



**Dearborn
Heights
Police
Department**

Michael Gust
Chief of Police

Daniel S. Paletko
Mayor

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For Immediate Release

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Dearborn Heights to Install Experimental Traffic Signals

Starting late July, Dearborn Heights motorists will take part in the test of three new, state-of-the-art traffic signals designed to warn them of approaching emergency vehicles.

The new "Emergency Vehicle Alert System" (EVAS), consists of light-up signs (in the shape of a fire truck) that hang next to existing overhead traffic lights. As emergency vehicles approach these intersections during emergency runs, on-board radio transmitters activate the new signs' lights to warn motorists of the approaching emergency traffic. The new signals will not affect the sequence of the "normal" traffic lights, but motorists, by law, are obligated to yield right-of-way to approaching emergency vehicles until they have passed.

The experimental traffic signals will soon be installed by Wayne County transportation engineers at 3 intersections - North Beech Daly Road & West Warren Avenue; North Beech Daly Road & Hass Street; and West Warren Avenue & Fenton Street. The system was developed by E-Light, LLC of Livonia. Dearborn Heights is the first city in the nation to test the new system.

Dearborn Heights Police Chief Mike Gust is optimistic that the new signals will help increase the visibility of approaching emergency vehicles, while reducing the potential for collisions. "We are always concerned about the safety of both motorists and our emergency responders", Gust commented. "This signal gives us one more tool that will help make motorists aware that emergency responders are approaching – that increased visibility could help save lives."

Dearborn Heights Mayor Dan Paletko is also optimistic about the benefits of this new system. “We are pleased that Dearborn Heights was selected as the test site for this new system. We are eager to look at any resource that will help enhance the safety of our motorists and our responders. We look forward to working with E-Light on the testing and evaluation of this new product.

For more information on the new Emergency Vehicle Alert System (EVAS), contact the Dearborn Heights Police Department, 25637 Michigan Avenue, Dearborn Heights, MI 48125, or call (313) 277-7408.

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