

Why is the new traffic signal at Hill Road North (SR 256) and Commerce Drive (near Rutherford's Auto Body) still on flash?

The traffic signal was put in by and paid for by the developer for the property on the west side of Hill Road North. A commercial development (office or retail) is planned for the site.

The traffic signal will not be fully turned on until there is enough commercial development to generate sufficient side street traffic to warrant turning the signal on. Depending on the economy, this may be a couple of years off.

Why can't you just leave the traffic signal off completely?

By Ohio law, traffic signals that are not functioning or "black" are to be treated as 4-way stops. We certainly don't want all traffic on Hill Road North to have to come to a stop all the time.

Isn't leaving the traffic signal on flash wasting electricity?

All the traffic signals in Pickerington (including this one) have L.E.D. bulbs. LED lighting uses 90% less electricity than conventional bulbs. With the signal just on flash, little electricity is used.

Why didn't you wait to have the traffic signal installed until the development's traffic warranted it?

The developer paid about \$100,000 for the traffic signal. We didn't want to gamble on being able to compel the developer to come back in several years and put the traffic signal in. Again, the city's cost for the traffic signal was \$0.