

CITY OF PALMDALE

NEWS RELEASE

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City of Palmdale Begins Traffic Signal Synchronization

PALMDALE — The City of Palmdale has begun work on traffic light synchronization in one of the busiest areas in the entire Mojave Desert.

Using \$50,000 in funding from Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District, the project includes synchronization of the traffic signals along 10th St. West between Ave. O to Technology; and along Rancho Vista Blvd. between 15th St. West to Palmdale Promenade.

“To improve the flow of traffic, we will be changing the left turn signals at different times of day,” said Traffic Signal Manager Anthony Provenza. “Sometimes the left turn arrow indications will precede the through movement indications, but as the traffic patterns change throughout the day, the opposite may occur. This traffic sequence is called ‘lead /lag operation,’ and the goal is to move the traffic as quickly and efficiently as possible.”

The synchronization is in addition to larger and broader \$9 million dollar, four-phase project funded by Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) Prop C grant funds and Local Prop A funds. Phase I began last year and provided for approximately three miles of fiber optics installed along Rancho Vista Blvd., a new traffic signal installation at intersection of Ave O-8 with Rancho Vista Blvd., and upgrades to the City’s traffic operations center.

“Fiber optics allows us to see traffic patterns in real-time from our 80-plus cameras located at key intersections throughout the City,” Provenza said. “We can then make on-the-spot changes to the signals in the event of an accident or other situation.”

Phases II and III include the deployment of signal synchronization to arterial corridors, an Advanced Traffic Management System, and the communications necessary to support the system elements along the surface arterials in the North County area of Los Angeles County. The project was awarded to Taft Electric at the August Palmdale City Council Meeting.

It will build upon the past efforts of the North County Transportation Forum agencies in signal synchronization and communications systems by upgrading the cities of Lancaster and Palmdale's traffic management centers with new system software and hardware, upgrading traffic signal equipment, and connecting the cities of Lancaster and Palmdale to Los Angeles County's information exchange network.

This project will provide also modification of an existing traffic signal at Avenue N and 10th St. West; construction of seven miles of new fiber conduit in various locations (10th St. West between Avenue M and Avenue O-4; 25th St. East between Avenue S and Pearblossom Hwy; Pearblossom Hwy. between 25th St. East to 47th St. East; Avenue S between 40th St. East to 55th St. East); new traffic signals at the intersection of Avenue S and 55th St. East; Pearblossom Hwy and 37th St. East and Arnold Drive and 25th St. East; and installation of CCTV's cameras at various locations.

For more information, please call the Public Works Department at 661/267-5300.

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