

## Christel Pettinos

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**From:** George Marshall  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 03, 2017 10:46 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Kenneth Griffin; Kent Collins; Engineer  
**Subject:** RE: Concerns about traffic signal

Mr. Venkatraman,

No, there is not a camera on this signal that records vehicles as they are going through (making left or right turns).

Thank You, George



**George S. Marshall, P.E.**  
Engineering Manager  
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**From:** Venky Venkatraman [mailto:[REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2017 12:27 AM  
**To:** George Marshall <GMarshall@coppelltx.gov>  
**Cc:** Kenneth Griffin <KGriffin@coppelltx.gov>; Kent Collins <KCollins@coppelltx.gov>; Engineer <Engineer@coppelltx.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Concerns about traffic signal

George,

I have one more question.

Is there a camera on this signal that records vehicles as they are going through (making left or right turns)?

Thanks.

Venky

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**From:** George Marshall [<mailto:GMarshall@coppelltx.gov>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2017 4:31 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Kenneth Griffin <[KGriffin@coppelltx.gov](mailto:KGriffin@coppelltx.gov)>; Kent Collins <[KCollins@coppelltx.gov](mailto:KCollins@coppelltx.gov)>; Engineer <[Engineer@coppelltx.gov](mailto:Engineer@coppelltx.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Concerns about traffic signal

Mr. Venkatraman,

1. Can you confirm there is no intelligence built into the signal to stop the RIGHT ONLY from coming on when there is no traffic going west on Parkway?

Answer: There is not a way to program that possibility.

2. If so, what fixed times of day does the RIGHT ONLY sign come on and stay on?

Answer: The operation times are programmed 7am to 8:30am. We are reviewing the operation as the school start time was changed last week to 8:40am.

3. With respect to your statement "I would note that we recently installed a new signal controller at this location and we are still trouble shooting its operation but that does not impact this issue." – can you provide some technical details on this signal controller (including but not limited to the types of issues that the trouble shooting might have unearthed) and why it was installed?

Answer: The trouble shooting of the operation revolves around how this controller programs a right turn with a non-conflicting left turn. There are no operational problems, just additional operations we would like to include. The controller is an Intelight X3 controller. You are more than welcome to get information from the manufacturer's website. The only thing I would have is a users manual. The reason this signal controller was installed is that we have 35 traffic signals in town and we are replacing all signal controllers used at the intersections so we can have less spare parts on the shelf and to improve efficiency.

4. Was a traffic study done before the signal was installed?

Answer: A detailed traffic study was not performed however engineering judgement was used to make the decision to install the traffic signal.

5. Was the no left turn sign included based only on anecdotal opinions from police officers?

Answer: The no left turn sign was included in the design because engineering judgement was it would result in safe and efficient traffic and pedestrian flow into and out of the high school.

Thank You, George



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One more question : was a traffic study done before the signal was installed ... or was the no left turn sign included based only on anecdotal opinions from police officers? Please provide a detailed response as this is a concern of others living in my neighborhood as well.

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**From:** Venky Venkatraman [<mailto:venky.venkatraman@coppschools.org>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 26, 2017 9:44 AM

**To:** George Marshall <[GMarshall@coppelltx.gov](mailto:GMarshall@coppelltx.gov)>

**Cc:** Kent Collins <[KCollins@coppelltx.gov](mailto:KCollins@coppelltx.gov)>; Kenneth Griffin <[KGriffin@coppelltx.gov](mailto:KGriffin@coppelltx.gov)>; Engineer <[Engineer@coppelltx.gov](mailto:Engineer@coppelltx.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Concerns about traffic signal

George,

Thank you for your detailed response.

A couple of follow-up questions:

You say "Before the traffic signal was installed this intersection was controlled by a police officer who would prevent northbound left turns. When the city installed a traffic signal, the same operation was implemented to preserve safety and operation. The changeable lane use signs would operate such that they would mimic the operation provide by the police officer. ". However, I know for a fact that the police officer would NEVER stop anyone from making a left turn from Cowboy onto Parkway if there was no traffic traveling westbound on Parkway at that time. That leads me to 2 more questions:

1. Can you confirm there is no intelligence built into the signal to stop the RIGHT ONLY from coming on when there is no traffic going west on Parkway?
2. If so, what fixed times of day does the RIGHT ONLY sign come on and stay on?

With respect to your statement "I would note that we recently installed a new signal controller at this location and we are still trouble shooting its operation but that does not impact this issue." – can you provide some technical details on this signal controller (including but not limited to the types of issues that the trouble shooting might have unearthed) and why it was installed?

Look forward to your reply.

Venky

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**From:** George Marshall [<mailto:GMarshall@coppelltx.gov>]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 4:07 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Kent Collins <[KCollins@coppelltx.gov](mailto:KCollins@coppelltx.gov)>; Kenneth Griffin <[KGriffin@coppelltx.gov](mailto:KGriffin@coppelltx.gov)>; Engineer <[Engineer@coppelltx.gov](mailto:Engineer@coppelltx.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Concerns about traffic signal

Mr. Venkatraman,

I responded via voicemail as you had called me requesting a response immediately. I have explained in detail over the phone with you in the past and the end for the conversation you told me you understand why we included a time of day left turn restriction.

To respond to your question why we cannot allow left turns at all times of day please see as follows:

Before the traffic signal was installed this intersection was controlled by a police officer who would prevent northbound left turns. When the city installed a traffic signal, the same operation was implemented to preserve safety and operation. The changeable lane use signs would operate such that they would mimic the operation provide by the police officer.

The right turn only restriction for the northbound direction allows the signal to provide the following benefits:

- 1) During the same time period that the westbound left turn operates, the northbound direction can provide right turn movements This decreases the likelihood of any traffic backup of westbound Parkway into Denton Tap, which has occurred in the past.
- 2) At the same time, pedestrians cross on the west side of the intersection during the northbound time period. If we prevent the left turn movement with the lane use sign then the pedestrians are safer when crossing the intersection.

I would note that we recently installed a new signal controller at this location and we are still trouble shooting its operation but that does not impact this issue.

For those that live on the west side of the intersection or those wishing to head westbound on Parkway there are several options: 1) NB Parkway/Cowboy turn right, turn right on Denton Tap, right at Sandy Lake, right on N. Coppell and right onto Parkway. (Google maps from the intersection to Graham Drive would be 6-12 min at 8:30am via this route and 2-3 min if able to turn left). 2) Make a u-turn at the median opening at Wallgreens.

In the grand scheme of traffic operations the city looks at all aspects of traffic flow and existing traffic conditions to make decisions on how to manage that traffic. Sometimes it means restricting movements by time of day, which we know can cause additional delay to some drivers, but it has benefits to the overall operation of the intersection.

At this time, the City will not make any changes to the northbound left turn restriction by time of day. If in the future, traffic patterns change or the use nearby changes then the city could re-evaluate the situation. Next year, when the 9<sup>th</sup> grade moves to Wrangler may be a good time to re-evaluate.

Thank You, George



**George S. Marshall, P.E.**

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**From:** Venky Venkatraman [[mailto:](#) [REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:57 PM  
**To:** George Marshall <[GMarshall@coppelltx.gov](mailto:GMarshall@coppelltx.gov)>  
**Cc:** Kenneth Griffin <[KGriffin@coppelltx.gov](mailto:KGriffin@coppelltx.gov)>; Kent Collins <[KCollins@coppelltx.gov](mailto:KCollins@coppelltx.gov)>; Engineer <[Engineer@coppelltx.gov](mailto:Engineer@coppelltx.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Concerns about traffic signal  
**Importance:** High

George,

I received your voicemail response yesterday. I would prefer a written response to my complaint, which to reiterate is "For the benefit of those living west of the school, I am asking that at no time of the day left turns should be prevented from Cowboy drive onto Parkway and if this request cannot be accommodated, then I would like to know the exact reasons why."

Can you send one across ASAP?

Thanks.

Venky

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**From:** Venky Venkatraman [[mailto:](#) [REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 18, 2017 11:06 AM  
**To:** 'George Marshall' <[GMarshall@coppelltx.gov](mailto:GMarshall@coppelltx.gov)>  
**Cc:** 'Kenneth Griffin' <[KGriffin@coppelltx.gov](mailto:KGriffin@coppelltx.gov)>; 'Kent Collins' <[KCollins@coppelltx.gov](mailto:KCollins@coppelltx.gov)>; 'engineer@coppelltx.gov'

<[engineer@coppelltx.gov](mailto:engineer@coppelltx.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Concerns about traffic signal

George,

In that case, my complaint is as follows:

I live on Gifford Drive which is west of the school. So if I am prevented from turning left onto Parkway from Cowboy Drive when trying to return home from school, it is a major inconvenience as then I have to turn right on Parkway and then try to make a U-turn on at the left turn for Walgreen where it disrupts oncoming traffic and it is difficult to make a U during rush hour.

For the benefit of those living west of the school, I am asking that at no time of the day left turns should be prevented from Cowboy drive onto Parkway and if this request cannot be accommodated, then I would like to know the exact reasons why.

Please confirm you will treat this as a "complaint" and follow-up.

Thanks.

Venky

P.S. I will seek the remining information that I requested via an Open Records Request which I will be filing shortly.

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**From:** George Marshall [<mailto:GMarshall@coppelltx.gov>]

**Sent:** Monday, September 18, 2017 10:05 AM

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** Kenneth Griffin <[KGriffin@coppelltx.gov](mailto:KGriffin@coppelltx.gov)>; Kent Collins <[KCollins@coppelltx.gov](mailto:KCollins@coppelltx.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Concerns about traffic signal

Mr. Venkatraman,

A complaint we might recieve would be something like "I don't like how the city operates the signal at xyz intersection. I live on xx street and need to be able to do xx. My problems is typically around xx time xx day of the week."

We also receive may other types of issues that might need to be addressed such as floodplain inquiries or requesting to add sidewalk or a ramp at a given location or possibly, can you look into fixing this pothole on x street.

Thank you, George



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**From:** Venky Venkatraman [mailto: [REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 18, 2017 9:29 AM  
**To:** George Marshall <GMarshall@coppelltx.gov>  
**Cc:** Kenneth Griffin <KGriffin@coppelltx.gov>; Kent Collins <KCollins@coppelltx.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Concerns about traffic signal

George,

I know how to file an Open Records request.

What type of complaints do you expect to be filed at the engineer email address?

Venky

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**From:** George Marshall [mailto:GMarshall@coppelltx.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 18, 2017 7:37 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Kenneth Griffin <KGriffin@coppelltx.gov>; Kent Collins <KCollins@coppelltx.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Concerns about traffic signal

Mr. Venkatraman,

The information you are requesting would be considered an open records request. Please contact the City Secretary's office for that process.

<http://www.coppelltx.gov/government/city-secretary>

<http://www.coppelltx.gov/Pages/Requests-for-Public-Information.aspx>

The email address [engineer@coppelltx.gov](mailto:engineer@coppelltx.gov) was given to you as the appropriate email to lodge a complaint.

Thank You, George



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**From:** Venky Venkatraman [mailto: [REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2017 3:15 PM  
**To:** Engineer <Engineer@coppelltx.gov>  
**Subject:** Concerns about traffic signal

This is with reference to the traffic signal facing Cowboy at the intersection of Parkway where the one of the left turn lanes is converted into a right only lane during certain times of the day.

With reference to this signal, I am seeking the following information:

1. Date the signal was installed
2. Rationale for installing this signal
3. Dates of maintenance of this signal
4. Records related to any malfunctioning of this signal
5. Records of any repairs performed on this signal
6. Number of complaints received regarding the functioning of this signal since its installation

Please provide this information ASAP.

Thanks.

*Venky Venkatraman*