

June 3, 2009

Dogwood Street Traffic Flow Quickly Rectified

Drivers commuting along Dogwood Street in Campbell River this morning experienced slower-than-usual traffic flow when signal upgrades didn't work according to plan.

"We understand this morning's traffic upset a number of drivers, and a number of them have contacted the City to let us know," says Ron Neufeld, general manager of operations. "Clearly, there were some bumps associated with commissioning the upgrades for the traffic signals, and we're sorry for the inconvenience and frustration people experienced," he adds.

"The good news is, the contractor was on site immediately and has identified the programming problem," Neufeld says. "They're working to correct it by this afternoon. When the signals are completely (and correctly) commissioned, they'll operate in a three-phase mode to give traffic in one direction a green light, including a left turn light that will allow unrestricted movement."

The lights will show red in the other direction as well as for east-west lanes. The signal will then change to the second phase, which will give unrestricted green in the other direction, with continued red for east-west traffic. The third phase will show red to both north- and south-bound vehicles while the east-west traffic gets the green light.

The signals will have different timing in the morning and afternoons to provide longer green light periods for the lanes with higher volume of traffic (northbound traffic in the morning and southbound traffic in the afternoon).

"In addition, once the signals are properly timed, both the north and south bound traffic should experience the green wave, which will give drivers all green lights, provided they are traveling the speed limit," Neufeld emphasizes.

"We thank members of the public for their patience as we fine tune these signals and remind everyone to drive carefully," Neufeld sums up.

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