



FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

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DIVISION OF PUBLIC WORKS

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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New Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon Operational at Eaglehead Drive and Hopewell Street

FREDERICK, MD – The Frederick County Office of Transportation Engineering announced today that a Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon at the intersection of Eaglehead Drive and Hopewell Street in New Market will be operational on or about August 29, 2019, becoming the first pedestrian hybrid beacon in Frederick County and one of the first in Maryland.

Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons (PHB's) are marked crosswalks with beacons that remain dark until activated by a pedestrian. When the beacons are dark, motorists can proceed normally through the intersection and pedestrians are shown a "don't walk" pedestrian signal indicated by a steady hand. When activated, the beacons will display a series of lights to motorists in the following sequence:

1. When first activated by a pedestrian, a yellow light will flash, indicating to motorists that a pedestrian has activated the system. Pedestrians are shown a "don't walk" signal.
2. The flashing yellow is followed by a steady yellow, indicating that motorists should prepare to stop. Pedestrians continue to see a "don't walk" signal.
3. The steady yellow light is followed by double steady red lights, indicating that motorists are required to stop behind the intersection stop bar (line). Pedestrians will be shown a "walk" signal and may begin crossing when all motorists are stopped.
4. Motorists continue to see two steady red lights and are required to remain stopped behind the stop bar (line). The pedestrian "walk" signal is followed by a flashing "don't walk" signal with a countdown timer indicating how much time remains before the walk phase is complete.
5. When the countdown is complete, the pedestrian signal will again display a steady hand indicating "don't walk" and the steady red lights on the beacon will go dark. Motorists may proceed normally through the intersection when the beacon returns to the dark phase and pedestrians have cleared the crosswalk.

(more)

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Motorists are cautioned to drive safely and be aware of the new traffic control device and pedestrians crossing at this intersection. Motorists will see a new regulatory sign next to the beacons that indicate the legal requirements of motorists to stop on a Circular Red, similar to conventional traffic signals where motorists are required to stop on Circular Reds.

For more information, contact Project Manager Thomas Washington at 301-600-1585 or via e-mail at TWashington@FrederickCountyMD.gov.

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