



Traffic Systems Design Directive

169 Brick Store Landing Road, Smyrna, DE

Number (Year - #)

Requestor Name: _____

Date Submitted: _____

Applicable Chapter / Section / Page
/ Figure in current manual: _____

Requires modification
to Traffic Design
Manual?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Description of Current Practice: _____

Recommended Change: _____

Date Received: _____

Received By: _____

Based upon the conditions presented, it is recommended that this be approved as an updated Traffic Systems Design Practice and included as a revision to the Traffic Design Manual (if applicable).

Recommended By: _____

Date: _____

Requestor

Recommended By: Max SAINTIL

Date: _____

Design / Construction / Safety / Studies Manager

Approved By: [Signature]

Date: _____

(Signature)

Status / Date Completed: _____

CHAPTER I

Page 3, Section C, Item 4

Purpose

To provide clear guidance for traffic signal systems and ITS project development where existing infrastructure is impacted, with the intent to minimize unnecessary expansion of scope and associated costs, while maintaining safety and operational performance.

Guidance Statement

DelDOT is committed to a practical and cost-effective approach when existing traffic signal systems or ITS infrastructure are affected by construction, maintenance, or development activities. Design teams and contractors are hereby assured that DelDOT will work collaboratively to limit changes to only what is necessary, avoiding full system overhauls unless clearly justified by safety, operational, or regulatory requirements.

Design Directive Framework

1. Scope Minimization

- Any impacts to existing traffic signal systems or ITS components, such as, but not limited to, cabinets, detectors, communications equipment, signal poles, conduit, shall be evaluated for limited-scope solutions before considering full replacements or redesigns.
- The default design approach will favor preservation, relocation, or targeted replacement of affected elements, rather than system-wide modifications.

2. Assessment Criteria

In assessing necessary changes, DelDOT will consider:

- Structural or operational integrity of the impacted asset
- Compliance with current standards
- Safety implications
- Cost-benefit analysis of repair vs. full replacement

3. Design Coordination

- DelDOT traffic signal systems and ITS design reviewers will work closely with developers and engineers to evaluate all feasible alternatives that keep changes to a minimum.
- Early coordination and field verification are encouraged to identify potential impacts and scope containment strategies during the initial design phase.

4. Documentation Requirements

- Any proposed full replacement or major redesign of existing traffic signal systems or ITS infrastructure must be supported with justification, including a scope minimization assessment and DelDOT review.

5. Exceptions and Escalation

- If minimization is not feasible due to safety, operations, or regulatory mandates, DelDOT will clearly document the rationale and engage stakeholders early.

- Disagreements or scope disputes may be elevated for resolution.

Conclusion

DelDOT recognizes the importance of balancing infrastructure integrity with project efficiency and cost-effectiveness. This design directive reinforces our commitment to limiting the extent of design changes to only what is essential, ensuring that development efforts remain focused and sustainable.