

A BETTER LEFT TURN SIGNAL

The City of Eureka will be retrofitting some City-owned traffic signals with new flashing yellow left turn arrows. This signal has been demonstrated to be safer and more efficient and has been used successfully for a number of years in other states. The City will install the first flashing yellow left turn arrow signal in Humboldt County at the Harrison Avenue and Buhne Street intersection in November during the week of Thanksgiving. This change will affect only northbound traffic turning left, from Harrison Avenue to Buhne Street. The new traffic signal head is a configuration of four lighted arrows as shown below.

Here's what you'll see and what it means:



During the flashing yellow arrow phase, and before entering the intersection, look left and straight ahead for on-coming traffic, bicyclists and pedestrians. On-coming cars, bicycles and pedestrians will have the right of way.

Flashing yellow arrow signals provide more opportunities to make left hand turns, which mean less delay, making the signalized intersection more efficient. When flashing yellow arrows replace green ball signals, this configuration and signal operation can improve safety by reducing driver error due to its intuitive nature.

Additional locations in Eureka are being evaluated for installation.

If you have questions or comments about the flashing yellow left turn signal, please contact the Traffic Engineering Division at 441-4350 or Sheila Parrott at sparrott@ci.eureka.ca.gov.