


Memorandum

TO: William A. Simmons, City Manager

FROM: Jim May, Commander  219

DATE: June 3, 2011

SUBJECT: Citizen Complaint at Council meeting on May 26th

On May 26th, 2011, at the City Council meeting when public was invited to be heard, Mr. Ryan Keltch stated that it had taken him forty-five minutes to go from 104th and I-25 to 104th and Washington. He stated he called 911 to advise of the problem but did not see any officer show up to direct traffic, and that it seemed very dangerous.

I talked with Mr. Keltch after the council meeting and he stated the lights were on flash mode today and there were also on flash mode Monday. He stated on Monday a Northglenn Officer was off on the side of the road but did not direct traffic.

I advised Mr. Keltch that I would look into it and give him a call on what I found. I also told Mr. Keltch that one officer could not direct that large of an intersection as it becomes an officer safety issue. The officer was acting as a deterrent on Monday so drivers would treat it as a four way stop.

I talked with the traffic engineer on May 27th and she stated that WL Contractors was out on Thursday fixing the problem. She stated because of the heavy rain it shorted out some of the circuits. Please see attached memo from the traffic engineer.


I also had Officer Berens research the dispatch calls to check officer work load/calls during that time period. Please see his attached memo.

I also researched to see if there were any accidents on 104th and Washington St. during both of the malfunctions and there were none reported.

I talked with Mr. Keltch on May 28th and advised him of what I found out and he was thankful for the follow up.

NORTHGLENN POLICE DEPARTMENT

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: James May, Commander 

FROM: Ronald Berens, Police Officer

DATE: May 27, 2011

SUBJECT: Traffic Light Complaint

At your request, I researched the information regarding this complaint. The initial complaint was called in 1636 hrs on 052611 and dispatched to the swing shift traffic/cover officer (2N78) at 1650 hrs. The officer arrived on scene at 1706 hrs and cleared at 1710 hrs.

The initial complaint, called in by a passerby indicated the light was working until an ambulance went through the intersection. The caller believed the ambulance somehow caused the lights to default to a four-way flashing red light. The only CAD notes from the officer indicated, "Lights plashing red all the way around."

A second complaint on the intersection came via the Colorado State Patrol, asking for traffic control. There is no record of the reporting parties name or phone number for the second complaint.

Looking at the line-up for 052611, swing shift was at minimum staffing with a supervisor, two district officers and a traffic/cover car. When this call was dispatched, the east side car (2N71) was busy on a call. The west side car was not assigned an event at the time.

I spoke with the on-duty CSO. I was told she had called WL Contractors to repair the light. This call was made at 1715 hrs. There is no record of when the lights were corrected. The CSO told me this was the second time this week she had called WL Contractors for a problem with this light, the first time being on 052211 at 1340 hrs.

MEMORANDUM

Updated June 3, 2011

TO: William A. Simmons, City Manager
David Willett, Public Works Director

FROM: Joliette Woodson, Civil Engineer II

SUBJECT: Traffic Signal Operation: Washington St. and 104th Ave.

In response to the Citizen's inquiry, we are providing the following information regarding the operation of the traffic signal at the intersection of Washington St. and 104th Avenue.

The traffic signal's recent maintenance history is as follows:

May 16th - Load switches inside the traffic cabinet malfunctioned and had to be replaced. Electrical shorts in the wiring splices, most likely influenced by recent heavy rains, may have been the cause.

May 19th - Additional load switches inside the traffic cabinet malfunctioned and had to be replaced.

May 22nd - Voltage spike tripped the conflict monitor which sent the signal into flash. Electrical shorts in the wiring splices may have caused the voltage spike.

May 23rd - The City's traffic signal contractor, WL Contractors, Inc. (WL) notified City staff that the traffic signal at 104th Avenue and Washington St. had gone into flash several time in the past week. WL requested to shut down the intersection with the assistance of unformed traffic control to replace spliced wiring. City staff approved the work on May 23rd.

May 25th - WL replaced the spliced wiring in the pull boxes.

May 26th - The Northbound Pedestrian insert (LED unit) malfunctioned sending the conflict monitor into flash. The malfunction unit was replaced at approximately 5:00 pm that same day. Previous electrical shorts may have damaged the LED unit.

WL will continue to monitor the traffic signal at Washington St. and 104th Avenue and will address any additional repairs as quickly as possible.

If any additional information is needed please contact Joliette Woodson at 303-450-8835.