



**For Immediate Release:**  
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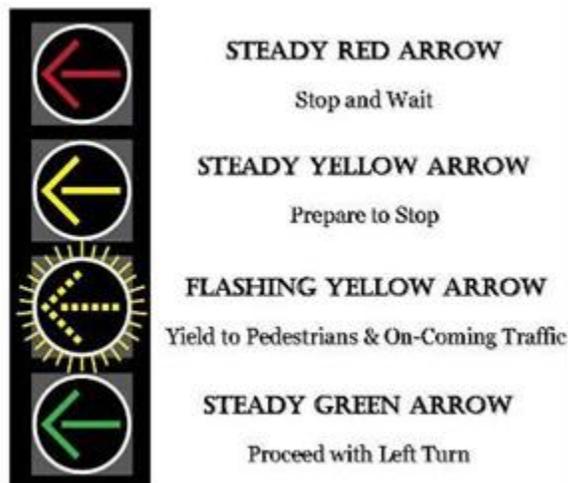
*New traffic signal technology...*

## Flashing Yellow Arrow debuting in Milledgeville

**MILLEDGEVILLE**— A new traffic signal designed to improve safety and increase traffic flow, especially for left-turn movements, will soon debut at the US 441 Milledgeville Five Star and Kroger intersection.

The existing five-section signal head that serves southbound left turns into Kroger is changing to a four-section flashing yellow arrow (FYA) on **Tuesday, May 3** if weather allows. The FYA works like current turn signals, except the yellow lights go into flash mode when drivers are permitted to make a left turn after yielding to oncoming traffic and pedestrians.

These new traffic lights are deployed at intersections with historic heavy left-turning traffic volumes. The FYA signals apply exclusively to drivers making left turns. The signal will be a vertical display of four left turn arrows functioning as follows:



- When solid **Red** arrow is illuminated, no left turn is allowed;
- When solid **Yellow** arrow is displayed, drivers should prepare to stop as light is about to turn red;

- When flashing **Yellow** arrow is illuminated, drivers may turn left but must yield to pedestrians and oncoming vehicles; and
- When solid **Green** arrow is displayed, drivers may turn left.

Federal Highway Administration studies have shown these signals help reduce crashes of left-turning vehicles by as much as 35 percent. The FYA also offers clearer guidance to drivers turning left and allows them more movement through the intersection when no pedestrians or oncoming traffic are present, thereby reducing back-ups, engine idling and auto-emissions.

The primary application for this type of signal is to reduce the often-devastating angle crashes that result when a left-turning vehicle is struck by oncoming traffic. FYA is now Georgia DOT's preferred left turn traffic signal for eligible locations – those with high numbers of left-turn movements and resultant traffic back-ups and related accidents. In addition to the Georgia DOT locations, cities and counties throughout the state will identify eligible locations and apply to the Department for permits for the new traffic signals.

During heavy traffic volume, the traffic signal may skip the flashing yellow phase to increase safety at the intersection. It is important that drivers not try to anticipate what the traffic signal is about to do; just “drive and obey the signal.”

If the traffic signal has a malfunction the left turn will flash red. As with all signalized intersections, a flashing red is treated as a stop condition and flashing yellow is treated as proceed with caution. If all indications at an intersection are flashing red or the intersection is dark, it should be treated as a four-way stop.

***DriveAlert ArriveAlive** calls attention to an alarming increase in roadway fatalities across Georgia, many resulting from preventable crashes and distracted driving. **DriveAlert ArriveAlive** implores motorists to buckle up; stay off the phone and no texting; and drive alert. Visit [www.dot.ga.gov/DS/SafetyOperation/DAAA](http://www.dot.ga.gov/DS/SafetyOperation/DAAA). #ArriveAliveGA*

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