Traffic Signal Pole Locations

The American with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires pedestrian pushbuttons be placed strategically to provide accessibility for any person with disabilities. There are mandatory distances for placement of pushbuttons in conjunction with crosswalks. Also, there are traffic signal timing implications for placement of the pushbuttons. Traffic signal installations are designed to specifically accommodate those requirements. Traffic signal pushbuttons can be placed on isolated pedestals or in combination with traffic signal support poles. When a designed pole location is relocated without knowledge or approval of the Traffic Signals Unit, it could result in a violation of the ADA requirements and open the department to litigation. **Do not approve changes to traffic signal operations without knowledge or approval of the Traffic Signals Unit.** Changes of this nature can have implications to ADA requirements.

When it becomes apparent that a designed signal pole location is not feasible, or a request for a change in operation has come from outside the Traffic Signals Unit, construction inspection personnel must contact the Traffic Signals Unit in Lansing. The Traffic Signals Unit will assist in determining where to move the pole, along with any changes made to the signal operation, while maintaining compliance with ADA requirements.

Questions regarding this Construction Advisory should be directed to:

Doug Adelman, Traffic Signals Design Engineer, at 517-373-2363 or adelmand@michigan.gov

and

Jason Firman, Traffic Signals Operations Engineer, at 517-241-4793 or firmanj@michigan.gov