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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Innovative system to coordinate traffic signals on St. Lucie West Blvd., reduce travel delays

PORT ST. LUCIE – Drivers on St. Lucie West Boulevard should soon see improved traffic flow and fewer delays because of a new system that will use real-time data to coordinate traffic signals.

The City’s Public Works Department is now installing an upgrade to the Advanced Traffic Management System along St. Lucie West Boulevard that is expected to optimize traffic patterns along this busy corridor. However, drivers may experience short-term delays at signals during the next two weeks while the system is being installed.

“The system will be tested and in operation by the beginning of August,” Public Works Director James Angstadt said. “This system will monitor traffic volume and patterns and will adjust and adapt the signal operations to minimize delays.”

The new system will utilize this “adaptive signal control” at intersections from the Interstate 95 ramp to Bayshore Boulevard along St. Lucie West Boulevard. This is the first time the City of Port St. Lucie has utilized this technology, which incorporates real-time traffic volumes into the signal coordination plans. The technology captures current traffic demand data and uses it to adjust signal timing.

This type of system is especially useful for enhancing traffic patterns on roads with fluctuating volumes of vehicles. St. Lucie West Boulevard was chosen for this system because it has high traffic volume and numerous signals – and traffic fluctuates greatly because of baseball games at First Data Field and varying class schedules at Indian River State College, as well as elementary and secondary schools near the corridor.

This innovative project is expected to address the varying traffic volumes and, overall, reduce travel delays. After it is installed in St. Lucie West, city staff will monitor the system, and potentially identify other corridors in the City that may benefit from this technology.

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The City of Port St. Lucie is proud to be a hometown where people live, learn, work and play, and celebrate all of life's opportunities. With over 179,000 residents, Port St. Lucie is Florida's eighth largest city by population (South Florida's 3rd largest city). The City occupies an area of 120 square miles in St. Lucie County on Florida's east coast, about 50 miles north of West Palm Beach, half way between Miami and Orlando. The City provides most traditional municipal services including law enforcement, water and sewer, and public works. For more information, please visit: www.cityofpsl.com

