



# Memorandum



## ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

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**TO:** Gary Barczak, Chair, Board of Public Works  
Michael Czaplewski, First District  
Martin Weigel, Second District  
Daniel Roadt, Fourth District  
James Sengstock, Fifth District

**FROM:** Michael Lewis, City Engineer

**DATE:** June 11, 2009

**RE:** **Communication from City Engineer Regarding 60<sup>th</sup> Street Reconstruction Project-Traffic Signals at Mineral and Lapham Streets**

I believe this is the last remaining design decision for this project. The traffic study showed that the traffic signals at Mineral and Lapham Streets do not meet any signal warrants. Therefore, they are not needed now or within the next twenty years (see attached portions of the traffic study).

Installing unnecessary signals causes a number of problems besides additional costs. It restricts and delays traffic flow for cyclists and drivers alike, increases air pollution and increases accidents like rear-end collisions. It also encourages people to run yellow and red lights.

Accidents decreased after the traffic signals were removed on 72<sup>nd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> Street along National Avenue.

West Allis' share of reinstalling the signals is about \$26,000. Since this is a 80%-20% WisDOT-West Allis project, the total cost is around \$120,000 for both signals. Considering current and future costs, there is no traffic engineering reason for these signals and we are recommending that they be removed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the signature of Michael G. Lewis.