accounted for. Yes, it is  
> assumed this cabinet will be relocated to Caitboo Ave prior to  
> widening improvements on Walnut St.

>  
> 5. Clearance Times - Currently, phase 5 is monitored by a red light  
> running camera. Your plan recommends reducing the yellow clearance  
> time from 4.0 seconds to 3.2 seconds. We are opposed to reducing  
> this yellow  
> time as many jurisdictions have lost automated enforcement systems  
> after motorists argued that the municipality lowered the yellow times  
> without warrant. We do not want this controversy in Cary. Please  
> compare existing yellow times to your proposed yellow times for  
> phases 1,3,4, and 5 and consider our comments in #2 above. Pam will  
> need to address this issue. The supplement to the MUTCD states in  
> Section 4D.10 that "The use of redlight camera photo enforcement  
> systems shall not be a consideration in determining the duration of  
> yellow and red clearance intervals." Therefore, the selection of  
> these times needs to be looked at separately from the red light  
> camera issue. This practice was reaffirmed by the NCSITE Clearance  
> Task Force. These times can also be lowered incrementaly and/or the  
> Town may want to consider a grace period after the new times are  
> installed.

>  
> 6. The requested "Permanent Signal Easement" is labeled in the NW  
> quadrant but not the NE quadrant. Please label both requested  
> easements. RKA will comply.

>  
> 7. The street name is "Meeting Street" on both side streets.  
> Please revise your label and title block accordingly. RKA will  
> comply.

>  
> 8. On the electrical diagram (sheet Sig.5), under note #9, please  
> add "Channel 7, Address 2." to the end of the existing note. RKA  
> will comply.

>  
> Walnut at Dillard (05-1732)

>  
> 1. You have provided a plan that only shows the final geometry of  
> Walnut Street. The existing detection is provided by Econolite Solo  
> Pro video detection systems. During construction, these cameras will  
> have to be adjusted as lanes are narrowed/closed. How do you plan to  
> show this in this plan set? Same as above.

>  
> 2. Please show all new signal and pedestrian heads to be provided  
> for this entire intersection. RKA will comply.

>  
> 3. Former Division Traffic Engineer John Grant had agreed to change  
> the outside westbound Dillard Drive lane to a shared through and  
> right whenever a detector could be placed in that existing exclusive

> right turn lane. Please change that lane on this plan to a shared  
> through/right turn lane. You will need to remove the right turn  
> overlap and change the signal head facing that lane, along with your  
> table of operation, phasing diagram, and electrical drawings. RKA  
> will comply.

>  
> 4. The existing northbound Walnut Street through lanes are monitored  
> by a red light camera system. The red light camera loops are  
> existing near the stop bar in the existing two northbound through  
> lanes. Please show these loops on this plan, and show the red light  
> camera and flash units that are existing on the SE corner of the  
> intersection. Place a note on the plans that the red light camera  
> and flash units to be relocated by others. Again, this is not a  
> NCDOT standard, however a note can be added as above. Same as above.

>  
> 5. The traffic signal poles, cabinet, and loop lead-ins in the NE  
> and SE quadrants are shown outside of the existing right of way. If  
> you will need easements to enable the installation of the loop  
> lead-ins, then show the needed easements on this plan. RKA will  
> comply, however, McKim & Creed will need to acquire these easements  
> and coordinate w/ TOC.

>  
> 6. In the Timing Chart, we believe that the Max 1 times for phases 6  
> and 7 are reversed. Please check. RKA will comply.

>  
> 7. On the electrical diagram (sheet Sig.8), under note #9, please  
> add "Channel 6, Address 5." to the end of the existing note. RKA  
> will comply.

>  
> I also have extensive comments on the cable routing and splice  
> diagrams  
> that are a part of this plan set. Rather than list all of the  
> comments

>  
> here, I would prefer that you come by and pick up a set of red lined  
> plans at your earliest convenience. Please leave plans with the  
> receptionist and we will have someone pick them up.  
> As mentioned above, you may be receiving additional review comments  
> on the traffic control and marking plans.

>  
> Let me know if you have any questions.

>  
> Dale W. Privette  
> Senior Engineer

>  
> Town of Cary  
> Post Office Box 8005  
> Cary, NC 27512-8005  
> Tel. (919) 462-3833  
> FAX (919) 460-4935

> --  
> Pamela L. Alexander, PE  
> S & G Special Projects Engineer  
> 919-715-8333

--  
Greg Fuller, PE  
State ITS & Signals Engineer  
phone - 919-733-8021

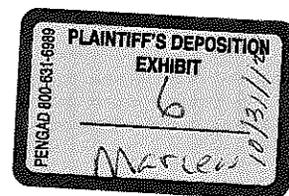
**Subject: Re: Walnut Street Lane Addition Project - Plan Review Comments**

**Date:** Fri, 30 Jun 2006 13:57:23 -0400

**From:** Kevin Lacy <jklacy@dot.state.nc.us>

**Organization:** North Carolina Department of Transportation

**To:** "Greg A. Fuller" <gfuller@dot.state.nc.us>



Greg,

I like the option where the Town provides a grace period after the clearance intervals are changed. This approach is easily documented by the Town and it does not require any alterations to the equipment. The Town could turn off the cameras at these intersections for as long or as short of a time period they choose. This will also be a highly defensible position from the public's perspective.

I believe a three month period is plenty of time, most drivers through this corridor are everyday drivers and will adapt to the changes. Those who infrequently travel the corridor will not have a reliable basis to determine if there was a real change.

I am also supportive of setting the clearance intervals to the appropriate levels based upon the most recent standards. I am not sure what justification would be convincing enough to exempt these intersections.

Kevin

"Greg A. Fuller" wrote:

> Dick,  
> Please don't assume our comments concerning the clearance intervals mean we are  
> opposed to red light cameras. As a matter of fact, a working group of the  
> Department's Executive Committee for Highway Safety has been seriously  
> discussing the red light cameras as a strategy to improve intersection safety  
> statewide. As you know, the NCSITE Task Force discussed the red light cameras  
> and agreed the presence or absence of red light cameras would not determine how  
> the clearance intervals would be calculated. We feel a 0.5 second reduction  
> every 6 months of the yellow change interval is excessive. I suggest we discuss  
> this issue with Don Darity and Steve Johnson to see if we can determine a more  
> appropriate timeframe to reduce the yellow change interval. If the Town of Cary  
> believes drivers should be given additional leeway, the red light camera system  
> can increase the time into the red clearance before a violation is recorded.  
> Once again, we will use the standard practice recommended by the NCSITE Task  
> Force unless there are extraordinary circumstances or additional engineering  
> data at the specific location. Our personal opinions do not meet this  
> criteria. We can meet to discuss further if needed. Thanks

> Dick.Moore@TownofCary.org wrote:

>> Good morning Greg,  
>> The Town of Cary is disappointed that NCDOT by these comments will increase  
>> the number of Red light violations by Cary residents at the intersection of  
>> Walnut and Meeting Street. Because most red light camera installations have  
>> been removed across the country because of shorter yellows being installed,  
>> we can only assume that NCDOT is opposed to Red light cameras.  
>> The Town of Cary continues to maintain:  
>> Red light cameras are a useful tool to make intersections safer and reduce  
>> red light violations.  
>> No reduction of yellows at Red light camera locations.  
>> The North Carolina section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers

**Subject:** [Fwd: Clearance times]

**Date:** Mon, 31 Oct 2005 16:13:12 -0500

**From:** David Naylor <DNaylor@dot.state.nc.us>

**Organization:** North Carolina Department of Transportation

**To:** "Greg A. Fuller" <gfuller@dot.state.nc.us>

FYI

--  
David Naylor, P.E.  
Deputy Division Traffic Engineer  
NCDOT  
716 W. Main Street  
Albemarle, NC 28001  
Office: (704) 982-0101  
Fax: (704) 982-3146

---

**Subject:** Clearance times

**Date:** Mon, 31 Oct 2005 15:06:38 -0500

**From:** "Abel, Charles" <cabel@ci.charlotte.nc.us>

**To:** <dnaylor@dot.state.nc.us>

**CC:** "Babson, Liz" <ebabson@ci.charlotte.nc.us>

David,

This email is to inform you of how we are calculating and implementing clearance times within the City of Charlotte in light of the Clearance Interval Task Force's recommendations from this summer.

#### CALCULATION

We are using the recommendations of the Clearance Interval Task Force for calculating yellow, red and total clearance times. There is one exception, the CBD, where we will use the formula to calculate average clearance values and use them exclusively at CBD locations.

The speed that we use for left turning vehicles is found this way:  
posted speed limit  $\leq$  to 35 mph, use lesser of 25 mph or posted speed limit  
posted speed limit  $\geq$  to 40 mph, use 30 mph

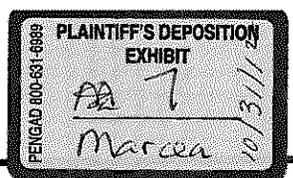
This is somewhat higher than NCDOT's recommendation of 20 mph and somewhat lower than the 10 mph below the posted speed limit that CDOT was using. The speed studies that CDOT conducted for left turns found, on average, a much higher 85th percentile left turning speed than 20 mph. We felt that while 20 mph may fit widely varying conditions across the state, this low speed is not appropriate for the drivers of Charlotte. The speed studies also showed that the way CDOT calculated the left turn speed for high speed approaches was not appropriate as well and led to the modification that lowered those speeds.

#### IMPLEMENTATION

We are implementing the new clearance times on a case by case basis as we retime the signals. It will take approximately 2-1/2 years before all NCDOT signals will be modified.

If you want to discuss this, please give me a call at 704-336-3945.

Charles



**Gilliam, Amanda**

**From:** Laura.Cove@townofcary.org  
**Sent:** Monday, December 22, 2008 9:03 AM  
**To:** Fuller, Gregory A  
**Subject:** Re: Rosalind Ellwood complain about Red Light Cameras

Thanks Greg. I've asked Wesley to confirm what's in the field, again. You'll be happy to know that now your name is in Rosalind's little black book that she carries everywhere.

Merry Christmas to you too.

Lori Cove

---

**From:** "Fuller, Gregory A" [gfuller@ncdot.gov]  
**Sent:** 12/22/2008 06:47 AM EST  
**To:** Laura Cove  
**Subject:** RE: Rosalind Ellwood complain about Red Light Cameras

This is the lady that called me. I pulled the signal plan at Harrison Avenue & Maynard Road. The Harrsion Avenue phases have yellow clearance times of 4.2 and 4.9 seconds. She kept saying it was only 3 seconds. The left turns are 3 seconds of yellow. She was looking for me to intervene but I explained that NCDOT has no authority over the red light cameras. Have a Merry Christmas.

Greg Fuller  
State ITS and Signals Engineer  
NCDOT - Traffic Engineering  
Phone: 919-661-5800

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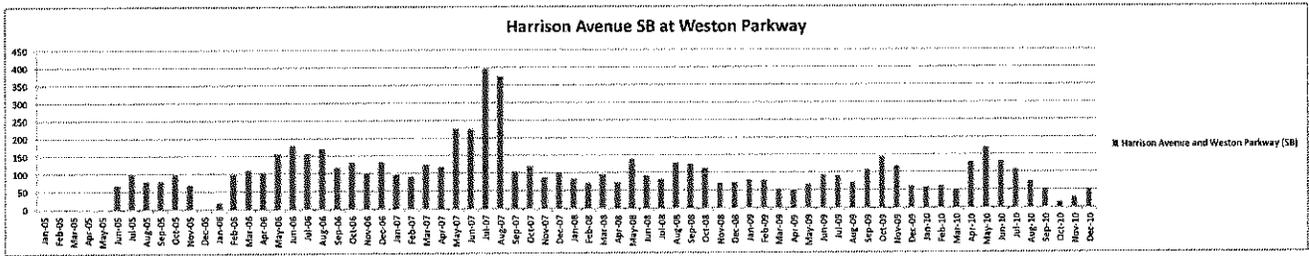
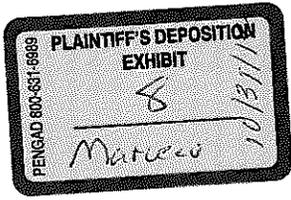
**From:** [Laura.Cove@townofcary.org](mailto:Laura.Cove@townofcary.org) [mailto:[Laura.Cove@townofcary.org](mailto:Laura.Cove@townofcary.org)]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 19, 2008 11:04 AM  
**To:** [HUDSONS3@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:HUDSONS3@HOTMAIL.COM); [BRAD.HUDSON@TOWNOFCARY.ORG](mailto:BRAD.HUDSON@TOWNOFCARY.ORG); [CHRIS.DAVIS@TOWNOFCARY.ORG](mailto:CHRIS.DAVIS@TOWNOFCARY.ORG)  
**Cc:** [DAVID.SPENCER@TOWNOFCARY.ORG](mailto:DAVID.SPENCER@TOWNOFCARY.ORG); Fuller, Gregory A; [WESLEY.VO@TOWNOFCARY.ORG](mailto:WESLEY.VO@TOWNOFCARY.ORG); [TOM.REILLY@TOWNOFCARY.ORG](mailto:TOM.REILLY@TOWNOFCARY.ORG); [BYRAN.HAYES@TOWNOFCARY.ORG](mailto:BYRAN.HAYES@TOWNOFCARY.ORG); Johnson, Steven J; Mckay, Andrew F  
**Subject:** Rosalind Ellwood complain about Red Light Cameras

Heads up. Rosalind Ellwood has called DOT, David and me today about her strong concerns about red light cameras. I am sure that you remember her. She came by in August of 2007 to see me, called Steve at the Division and also talked to Chris in Police as well as a consultant who did the signal plans. She had received several tickets from RedFlex at that time and had finally decided to appeal. She lost her appeal and I haven't heard from her since until today.

She may have received another ticket recently or just saw the Road Warrior article this week, but she is on a mission again. She asked for the current appeal and citation data. We put that in the mail to her today (as she said she doesn't have e-mail). She also said in her message to me that she was writing me a letter stating that her previous appeal was illegal because it was supposed to be a panel of three people and only two were there. I am going to direct her to write that letter to Police since Engineering doesn't coordinate the appeal process.

Just wanted to keep everyone in loop.

Lori Cove, P.E.  
Traffic Engineering Manager  
Town of Cary  
P.O. Box 8005  
Cary, NC 27512-8005  
(919)462-3937



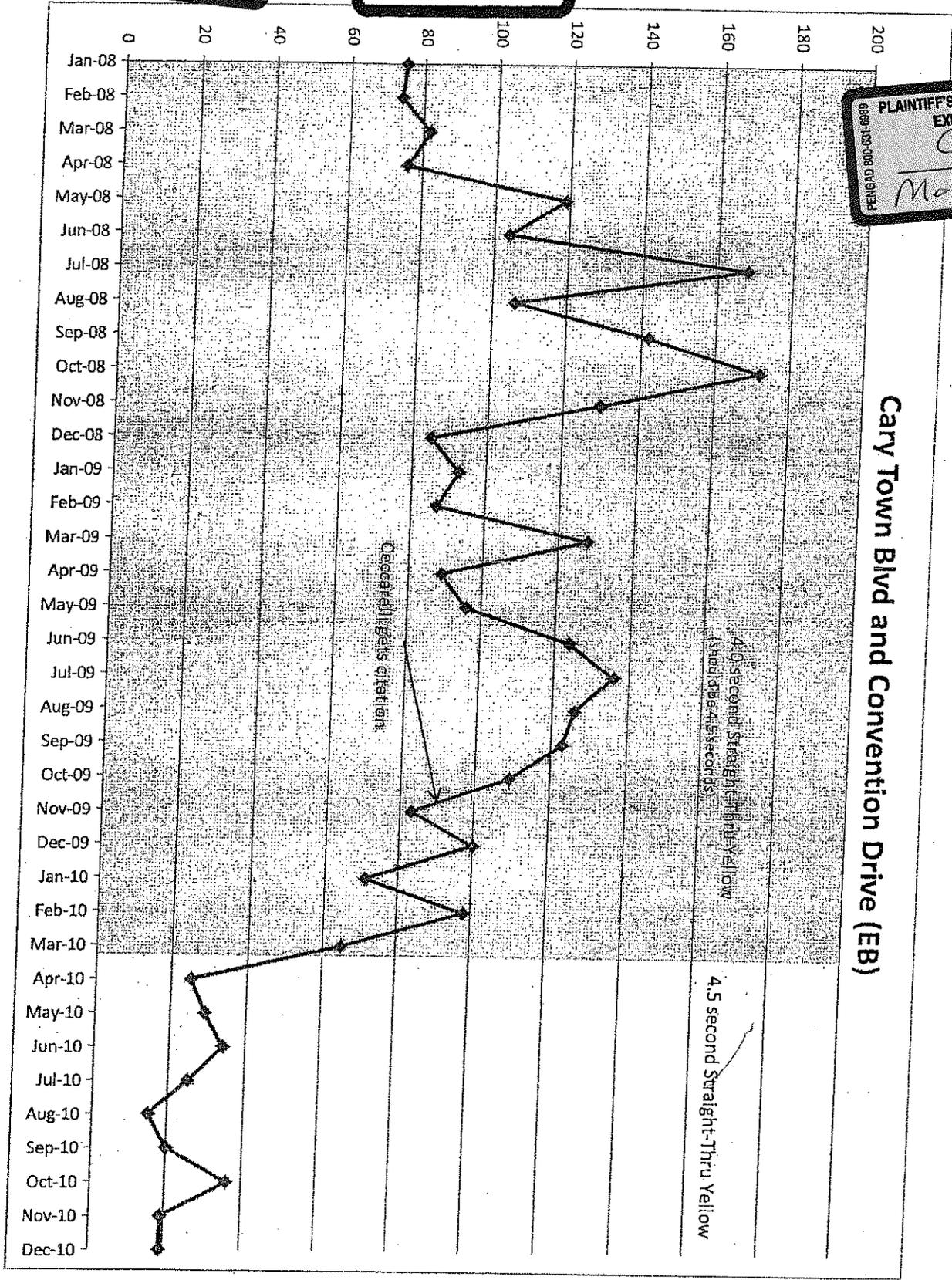
PLAINTIFF'S DEPOSITION EXHIBIT  
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EXHIBIT  
 C

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 J  
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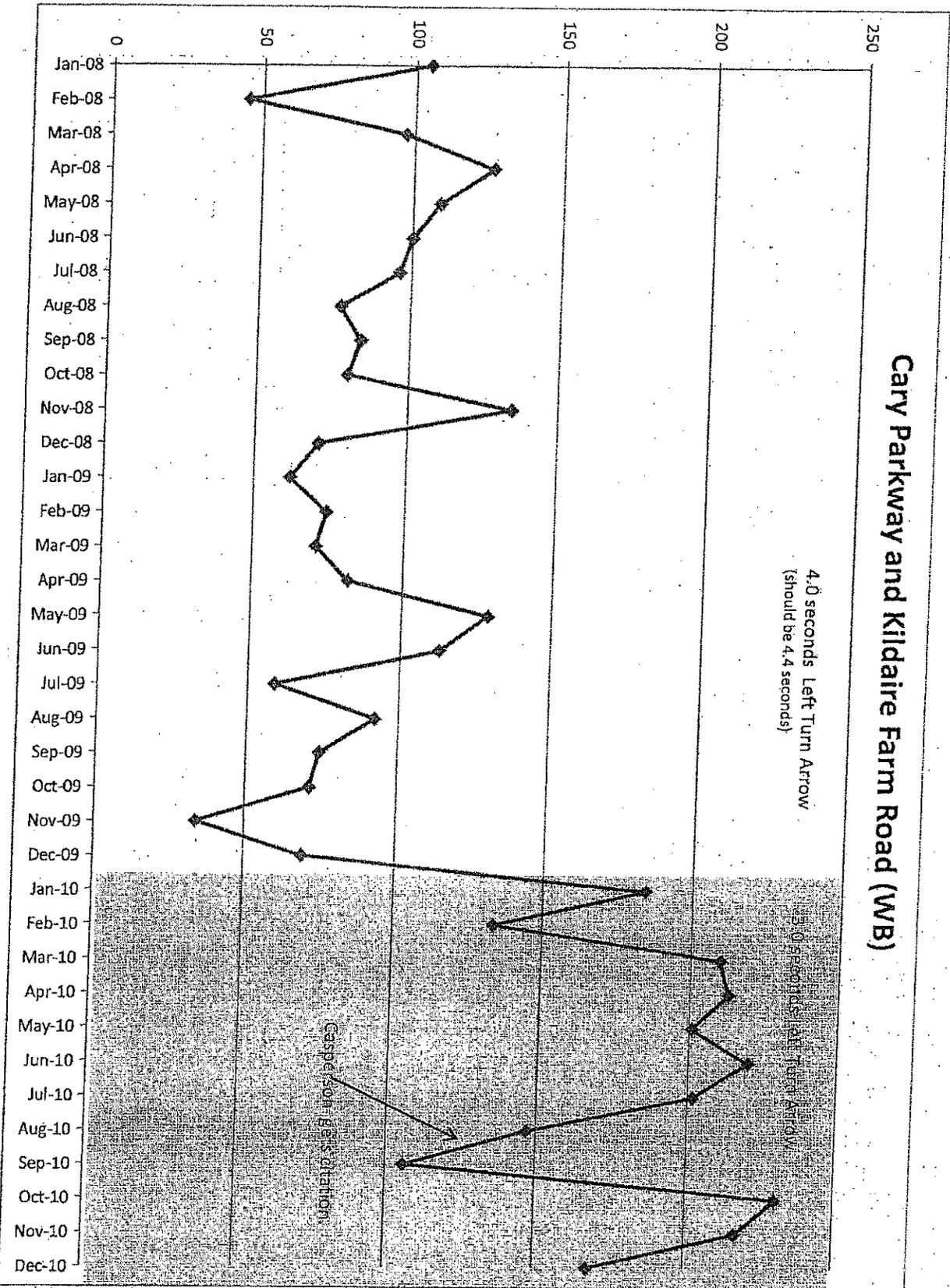
PLAINTIFF'S DEPOSITION EXHIBIT  
 3  
 George

PLAINTIFF'S DEPOSITION EXHIBIT  
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 Marcea  
 10/31/01

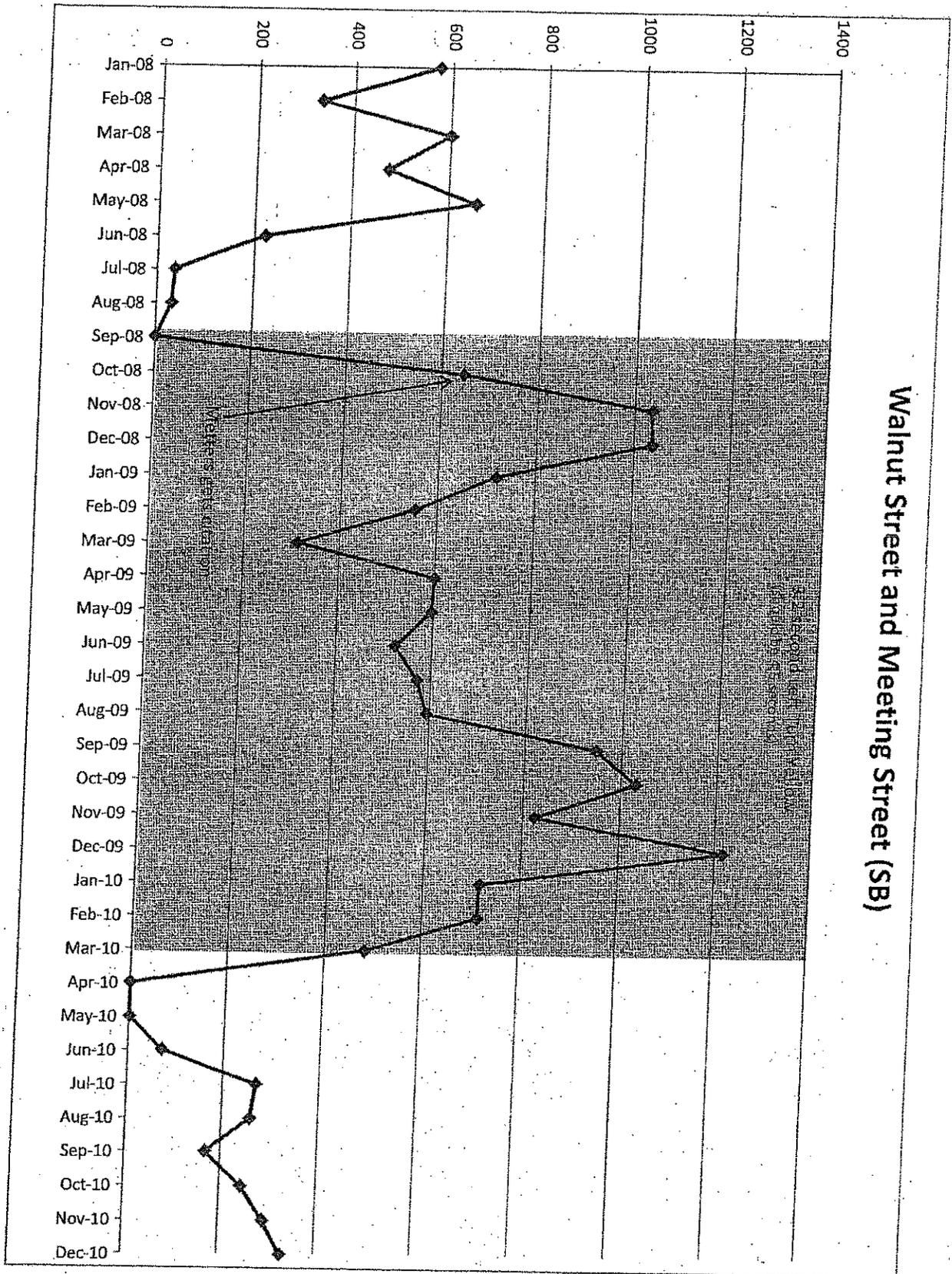


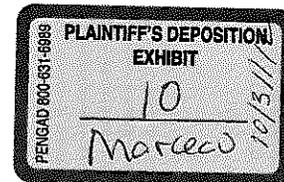


# Cary Parkway and Kildaire Farm Road (WB)



# Walnut Street and Meeting Street (SB)





Discussion Paper No. 8.A

# STOPPING SIGHT DISTANCE AND DECISION SIGHT DISTANCE

prepared for

Oregon Department of Transportation  
Salem, Oregon

by the

Transportation Research Institute  
Oregon State University  
Corvallis, Oregon 97331-4304

February 1997



Discussion Paper No. 8.A

STOPPING SIGHT DISTANCE AND DECISION SIGHT DISTANCE

PERCEPTION-REACTION TIMES (Continued)

Perception-  
Reaction  
Time  
Research

Recent studies have checked the validity of 2.5 seconds as the design perception reaction time. Four recent studies have shown maximums of 1.9 seconds as the perception-reaction time for an 85th percentile time and about 2.5 seconds as the 95th percentile time.

Brake Reaction Times Studies

	85th	95th
Gazis et al. (1)	1.48	1.75
Wortman et al. (2)	1.80	2.35
Chang et al. (3)	1.90	2.50
Sivak et al. (4)	1.78	2.40

Perception-  
Reaction  
Times by  
Road Type

Some researchers have suggested that the perception-reaction should reflect the complexity of traffic conditions, expectancy of drivers and the driver's state. They suggest that the perception reaction times may be altered accordingly (4).

**Table 1. Perception-Reaction Times Considering Complexity and Driver State**

	Driver's State	Complexity	Perception- Reaction Time
Low Volume Road	Alert	Low	1.5 s
Two-Lane Primary Rural Road	Fatigued	Moderate	3.0 s
Urban Arterial	Alert	High	2.5 s
Rural Freeway	Fatigued	Low	2.5 s
Urban Freeway	Fatigued	High	3.0 s

- (1) Gazis, D.R., et al, "The Problem of the Amber Signal in Traffic Flow," Operations Research 8, March-April 1960.
- (2) Wortman, R.H., and J.S. Matthaas, "Evaluation of Driver Behavior at Signalized Intersections," Transportation Research Record 904, T.R.B, Washington, D.C., 1983.
- (3) Chang, M.S., et al, "Timing Traffic Signal Change Intervals Based on Driver Behavior," T.R. Record 1027, T.R.B, Washington, D.C., 1985
- (4) Sivak, M., et al, "Radar Measured Reaction Times of Unalerted Drivers to Brake Signals," Perceptual Motor Skills 55, 1982.

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## Discussion Paper No. 8.A

### STOPPING SIGHT DISTANCE AND DECISION SIGHT DISTANCE

#### HUMAN FACTORS

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An appreciation and understanding of human factors, behavior and abilities are needed to determine the sight distance criteria. The physical abilities and psychological limitations impact these criteria, and should be reviewed here to obtain perspective.

---

**Visual Acuity** The primary stimulus for operation and safe control of vehicles is eye sight. The physical composition of the eye and its functioning constitute limits that must be considered when developing sight distance criteria.

#### Visual Acuity

---

3 -4 cone	best vision – can see texture, shape, size, color, etc.
10 cone	clear vision – critical traffic control devices must be in this cone
20 cone	satisfactory vision – regulatory and warning traffic control devices should be this cone of vision
~ 90 cone	peripheral vision – only movement can be seen with this vision

---

Drivers focus their attention down the roadway in the cone of clear vision at 3 to 4 times the stopping distance. They then shift their vision to the right and left to keep track of traffic conditions, pedestrians and local activities. The eye movement time includes the time required for a driver to shift their eyes and to focus on an object.

#### Eye Movement Time

---

Shift to New Position	0.15-0.33 sec
Fix or Focus on Object	0.1-0.3 sec

---

It takes roughly 0.5 second for a driver to shift his eyes and focus. Thus, a full cycle to right and back to the left takes about 1 second. If there is glare, it takes 3 seconds to recover full visual acuity and 6 seconds to recover from bright to dim conditions.

---

#### Human Mind is Single Channel

Humans are sequential processors; that is, drivers sample, select and process information one element at a time, though very quickly. Therefore, complex situations create unsafe or inefficient operations because it takes so long for drivers to sample, select and process the information. This means that as complexity increases a longer perception-reaction time should be available. The visual acuity limitations, visibility constraints of glare/dimness recovery and complexity of traffic conditions, when taken together, require much longer perception-reaction times or decision times.

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## Discussion Paper No. 8.A

### STOPPING SIGHT DISTANCE AND DECISION SIGHT DISTANCE

#### HUMAN FACTORS

---

**Driver  
Expectancy**

Drivers are led to expect a particular operation condition based on the information presented to them. They use both formal and informal information.

- Formal information – this includes the traffic-control devices and the geometric design features of the roadway, but does not include the roadside features such as ditch lines, guardrail, and other street furniture.
- Informal information – this includes roadside features and also land use features, such as brush lines, tree lines, fences and information signing.

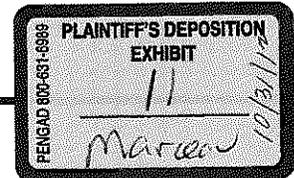
Drivers develop expectations on how to drive a roadway through experience, training and habit. At times these expectations are in error because they use inappropriate informal information, or the formal information provided is not proper or gives mixed messages. Often, the information at a location is conflicting, and drivers who are familiar with the location will read traffic conditions differently than unfamiliar drivers. Traffic conditions vary dramatically on major facilities; consequently, the information that drivers receive from other vehicles is constantly changing.

Increased perception reaction time is needed to allow time for drivers to make the proper decision when information conflicts and driver expectancy may be in error.

Further, high volume and high speed conditions require longer decision times and compound any problems arising from driver expectancy.

---

**Gilliam, Amanda**



**From:** Murr, Buddy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 26, 2012 9:09 AM  
**To:** Fuller, Gregory A  
**Subject:** RE: Cary Red Light Lawsuit

On page 68 of the NCHRP 03-95 study, look at the last sentence of this bullet:

- Speed limit by itself was found to be an inaccurate estimate of 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed. In lieu of field-measured speed data to determine 85<sup>th</sup> percentile approach speed, the findings of study suggest it is appropriate to estimate this value for through free-flowing vehicles by adding 7 mph to the approach speed limit. For left-turning vehicles, this study suggests that 85<sup>th</sup> percentile approach speed is appropriately estimated by subtracting 5 mph from the approach speed limit. When calculating the red clearance interval, the speed estimation is true for through free-flowing vehicles. However, for left-turning vehicles, this study suggests using 20 mph regardless of posted speed limit.

**Buddy**

G. G. Murr, Jr., PE  
NCDOT - State Signals Engineer  
office: 919-661-5953  
main: 919-773-2800  
fax: 919-771-2745  
<http://www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/traffic/ITSS/>

**From:** Rob Ziembra [<mailto:ncsurrboy@yahoo.com>]  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 24, 2012 9:06 PM  
**To:** Fuller, Gregory A; Murr, Buddy  
**Subject:** Cary Red Light Lawsuit

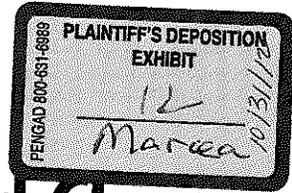
I assume you saw these over the weekend:

<http://www.newsobserver.com/2012/06/22/2154364/class-action-ruling-could-add.html>

<http://www.newsobserver.com/2012/06/24/2155290/lawsuit-doesnt-stop-red-light.html>

Electronically transmitted correspondence to and from this sender is subject to the N.C. Public Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties.

# Application of the ITE Change and Clearance Interval Formulas in North Carolina



**DURING 2005, THE NORTH CAROLINA SECTION OF ITE CONVENED A TASK FORCE TO INVESTIGATE AND RECOMMEND A PRACTICE FOR DETERMINING YELLOW CHANGE AND RED CLEARANCE INTERVALS. THIS FEATURE BRIEFLY SUMMARIZES KEY DELIBERATIONS AND DECISIONS OF THAT TASK FORCE. THE METHODOLOGY AS IMPLEMENTED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ALSO IS PRESENTED ALONG WITH SAMPLE YELLOW AND RED TIMES RESULTING FROM ITS APPLICATION.**

## INTRODUCTION

In December 2004, in response to a formal request by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), the Traffic Engineering Council of the North Carolina Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (NCSITE) announced a task force to investigate and recommend a practice for determining yellow change and red clearance intervals at signalized intersections in North Carolina. The purposes of this feature are to briefly summarize key deliberations of that task force and present the resulting methodology as implemented by NCDOT.

## BACKGROUND

One issue in determining appropriate yellow and red intervals is that, despite the existence of several well-recognized guidance documents, there is no national standard. The *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (MUTCD), which typically provides prescriptions for device operation, does not stipulate the manner in which yellow or red intervals should be determined. It does, however, require the use of a yellow interval; require that the duration of the yellow and red intervals be predetermined; and suggest durations of 3 to 6 seconds for yellow and, at most, 6 seconds for red.<sup>1</sup>

Calculation methods are available in the *Traffic Engineering Handbook* and other sources.<sup>2</sup> A recent survey by ITE suggests that, by far, the most common method in use today is based on what is termed the "ITE formula," shown below:<sup>3</sup>

$$Y + R = t + \frac{v}{2a + 2Gg} + \frac{w + l}{v} \quad (1)^4$$

where:

- Y = yellow change interval (seconds [sec.])
- R = red clearance interval (sec.)
- t = perception-reaction time (sec.)
- v = design velocity (feet/sec.)
- a = deceleration rate (feet/sec.<sup>2</sup>)
- G = acceleration due to gravity (32.2 feet/sec.<sup>2</sup>)

- g = grade in decimal form (1 percent = 0.01)
- w = clearance distance (feet)
- l = vehicle length (feet)

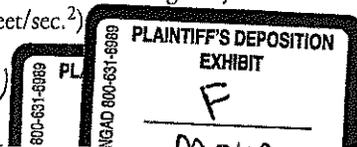
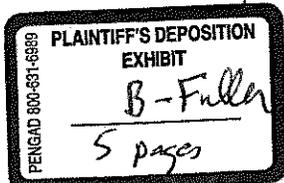
In discussion of the yellow and red intervals, the *Traffic Engineering Handbook* goes on to suggest a typical application of the first two terms to determine the yellow and the last term to determine the red.

The ITE formula has been published, with timely revisions, since the first edition of the *Traffic Engineering Handbook* in 1941. Beginning in 1965, the formula appeared in its present form, although without the effect of grade. In this same year, ITE suggested the use of a red interval under certain conditions. The inclusion of the effect of grade on the yellow and red intervals appeared in 1982. In all, the formula has been updated eight times since 1941.<sup>5</sup> Still, the *Traffic Engineering Handbook* has not accrued any legal status.

Although the NCDOT documentation covers only the more recent practices for calculation of yellow and red, it gives clear evidence of its desire to provide both safe and efficient operation. One source, from February 1990, summarizes a meeting NCDOT hosted to discuss change and clearance intervals, involve traffic engineers from across the state and examine current practice. At the time of the meeting, NCDOT and most other state agencies were using the ITE formula as the foundation of their practice.<sup>6</sup>

More recently, NCDOT has worked to improve signal design consistency through publication of the *Traffic Management and Signal Systems Unit Design Manual*.<sup>7</sup> The purpose of the manual is to highlight standards of practice in signal design and operation. Although all the design manual editions have required the use of the ITE formula, specific division of the resulting total clearance into yellow and red times has not been consistent over the last 15 years and has been, at varying levels, left to the discretion of the design engineer.

BY STEVEN M. CLICK, PH.D., P.E.



The result is inconsistent yellow and red timing throughout the state.

The resulting inconsistencies, differing preferences among designers and a general consensus among NCDOT design and field personnel that these intervals are becoming too long all were factors in the decision to request a recommendation from NCSITE.

### THE NCSITE TASK FORCE

In December 2004, a call went out for volunteers for the NCSITE Task Force. The NCSITE mailing list offered a representative pool of traffic engineering professionals from all over North Carolina, with a wide cross-section of relevant experience and knowledge. The resulting volunteer membership included:

- municipal engineers: 11
- consulting engineers: 10
- NCDOT engineers—central office: 7
- NCDOT engineers—field forces: 2
- non-profit organizations: 1
- research organizations: 1
- students: 1

The full NCSITE Task Force met a total of four times between January and June 2005 and divided into subcommittees to help meet the prescribed 6-month deadline. During the first task force meeting, a discussion and brainstorming session provided a list of issues to be addressed. Subcommittees held teleconferences and in-person meetings to discuss their topics and conducted data collection and reduction efforts in support of their tasks.

#### Issues Addressed by the Task Force

For purposes of organization, the issues tackled by the task force are presented in the sequence that they would be encountered using the methodology, beginning with text from the written recommendation and ending with summaries of key issues.

*The ITE formula for the calculation of the total change plus clearance interval should be the basis for NCDOT practice.* Both NCDOT's long history and the recent ITE surveys suggested the ITE formula was the logical starting point for use in the methodology.

*Calculation of the yellow change and all-red clearance intervals should not vary based*

## RECENTLY, NCDOT HAS WORKED TO IMPROVE SIGNAL DESIGN CONSISTENCY THROUGH PUBLICATION OF THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AND SIGNAL SYSTEMS UNIT DESIGN MANUAL.

*on the presence or absence of enforcement devices.* At this time, NCDOT does not operate or intend to operate automated enforcement devices (such as red-light cameras); however, individual municipalities can petition the state legislature for the authority to install such devices. The recommended practice should result in safe and efficient intervals, independent of enforcement.

The NCSITE Task Force also discussed the option of including a grace period at automated enforcement locations, but it decided to leave such choices to the operating agency. NCDOT does recommend a break-in period to allow drivers to become accustomed to any changes made as a result of the new practice.

*Separate practices should not exist for different regions of the state, unique vehicle streams (such as a high percentage of heavy vehicles), or left-turning vehicles versus through vehicles.* Because one of the primary motivations for the task force was consistency, there was little discussion of this issue. The recommended practice should result in safe and efficient intervals, independent of region, stream, or movement.

*Calculation of the yellow change interval should be performed using the first two terms of the ITE formula, with the result rounded up to the next 0.1 sec.*

$$Y = t + \frac{v}{2a + 2Gg} \quad (2)$$

The yellow and red intervals serve different functions; therefore, the calcula-

tion should be made as independently as possible. In past practices, time might be shifted from the red to yellow, but not in the new practice. Independent calculations are needed to help prevent excessive yellow time from contributing to disrespect of the yellow change interval.

*The 2001 constants from the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) for deceleration (11.2 feet/sec.<sup>2</sup>) and perception/reaction time (1.5 sec.) are sound.* The longer perception/reaction time responds both to the aging driver population and to the increasing number of distractions in the driving environment. At higher speeds, the higher deceleration rate does help offset the additional perception/reaction time.

The NCSITE Task Force also looked into the performance characteristics of trucks. Although no specific information could be found related to "comfortable" stops, AASHTO constants were within the expected performance capabilities of trucks.

*The effect of positive grade should be factored into the yellow calculation.* In past practice, NCDOT included the detrimental effects of negative grades but ignored the beneficial impacts of positive grades. None of the ITE publications suggests that positive grades should be ignored in calculations, and the Federal Highway Administration's *Signalized Intersections: Informational Guide* clearly indicates that positive grades can be used.<sup>8</sup>

*The minimum value for yellow should be 3.0 sec.* Not only does MUTCD recommend this minimum value, it also is required by the National Electrical Manufacturers Association Standards Publication.<sup>9</sup> Note that when the calculated yellow is less than 3.0 sec., the time difference is not shifted from red: In other words, the yellow increases without a change in the red.

*Current practice in the Signals and Geometrics Section for selection of vehicle speeds, "v", was reviewed and retained in this application.* For through movements, current practice uses the posted speed limit as the design speed unless a speed study has been specifically performed. When provided, the design speed will be taken as the 85th-percentile speed, up to a maximum of 10 mph above the posted limit. Because NCDOT does not signalize facilities with

Site	Left Turn Angle	Single or Dual	Collection Method*	Sample Size	Speed					
					Min	15%	Avg	StDev	85%	Max
1	125	Dual	All	39	14	15.0	18.9	3.4	21.9	30
2	110	Single	All	40	11	12.0	15.6	2.7	18.0	24
3	120	Single	All	71	12	16.0	18.4	2.9	21.0	26
4	110	Single	Sample	120	14	16.0	18.1	2.1	20.0	23
5	100	Single	Sample	120	9	11.0	13.6	2.2	16.0	20
6	100	Dual	End Car	80	14	17.0	19.0	1.8	21.0	23
7	70	Dual	End Car	160	10	13.0	14.6	1.6	16.0	20
8	115	Dual	End Car	80	13	16.0	18.7	2.3	21.0	26
9	130	Dual	End Car	156	14	17.0	19.3	2.3	22.0	25
10	85	Single	End Car	160	12	15.0	17.2	2.0	19.0	23
11	90	Dual	End Car	80	13	16.0	17.4	1.8	19.2	21
ALL	-	-	-	1108	9	14.0	17.1	2.9	20.0	30

\* Collection Methods:  
All = Speed recorded for all vehicles making the left turn  
Sample = Speed recorded for an initial vehicle, a mid-queue vehicle, and an end-of-green vehicle  
End Car = Speed recorded for the last vehicle using the phase each cycle

Figure 1. Left-turn speed data.

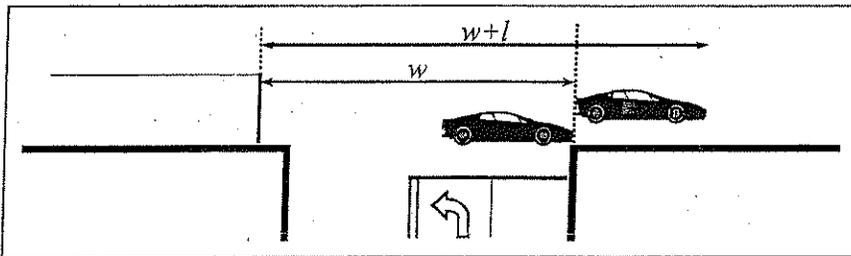


Figure 2. Effect of removing "l" from red calculations.

speed limits greater than 55 mph, the highest allowable design speed is 65 mph.

For left-turn movements, past editions of the *Traffic Management and Signal Systems Unit Design Manual* suggested a speed between 20 and 30 mph, with 20 mph the almost universal selection. Many expressed concern that 20 mph was overly conservative and led to excessive red intervals, so a field investigation was conducted. Unexpectedly, the study results, shown in Figure 1, indicated typical speeds slightly lower than 20 mph but not low enough for the task force to justify changing current practice.

*Calculation of the all-red clearance interval should be based on the third term of the ITE formula, but with the following modification: The vehicle length should be removed from the all-red formula, and the result rounded up to the next 0.1 sec.*

$$R = \frac{w}{v} \quad (3)$$

Unlike MUTCD, which does not require the use of a red interval, the North Carolina Supplement to the MUTCD does.<sup>10</sup> As noted above, NCDOT design and field personnel shared the belief that

reds were becoming too long, and NC-SITE Task Force discussions showed this sentiment was shared by both municipal and consulting engineers within the state.

The culprits: increasing intersection widths and the need to provide protected phases for left turns. The causes: increasing corner curve radii standards; the separation of crosswalks with two handicapped ramps on each corner; and increasing facility size in terms of number of lanes. To be clear, neither accident nor ticketing issues had developed to draw public attention to the problem; however, the task force members wished to correct any problems before such statistics evolved.

As modified, the red interval serves to carry the front bumper of a last-instant legal intersection entry to the far edge of the conflict zone. Originally, any vehicle equal to or shorter than the assumed length would be carried past the conflict zone. The resulting difference is shown in Figure 2.

The obvious advantage to removing the assumed vehicle length is a reduction in the red interval. Past NCDOT practice used 20 feet as the assumed vehicle length. Removing this results in a 0.7-sec. reduction at 20 mph; 0.4-sec. at 35 mph; and 0.2 sec. at 55 mph.

Despite this anticipated reduction, the formula still allows the red to increase without bound. Left-turn clearance distances of 200 ft. currently exist, resulting in red intervals of 6.9 sec., much longer than acceptable to the task force.

*If the initial calculation results in an all-red clearance interval greater than 3.0 sec., the all-red clearance interval should be recalculated as follows:*

$$R = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{w}{v} - 3 \right) + 3 \quad (4)$$

Discussion of reducing excessive red times consumed a large portion of the NC-SITE Task Force effort. The recommended method was determined to best balance competing concerns related to overly short and overly long red times. The result of this mitigation was that all of the first 3 sec. calculated for the red interval are used, but only half of the portion above that. So, if the initial calculation resulted in 4.0 sec. of red, the mitigation will reduce it to 3.5 sec. As with the other calculations, the result is rounded up to the next tenth.

The only other method receiving serious consideration was the reduction of red time based on expected time to conflict point. Although a preliminary field study looked positive, investigation of current literature, notably Muller et al., provided only minimal adjustments.<sup>11</sup> Faced with minimal benefits and questions about proper application, the task force discontinued its investigation into this option.

*The clearance distance should be measured to the far side of an exclusive right-turn lane.*

- *In the presence of a crosswalk with pedestrian signals, the clearance distance should be taken to the near side of the crosswalk*
- *A crosswalk without pedestrian signals should not be considered when determining clearance distance.*

These recommendations did not represent a change from past practice. This includes clearance distance measurements using the "straight line" method rather than a vehicle turning arc. A preliminary comparison of the straight line method to an outside wheel arc method resulted in an average difference of +2.2 feet, only +0.07 sec. at 20 mph. The task force agreed to continue using the straight-line method.

Past practice left consideration of crosswalks to the discretion of the design engineer. The task force felt it was important to always consider crosswalks with pedestrian signals when determining clearance distance. The decision to not consider crosswalks without signals was based on two factors: unsignalized crosswalks typically have insignificant pedestrian volume; and unsignalized crossings provide no guidance, so pedestrians cannot be expected to cross during any particular interval, reducing the probability of providing protection.

The *Traffic Management and Signal Systems Unit Design Manual* gives specific guidance for calculating clearance distances, shown in Figure 3.

The minimum value for all-red clearance intervals should be 1.0 sec. Prior practice suggested at least 1.0 sec., so this was not a significant change.

The proposed implementation of a yellow change interval longer than 6.0 sec. or a red clearance interval longer than 4.0 sec. is cause for a "stakeholder discussion" to provide advance notification and involvement to stakeholders and provide an opportunity to consider possible countermeasures.

Field personnel should be involved in developing and applying the practice. Stakeholder discussions help ensure these personnel are not surprised by new installation of long intervals.

Although countermeasures for reducing the yellow are difficult, typically involving the reduction in grade over the stopping distance or making geometric and enforcement changes to reduce travel speed, identification of excessive yellow at an intersection can provide an opportunity for present or future mitigation.

The opportunity for reducing the red is more likely, with lower cost solutions such as reduced median widths, positive offset left turns and channelized right-turn lanes.

For a "shared clearance" phase (when a phase serves multiple movements needing different yellow change and all-red clearance intervals), the following procedure should be applied:

- Calculate each movement's change plus clearance intervals as if it had a dedicated phase.
- Use the largest yellow value; then subtract this yellow value from the largest total change plus clearance to determine red.

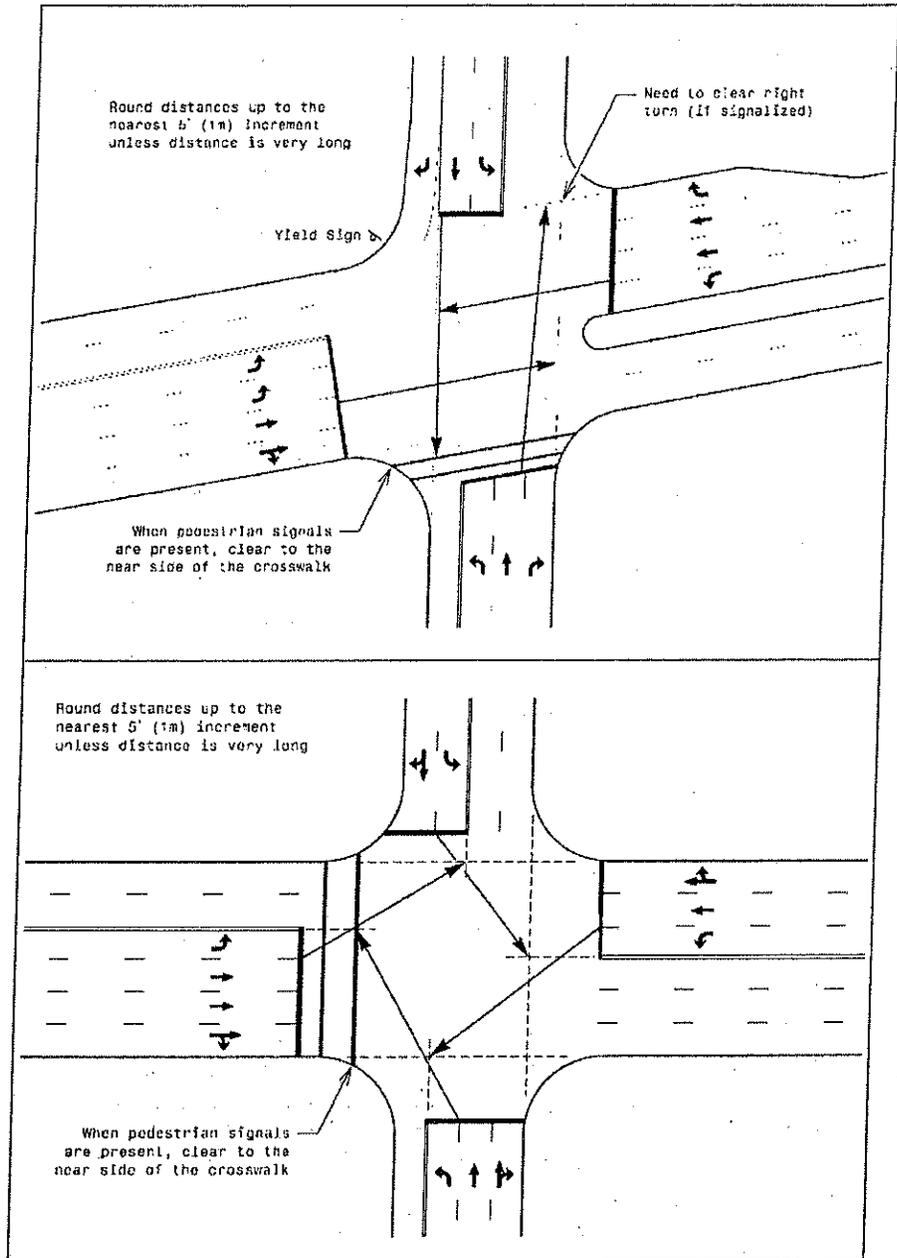


Figure 3. Measuring clearance distances.

Although this is not a change from past NCDOT practice, this confirms that mitigation of excessive red clearance intervals will take place for each movement before the shared change plus clearance is determined.

The Task Force considered but rejected both the use of the longest yellow change with the longest red clearance interval and the use of the yellow change and red clearance interval associated with the longest total clearance. The former option was rejected because it was incompatible with the goal of reducing interval length; the latter

was rejected to ensure that every movement received sufficient yellow change time.

## CONCLUSION

After receipt of the NCSITE Task Force recommendations, Greg A. Fuller, P.E., of the Intelligent Transportation Systems and Signals Unit of NCDOT, officially adopted the revised methodology, and the *Traffic Management and Signal Systems Unit Design Manual* was revised accordingly. The resulting methodology is presented in full in Figure 4, and a sample set of yellow and red intervals is presented in Figure 5.

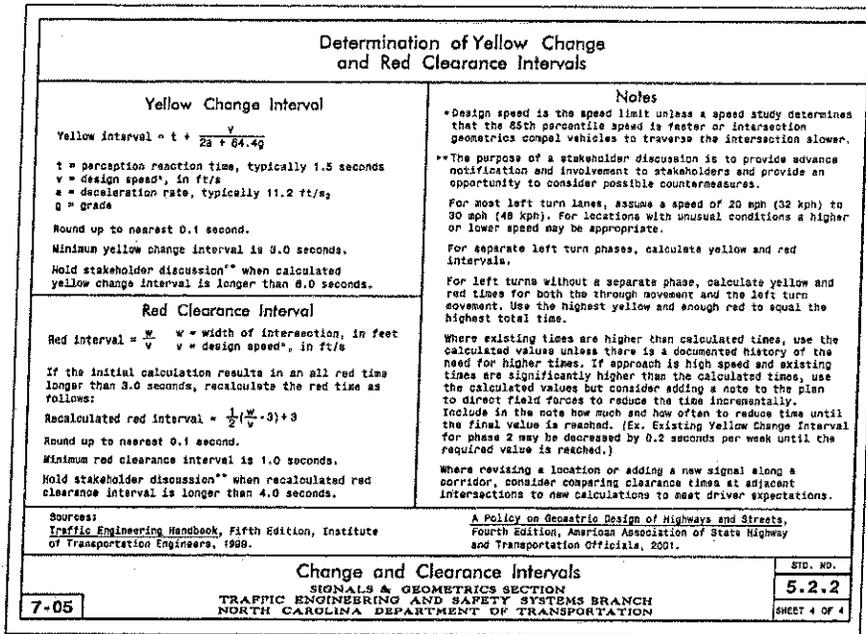


Figure 4. The revised methodology, as adopted.

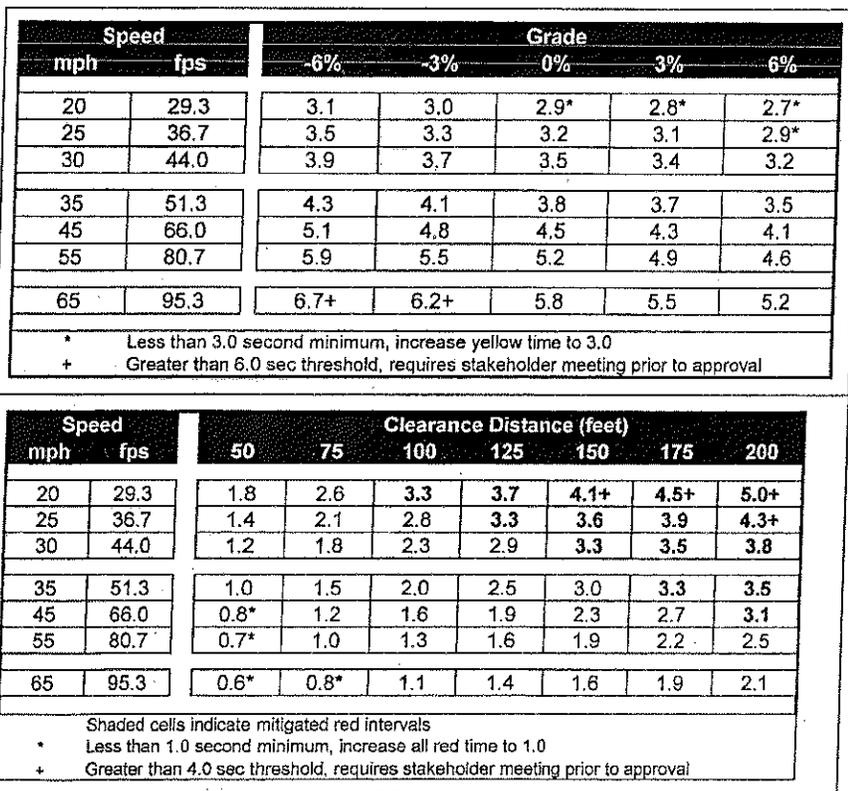


Figure 5. Sample yellow and red intervals.

With the adoption of this practice, NC-DOT has established a consistent method for calculating yellow and red intervals that will provide safe and efficient operation. Because of the prohibitive cost associated with an immediate statewide change, the new practice will be used for new signals and phased into

existing signals as they require other revisions, with a review of closely spaced signals to help promote the desired consistency. ■

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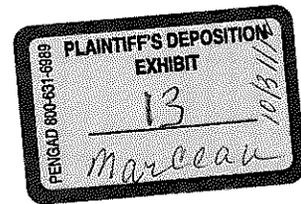


**STEVEN M. CLICK, Ph.D., P.E.**, is an assistant professor at Tennessee Tech University, where he specializes in transportation operations and design research and education.

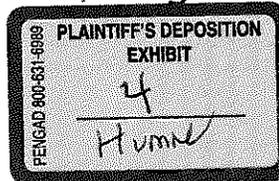
He received his master's and doctorate from North Carolina State University and has worked for the North Carolina Department of Transportation for seven years, primarily in traffic signal and signal system operations. He is a member of ITE.



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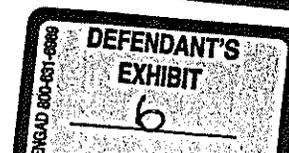
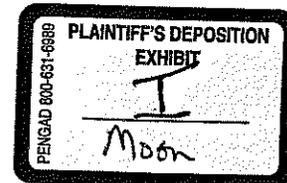


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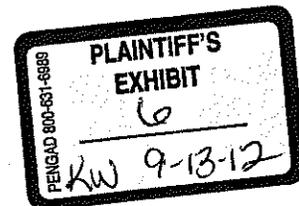
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a head start or the pedestrians can be held until the initial queue of vehicles has been served. However, such controller phasing may have a detrimental effect on vehicle flow and, if part of a system, on system capacity.

The goals of traffic safety and traffic capacity must be balanced when determining controller phasing for an intersection. The following section describes the various components of controller phasing. More in-depth discussion can be found in the *Manual of Traffic Signal Design and Signalized Intersections: Informational Guide*.<sup>14,15</sup>

**Green Interval.** Ideally, the length of the green display on each approach to an intersection will be sufficient—but not excessive—to serve all the vehicles and pedestrians queued during the red interval. Several PC-based computer programs are available to assist in determining the green interval timing.

For semi- or fully-actuated controllers, a minimum and maximum amount of green time must be determined and allocated for each phase and programmed into the controller. These values are derived from the analysis results of the timing software or other method of analysis used by the designer.

For pre-timed signal controllers, the length of the green display is based on engineering judgment. Traffic and pedestrian counts for a specific period of time are often used in determining the signal timing.

**Yellow Change Interval.** The purpose of the yellow change interval, which is required to be the first interval following every circular green or green arrow indication, is to warn approaching traffic of the termination of the related green interval or that a red signal indication will follow (see "Vehicle Detector Placement").

MUTCD states that yellow change intervals should have duration of 3 to 6 sec.<sup>16</sup> To determine the appropriate yellow time for the approach, this should be calculated using the Kinematic Model—Formula 1 found in ITE's *Determining Vehicle Signal Change and Clearance Intervals*.<sup>17</sup>

$$Y = t + [v/(2a+2Gg)]$$

where:

Y = yellow clearance interval (sec)

t = reaction time (typically 1 sec.)

v = design speed (ft./sec.)

a = deceleration rate (typically 10 ft./sec.<sup>2</sup>)

g = acceleration due to gravity (32.2 ft./sec.<sup>2</sup>)

G = grade of approach (percent/100, downhill is negative grade)

The equation shown above includes a reaction time, a deceleration element and an intersection clearing time. In view of the operational history of the yellow change interval and the assumptions used in the formula, applying the formula requires the exercise of engineering judgment.

Because a long yellow change interval may encourage drivers to use it as a part of the green interval, maximum care should be used when exceeding 5 sec. If the interval is too short, rear-end crashes may result. When the calculation for yellow change interval time indicates a time longer than 5 sec., a red clearance interval typically provides the additional time.

Some jurisdictions time the yellow change interval to enable a vehicle to clear the intersection before the onset of a conflicting green display. Other jurisdictions allow a conflicting green display to be shown before the intersection is cleared. Still others allow a conflicting green display to be shown after the vehicles have cleared the center line of the conflicting approach. Engineering judgment should be exercised in selecting the operation of the yellow change interval to ensure safe passage of vehicles in the intersection.

As can be seen from the formula above, slower speeds result in higher values of yellow clearance time. When calculating the needed time, consideration should be given to the values for the 15th-percentile speed, particularly at wider intersections.

The calculations for steep downgrades will yield values that some drivers may consider excessive. Simply reducing the interval times may create dangerous operating conditions. The engineer should consider lowering the approach speeds by reducing the speed limit or by the use of a warning beacon or other measures.

**Red Clearance Interval.** The red clearance interval is an optional interval that follows a yellow change interval and precedes the next conflicting green interval. The red clearance interval is used to provide additional time following the yellow change interval before conflicting traffic is released.

MUTCD states that the red clearance interval should not exceed 6 sec.<sup>18</sup> The appropriate red time for the approach should be calculated using the following formula found in ITE's *Determining Vehicle Signal Change and Clearance Intervals*.<sup>19</sup>

$$R = (w+L)/v$$

where

R = all red interval (sec.)

w = width of stop line to far side no-conflict point (ft.)

v = design speed (ft./sec.)

L = length of vehicle (typically 20 ft.)

For exclusive turn movements, the value of w should be measured along the vehicle turn path from the stop line to the no-conflict point.

The decision to use a red clearance interval is determined by intersection geometrics, crash experience, pedestrian activity, approach speeds, local practices and engineering judgment.

### 6. Left Turns

Three operational modes are available when provisions for left turns are made in the phasing of a traffic control signal:

1. **Permissive (permitted) mode only**—in which drivers may turn left after yielding to conflicting traffic or pedestrians during the circular green indication, along with the parallel through movements. A separate left-turn lane is often provided but not required. No regulatory sign is required, but an informational sign may be used.
2. **Protected (exclusive) mode only**—during which left turns are permitted only when a left green arrow is displayed. There is no conflicting vehicular or pedestrian traffic. Typically, a separate left-turn lane is provided. If the left-turn movement occurs when the adjacent through movement is shown a circular red indication, a separate left-turn lane must be provided.

A separate left-turn signal face must be used where the signal sequence does not provide for the simultaneous movement of the parallel through traffic. The change interval display may consist of either a yellow left arrow or a circular yellow. The yellow indication must match the green indication; that is, if the separate left-turn face provides a circular green, a circular yellow is provided. If the separate left-turn signal face provides a green left arrow, the yellow indication must be a left arrow. MUTCD requires that all green arrow indications must be followed by yellow arrow indications. The red interval may use a red arrow only if a yellow arrow indication is used. Otherwise, a circular red is required.

When a separate signal face is used, it should be positioned in line with the turning movement approach. A left-turn signal sign (R10-10) is required unless the signal face consists of arrows only or unless it is properly hooded, shielded, or louvered to ensure that conflicting circular yellow or red indications are not readily visible to motorists in the through lanes.

3. **Protected/permissive (exclusive/permitted) mode**—a combination of both the protected and the permissive modes whereby left turns may be made during the green display as defined under the respective modes. Green and yellow arrow indications are required for this type of operation.

The controller phasing for protected/permissive mode is the most complicated of the three modes in that it combines the other two modes. Four distinct controller-phasing schemes are commonly employed:

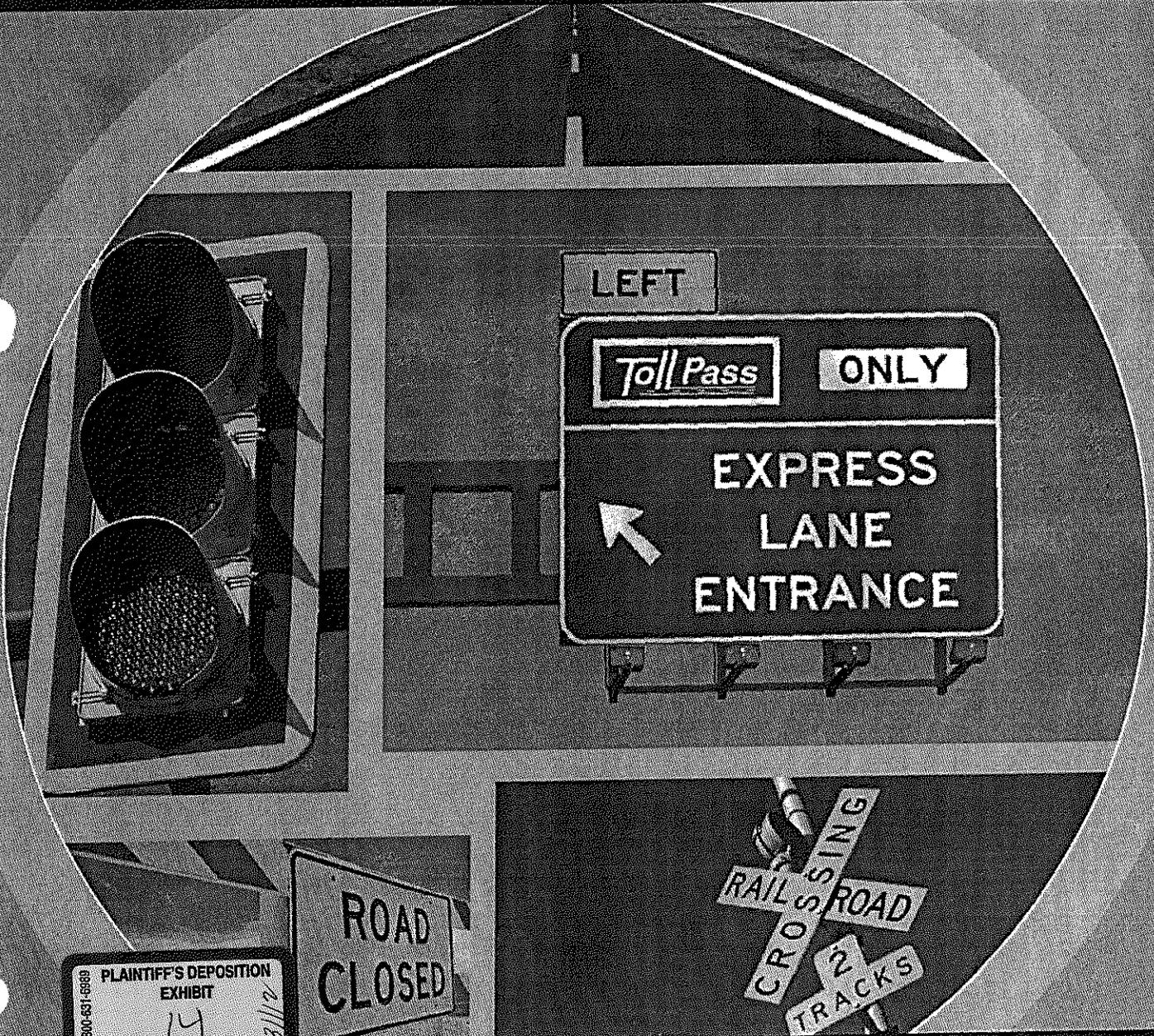
- lead-left turn with parallel, non-conflicting through traffic;
- simultaneous lead-left turns with no parallel through traffic;
- lag-left turn with parallel, non-conflicting through traffic; and
- simultaneous lag-left turns with no parallel through traffic.

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for Streets and Highways

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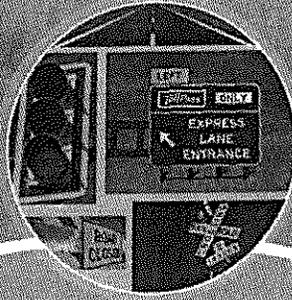
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Including Revision 1 dated May 2012  
and Revision 2 dated May 2012

The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) is approved by the Federal Highway Administrator as the National Standard in accordance with Title 23 U.S. Code, Sections 109(d), 114(a), 217, 315, and 402(a), 23 CFR 655, and 49 CFR 1.48(b)(8), 1.48(b)(33), and 1.48(c)(2).

Addresses for Publications Referenced in the MUTCD

American Automobile Association (AAA)  
1000 AAA Drive  
Heathrow, FL 32746  
www.aaa.com  
800-222-4357

American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO)  
444 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 249  
Washington, DC 20001  
www.transportation.org  
202-624-5800

American National Standards Institute (ANSI)  
1819 L Street, NW, 6th Floor  
Washington, DC 20036  
www.ansi.org  
202-293-8020

American Railway Engineering and Maintenance-of-Way Association (AREMA)  
10003 Derekwood Lane, Suite 210  
Lanham, MD 20706  
www.arema.org  
301-459-3200

Federal Highway Administration Report Center  
Facsimile number: 814-239-2156  
report.center@fhwa.dot.gov

Illuminating Engineering Society (IES)  
120 Wall Street, Floor 17  
New York, NY 10005  
www.iesna.org  
212-248-5000

Institute of Makers of Explosives  
1120 19th Street, NW, Suite 310  
Washington, DC 20036-3605  
www.ime.org  
202-429-9280

Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE)  
1099 14th Street, NW, Suite 300 West  
Washington, DC 20005-3438  
www.ite.org  
202-289-0222

International Organization for Standardization  
1, ch. de la Voie-Creuse  
Case Postale 56  
CH-1211  
Geneva 20, Switzerland  
www.iso.ch  
011-41-22-749-0111

on the approach, the signal faces for the approach shall be as described in Items B.1 and B.2, except that flashing YELLOW ARROW signal indications shall be used in place of the GREEN ARROW signal indications for the turning movement(s) that conflicts with the signalized vehicular or pedestrian movement.

Support:

05 Figure 4D-20 illustrates application of these Standards on approaches that have only a shared left-turn/right-turn lane, and on approaches that have one or more exclusive turn lanes in addition to the shared left-turn/right-turn lane.

Option:

06 If the lane-use regulations on an approach are variable such that at certain times all of the lanes on the approach are designated as exclusive turn lanes and no lane is designated as a shared left-turn/right-turn lane:

- A. During the times that no lane is designated as a shared left-turn/right-turn lane, the left-turn and right-turn movements may start and terminate independently, and the left-turn and right-turn movements may be operated in one or more of the modes of operation as described in Sections 4D.17 through 4D.24; and
- B. If a protected-permissive mode is used, the shared left-turn/right-turn signal face provided in Paragraph 4 may be modified to include a dual-arrow signal section capable of displaying both a GREEN ARROW signal indication and a flashing YELLOW ARROW signal indication for a turn movement(s) in order to not exceed the maximum of five sections per signal face provided in Section 4D.08.

### Section 4D.26 Yellow Change and Red Clearance Intervals

Standard:

01 A steady yellow signal indication shall be displayed following every CIRCULAR GREEN or GREEN ARROW signal indication and following every flashing YELLOW ARROW or flashing RED ARROW signal indication displayed as a part of a steady mode operation. This requirement shall not apply when a CIRCULAR GREEN, a flashing YELLOW ARROW, or a flashing RED ARROW signal indication is followed immediately by a GREEN ARROW signal indication.

02 The exclusive function of the yellow change interval shall be to warn traffic of an impending change in the right-of-way assignment.

03 The duration of the yellow change interval shall be determined using engineering practices.

Support:

04 Section 4D.05 contains provisions regarding the display of steady CIRCULAR YELLOW signal indications to approaches from which drivers are allowed to make permissive left turns.

Guidance:

05 *When indicated by the application of engineering practices, the yellow change interval should be followed by a red clearance interval to provide additional time before conflicting traffic movements, including pedestrians, are released.*

Standard:

06 When used, the duration of the red clearance interval shall be determined using engineering practices.

Support:

07 Engineering practices for determining the duration of yellow change and red clearance intervals can be found in ITE's "Traffic Control Devices Handbook" and in ITE's "Manual of Traffic Signal Design" (see Section 1A.11).

Standard:

08 The durations of yellow change intervals and red clearance intervals shall be consistent with the determined values within the technical capabilities of the controller unit.

09 The duration of a yellow change interval shall not vary on a cycle-by-cycle basis within the same signal timing plan.

10 Except as provided in Paragraph 12, the duration of a red clearance interval shall not be decreased or omitted on a cycle-by-cycle basis within the same signal timing plan.

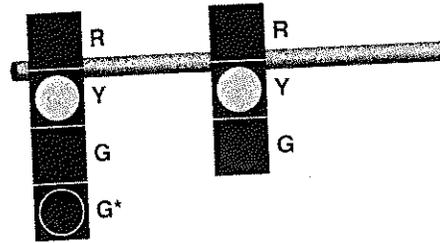
Option:

11 The duration of a red clearance interval may be extended from its predetermined value for a given cycle based upon the detection of a vehicle that is predicted to violate the red signal indication.

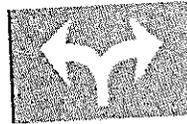
12 When an actuated signal sequence includes a signal phase for permissive/protected (lagging) left-turn movements in both directions, the red clearance interval may be shown during those cycles when the lagging left-turn signal phase is skipped and may be omitted during those cycles when the lagging left-turn signal phase is shown.

**Figure 4D-20. Signal Indications for Approaches with a Shared Left-Turn/Right-Turn Lane and No Through Movement (Sheet 1 of 3)**

A - No conflicting vehicular or pedestrian movements



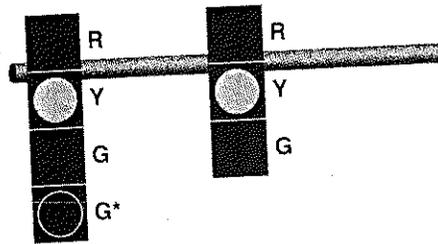
Single-lane approach



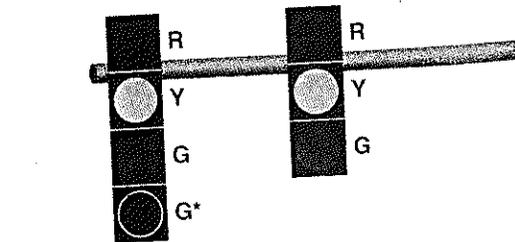
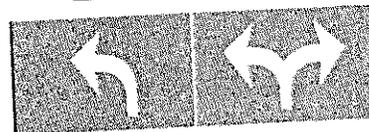
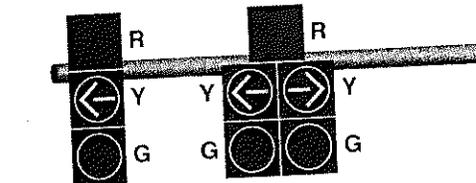
\* Left-turn GREEN ARROW section shall be included if there is an opposing one-way approach and the signal phasing eliminates conflicts.

Notes:

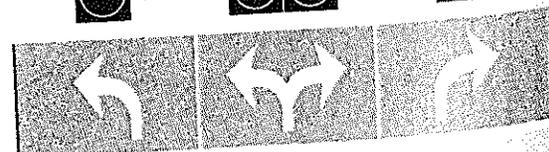
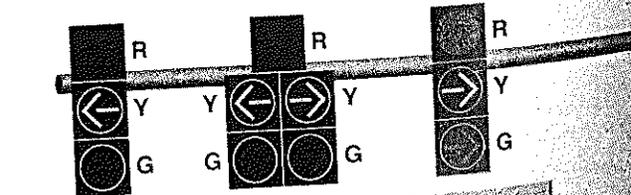
1. Horizontally-aligned signal faces may also be used.
2. Shared signal faces may also be 5 sections in a vertical straight line instead of a cluster.



OR

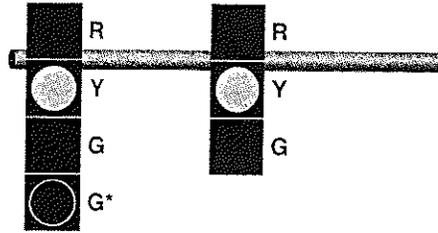


OR



### Figure 4D-20. Signal Indications for Approaches with a Shared Left-Turn/Right-Turn Lane and No Through Movement (Sheet 2 of 3)

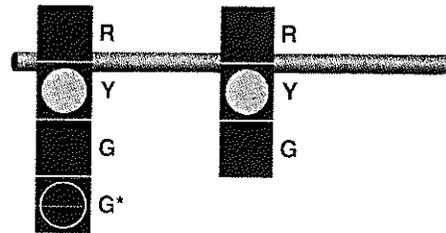
B - Pedestrian or vehicular conflict with one turn movement



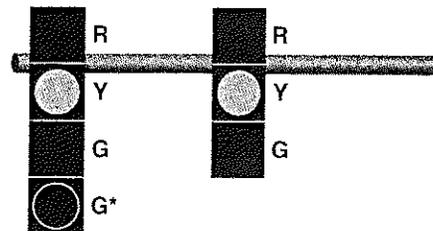
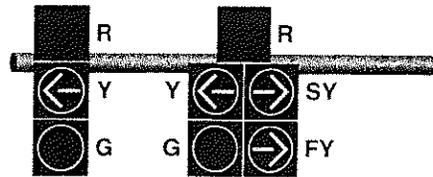
\* Left-turn GREEN ARROW section shall be included if there is an opposing one-way approach and the signal phasing eliminates conflicts.

Notes:

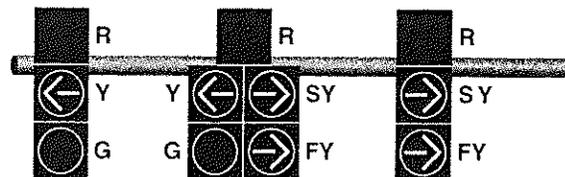
1. A conflict with the right-turn movement is illustrated.
2. Horizontally-aligned signal faces may also be used.
3. Shared signal faces may also be 5 sections in a vertical straight line instead of a cluster.



OR

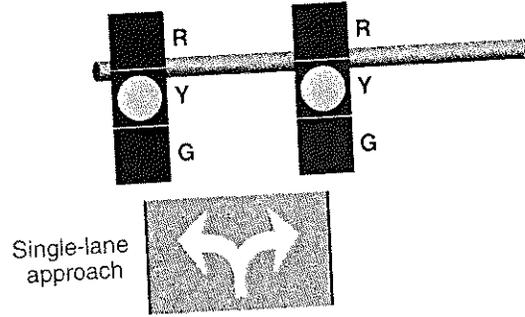


OR



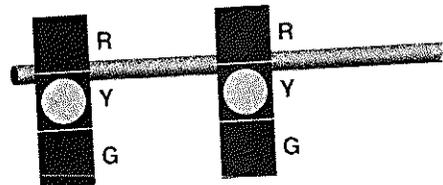
# Figure 4D-20. Signal Indications for Approaches with a Shared Left-Turn/Right-Turn Lane and No Through Movement (Sheet 3 of 3)

C - Pedestrian or vehicular conflicts with both turn movements

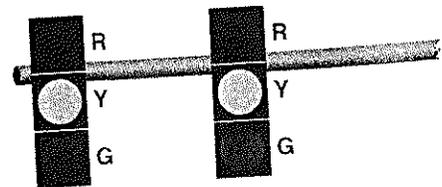
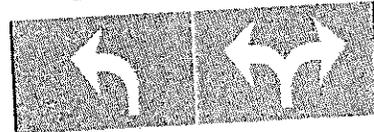
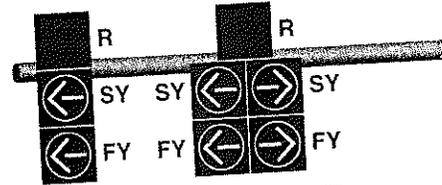


Notes:

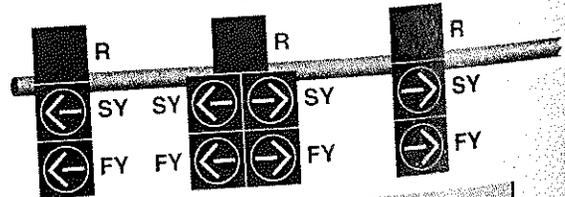
- 1. Horizontally-aligned signal faces may also be used.
- 2. Shared signal faces may also be 5 sections in a vertical straight line instead of a cluster.



OR



OR



International Safety Equipment Association (ISEA)  
901 North Moore Street, Suite 808  
Arlington, VA 22209  
www.safetysafetyequipment.org  
703-525-1695

National Committee on Uniform Traffic Laws and Ordinances (NCUTLO)  
107 South West Street, Suite 110  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
www.ncutlo.org  
800-807-5290

National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)  
1300 North 17th Street, Suite 1752  
Rosslyn, VA 22209  
www.nema.org  
703-841-3200

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)  
U.S. Department of Labor  
200 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20210  
www.osha.gov  
800-321-6742

Transportation Research Board (TRB)  
The National Academies  
500 Fifth Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
www.nas.edu/trb  
202-334-3072

U.S. Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (The U.S. Access Board)  
1331 F Street, NW, Suite 1000  
Washington, DC 20004-1111  
www.access-board.gov  
202-272-0080

#### Acknowledgments

The Federal Highway Administration gratefully acknowledges the valuable assistance that it received from the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and its more than 250 voluntary members in the development of this Manual.

- 13 The duration of a yellow change interval or a red clearance interval may be different in different signal timing plans for the same controller unit.

*Guidance:*

- 14 A yellow change interval should have a minimum duration of 3 seconds and a maximum duration of 6 seconds. The longer intervals should be reserved for use on approaches with higher speeds.
- 15 Except when clearing a one-lane, two-way facility (see Section 4H.02) or when clearing an exceptionally wide intersection, a red clearance interval should have a duration not exceeding 6 seconds.

**Standard:**

- 16 Except for warning beacons mounted on advance warning signs on the approach to a signalized location (see Section 2C.36), signal displays that are intended to provide a “pre-yellow warning” interval, such as flashing green signal indications, vehicular countdown displays, or other similar displays, shall not be used at a signalized location.

*Support:*

- 17 The use of signal displays (other than warning beacons mounted on advance warning signs) that convey a “pre-yellow warning” have been found by research to increase the frequency of crashes.

### **Section 4D.27 Preemption and Priority Control of Traffic Control Signals**

*Option:*

- 01 Traffic control signals may be designed and operated to respond to certain classes of approaching vehicles by altering the normal signal timing and phasing plan(s) during the approach and passage of those vehicles. The alternative plan(s) may be as simple as extending a currently displayed green interval or as complex as replacing the entire set of signal phases and timing.

*Support:*

- 02 Preemption control (see definition in Section 1A.13) is typically given to trains, boats, emergency vehicles, and light rail transit.

- 03 Examples of preemption control include the following:

- A. The prompt displaying of green signal indications at signalized locations ahead of fire vehicles, law enforcement vehicles, ambulances, and other official emergency vehicles;
- B. A special sequence of signal phases and timing to expedite and/or provide additional clearance time for vehicles to clear the tracks prior to the arrival of rail traffic; and
- C. A special sequence of signal phases to display a steady red indication to prohibit turning movements toward the tracks during the approach or passage of rail traffic.

- 04 Priority control (see definition in Section 1A.13) is typically given to certain non-emergency vehicles such as light-rail transit vehicles operating in a mixed-use alignment and buses.

- 05 Examples of priority control include the following:

- A. The displaying of early or extended green signal indications at an intersection to assist public transit vehicles in remaining on schedule, and
- B. Special phasing to assist public transit vehicles in entering the travel stream ahead of the platoon of traffic.

- 06 Some types or classes of vehicles supersede others when a traffic control signal responds to more than one type or class. In general, a vehicle that is more difficult to control supersedes a vehicle that is easier to control.

*Option:*

- 07 Preemption or priority control of traffic control signals may also be a means of assigning priority right-of-way to specified classes of vehicles at certain non-intersection locations such as on approaches to one-lane bridges and tunnels, movable bridges, highway maintenance and construction activities, metered freeway entrance ramps, and transit operations.

**Standard:**

- 08 During the transition into preemption control:

- A. The yellow change interval, and any red clearance interval that follows, shall not be shortened or omitted.
- B. The shortening or omission of any pedestrian walk interval and/or pedestrian change interval shall be permitted.
- C. The return to the previous green signal indication shall be permitted following a steady yellow signal indication in the same signal face, omitting the red clearance interval, if any.

03 Except as provided in Paragraph 4, the pedestrian signal heads shall continue to display a steady UPRAISED HAND (symbolizing DONT WALK) signal indication when the pedestrian hybrid beacon faces are either dark or displaying flashing or steady CIRCULAR yellow signal indications. The pedestrian signal heads shall display a WALKING PERSON (symbolizing WALK) signal indication when the pedestrian hybrid beacon faces are displaying steady CIRCULAR RED signal indications. The pedestrian signal heads shall display a flashing UPRAISED HAND (symbolizing DONT WALK) signal indication when the pedestrian hybrid beacon faces are displaying alternating flashing CIRCULAR RED signal indications. Upon termination of the pedestrian clearance interval, the pedestrian signal heads shall revert to a steady UPRAISED HAND (symbolizing DONT WALK) signal indication.

Option:

04 Where the pedestrian hybrid beacon is installed adjacent to a roundabout to facilitate crossings by pedestrians with visual disabilities and an engineering study determines that pedestrians without visual disabilities can be allowed to cross the roadway without actuating the pedestrian hybrid beacon, the pedestrian signal heads may be dark (not illuminated) when the pedestrian hybrid beacon faces are dark.

*Guidance:*

05 *The duration of the flashing yellow interval should be determined by engineering judgment.*

**Standard:**

06 **The duration of the steady yellow change interval shall be determined using engineering practices.**

*Guidance:*

07 *The steady yellow interval should have a minimum duration of 3 seconds and a maximum duration of 6 seconds (see Section 4D.26). The longer intervals should be reserved for use on approaches with higher speeds.*

# PART 1

## GENERAL

### CHAPTER 1A. GENERAL

#### Section 1A.01 Purpose of Traffic Control Devices

##### Support:

- 01 The purpose of traffic control devices, as well as the principles for their use, is to promote highway safety and efficiency by providing for the orderly movement of all road users on streets, highways, bikeways, and private roads open to public travel throughout the Nation.
- 02 Traffic control devices notify road users of regulations and provide warning and guidance needed for the uniform and efficient operation of all elements of the traffic stream in a manner intended to minimize the occurrences of crashes.

##### Standard:

- 03 **Traffic control devices or their supports shall not bear any advertising message or any other message that is not related to traffic control.**

##### Support:

- 04 Tourist-oriented directional signs and Specific Service signs are not considered advertising; rather, they are classified as motorist service signs.

#### Section 1A.02 Principles of Traffic Control Devices

##### Support:

- 01 This Manual contains the basic principles that govern the design and use of traffic control devices for all streets, highways, bikeways, and private roads open to public travel (see definition in Section 1A.13) regardless of type or class or the public agency, official, or owner having jurisdiction. This Manual's text specifies the restriction on the use of a device if it is intended for limited application or for a specific system. It is important that these principles be given primary consideration in the selection and application of each device.

##### Guidance:

- 02 *To be effective, a traffic control device should meet five basic requirements:*
- A. *Fulfill a need;*
  - B. *Command attention;*
  - C. *Convey a clear, simple meaning;*
  - D. *Command respect from road users; and*
  - E. *Give adequate time for proper response.*
- 03 *Design, placement, operation, maintenance, and uniformity are aspects that should be carefully considered in order to maximize the ability of a traffic control device to meet the five requirements listed in the previous paragraph. Vehicle speed should be carefully considered as an element that governs the design, operation, placement, and location of various traffic control devices.*

##### Support:

- 04 The definition of the word "speed" varies depending on its use. The definitions of specific speed terms are contained in Section 1A.13.

##### Guidance:

- 05 *The actions required of road users to obey regulatory devices should be specified by State statute, or in cases not covered by State statute, by local ordinance or resolution. Such statutes, ordinances, and resolutions should be consistent with the "Uniform Vehicle Code" (see Section 1A.11).*
- 06 *The proper use of traffic control devices should provide the reasonable and prudent road user with the information necessary to efficiently and lawfully use the streets, highways, pedestrian facilities, and bikeways.*

##### Support:

- 07 Uniformity of the meaning of traffic control devices is vital to their effectiveness. The meanings ascribed to devices in this Manual are in general accord with the publications mentioned in Section 1A.11.

#### Section 1A.03 Design of Traffic Control Devices

##### Guidance:

- 01 *Devices should be designed so that features such as size, shape, color, composition, lighting or retroreflection, and contrast are combined to draw attention to the devices; that size, shape, color, and simplicity of message combine to produce a clear meaning; that legibility and size combine with placement to permit adequate time for response; and that uniformity, size, legibility, and reasonableness of the message combine to command respect.*
- 02 *Aspects of a device's standard design should be modified only if there is a demonstrated need.*

2. Vehicular traffic facing a **GREEN ARROW** signal indication, displayed alone or in combination with another signal indication, is permitted to cautiously enter the intersection only to make the movement indicated by such arrow, or such other movement as is permitted by other signal indications displayed at the same time.
 

Such vehicular traffic, including vehicles turning right or left or making a U-turn movement, shall yield the right-of-way to:

    - (a) Pedestrians lawfully within an associated crosswalk, and
    - (b) Other vehicles lawfully within the intersection.
  3. Pedestrians facing a **CIRCULAR GREEN** signal indication, unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian signal indication or other traffic control device, are permitted to proceed across the roadway within any marked or unmarked associated crosswalk. The pedestrian shall yield the right-of-way to vehicles lawfully within the intersection or so close as to create an immediate hazard at the time that the green signal indication is first displayed.
  4. Pedestrians facing a **GREEN ARROW** signal indication, unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian signal indication or other traffic control device, shall not cross the roadway.
- B. Steady yellow signal indications shall have the following meanings:**
1. Vehicular traffic facing a steady **CIRCULAR YELLOW** signal indication is thereby warned that the related green movement or the related flashing arrow movement is being terminated or that a steady red signal indication will be displayed immediately thereafter when vehicular traffic shall not enter the intersection. The rules set forth concerning vehicular operation under the movement(s) being terminated shall continue to apply while the steady **CIRCULAR YELLOW** signal indication is displayed.
  2. Vehicular traffic facing a steady **YELLOW ARROW** signal indication is thereby warned that the related **GREEN ARROW** movement or the related flashing arrow movement is being terminated. The rules set forth concerning vehicular operation under the movement(s) being terminated shall continue to apply while the steady **YELLOW ARROW** signal indication is displayed.
  3. Pedestrians facing a steady **CIRCULAR YELLOW** or **YELLOW ARROW** signal indication, unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian signal indication or other traffic control device shall not start to cross the roadway.
- C. Steady red signal indications shall have the following meanings:**
1. Vehicular traffic facing a steady **CIRCULAR RED** signal indication, unless entering the intersection to make another movement permitted by another signal indication, shall stop at a clearly marked stop line; but if there is no stop line, traffic shall stop before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection; or if there is no crosswalk, then before entering the intersection; and shall remain stopped until a signal indication to proceed is displayed, or as provided below.
 

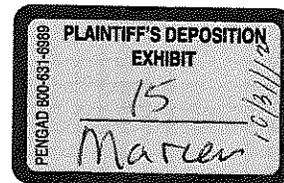
Except when a traffic control device is in place prohibiting a turn on red or a steady **RED ARROW** signal indication is displayed, vehicular traffic facing a steady **CIRCULAR RED** signal indication is permitted to enter the intersection to turn right, or to turn left from a one-way street into a one-way street, after stopping. The right to proceed with the turn shall be subject to the rules applicable after making a stop at a **STOP** sign.
  2. Vehicular traffic facing a steady **RED ARROW** signal indication shall not enter the intersection to make the movement indicated by the arrow and, unless entering the intersection to make another movement permitted by another signal indication, shall stop at a clearly marked stop line; but if there is no stop line, before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection; or if there is no crosswalk, then before entering the intersection; and shall remain stopped until a signal indication or other traffic control device permitting the movement indicated by such **RED ARROW** is displayed.
 

When a traffic control device is in place permitting a turn on a steady **RED ARROW** signal indication, vehicular traffic facing a steady **RED ARROW** signal indication is permitted to enter the intersection to make the movement indicated by the arrow signal indication, after stopping. The right to proceed with the turn shall be limited to the direction indicated by the arrow and shall be subject to the rules applicable after making a stop at a **STOP** sign.
  3. Unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian signal indication or other traffic control device, pedestrians facing a steady **CIRCULAR RED** or steady **RED ARROW** signal indication shall not enter the roadway.
- D. A flashing green signal indication has no meaning and shall not be used.**

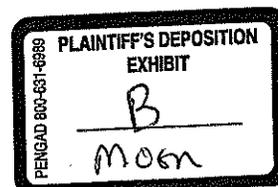
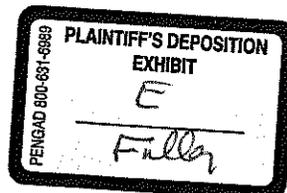
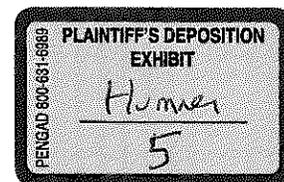
## Exhibit B.

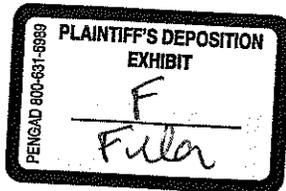
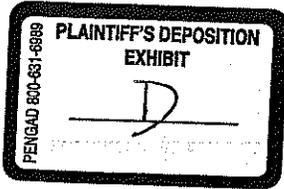
The relationship between acceleration, velocity and time.

Equation 1	$\text{acceleration} = \frac{\text{change of velocity}}{\text{change of time}}$
Equation 2	$a = \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t}$
Equation 3	$\Delta t = \frac{\Delta v}{a}$
Equation 4 t = time it takes for an object to stop from initial speed decelerating at constant rate a.	$t = \frac{v}{a}$

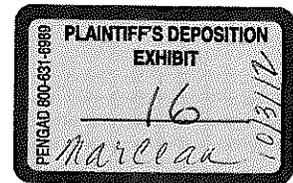


$$a = \frac{\text{change of velocity}}{\text{change of time}}$$

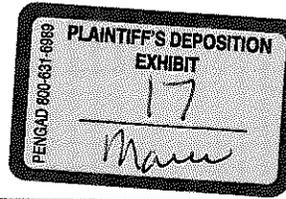
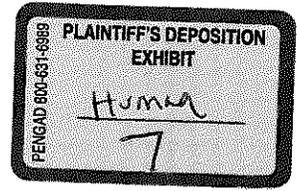
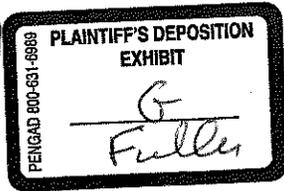
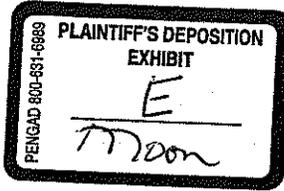




Critical Distance--also known as the Distance Required to Stop.



Equation 1	$\text{Critical Distance} = v t_p + \left[ \frac{v^2}{2(a + Gg)} \right]$
Equation 2	$\text{Yellow Change Interval} = \frac{[\text{Critical Distance}]}{\text{Approach Speed}}$
Equation 3	$\text{Yellow Change Interval} = \text{Perception Time} + \frac{[\text{Safe Braking Distance}]}{\text{Approach Speed}}$
Equation 4	$Y = t_p + \frac{\left[ \frac{v^2}{2(a+Gg)} \right]}{v}$
Equation 5	$Y = t_p + \frac{v}{2(a + Gg)}$
Equation 5	$Y = t_p + \frac{v}{2a + 64.4g}$
Equation 6. Grade = 0	$Y = t_p + \frac{v}{2a}$
Equation 7.	$Y - t_p = \frac{v}{2a}$
Equation 8.	$v = 2a(Y - t_p)$



A Simple Computation of Critical Distance.

	Equation
Equation 1	$c = v t_p + \left[ \frac{v^2}{2(a + Gg)} \right]$
Equation 2	$c = 45 * 1.47 * 1.5 + \left[ \frac{(45 * 1.47)^2}{2(11.2 + G * 0)} \right]$
Equation 3	$c = 99 + 195$
Equation 4	$c = 294 \text{ ft}$
	<b>The critical distance is 294 feet long.</b>

Straight through

$$Y_T = P+R + \frac{V_0}{2a}$$

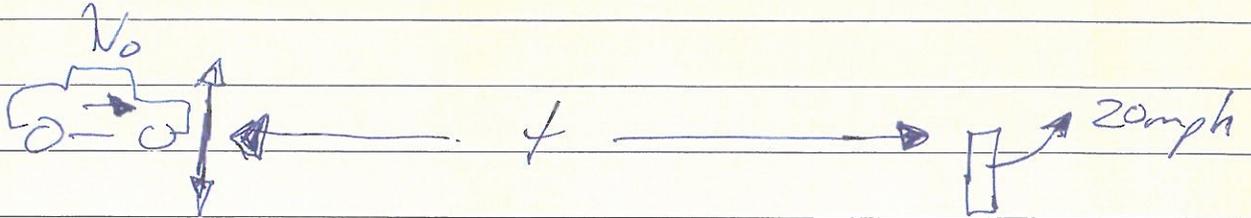
$$= 2.5$$

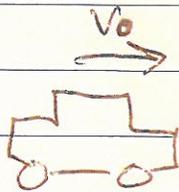
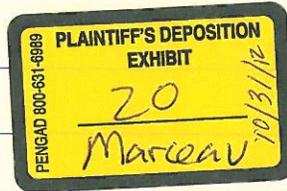
f



Turn

$$C_T = \rho R + \frac{V_0^2}{2a (V_{avg})}$$





$v_0$

$$v_{avg} = \frac{v_0 + v_f}{2}$$

$$v_f = 20 \text{ mph}$$



$$t = (P+R) + \frac{v_0^2}{24(v_{avg})}$$

$$v_0 = 45 \text{ mph}$$

$$v_f = 20 \text{ mph}$$

$$t = (2.5) + \frac{(66)^2}{2(11)(\frac{66+29}{2})} = \frac{66^2}{22(47.5)} = \frac{4356}{1045}$$

$$= 4.17$$

$$= P+R + 4.17$$

$$= 2.5 + 4.17$$

$$= 6.67$$