

BLOOMINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

TRAFFIC DIRECTION

Reviewed by: Asst. Chief Gregory Scott	Effective Date: September 27, 2018
Authorized by: Chief Clay Wheeler	Revision Date: May 28, 2019

PURPOSE

The department will work with Public Works to provide assistance as needed in controlling traffic. In emergent situations, officers are expected to provide traffic direction to mitigate risk and restore the flow of traffic as quickly as possible.

PROCEDURE

A. Traffic signal or device failure

In most circumstances, officers will not provide traffic direction in instances where a traffic control signal has failed.

Pursuant to Illinois Secretary of State Rules of the Road: “When traffic control signals are not working, a driver must always treat the intersection as an all-way stop, by coming to a complete stop, unless directed otherwise by law enforcement.

B. Special events

Traffic control at or for a special event will be in conjunction with Public Works and other departments. The need for officers to engage in specific traffic control will be designated in the Special Event Permit.

The on duty supervisor tasked with staffing the event should evaluate the event to make sure the requested traffic control seems to be adequate. The supervisor may add additional resources if available to properly staff the traffic control need. Supervisors are discouraged from reducing the amount of traffic control as the minimum terms have been negotiated in the Special Event planning process.

C. Fire Scenes

Traffic control at the fire scene is primarily to allow fire equipment and other emergency vehicles to access and depart the scene as necessary. Officers on scene will direct or control traffic to safeguard equipment in the roadway such as fire hoses and maintain the routes for emergency vehicles enter and leave the scene.

D. Hazardous road conditions

When the department discovers or is made aware of a hazardous roadway condition, the department will coordinate with other City departments to protect traffic from the hazard and will notify the responsible City department to remove the hazard. For example if a water main break is discovered the department will notify the Water Department. If a tree has fallen and is the roadway, Forestry will be notified.

If the hazard is going to take time to be removed, the officer or on duty supervisor may request barricades to block the area from traffic.

E. Traffic control and direction by the officer

Officers who are engaged in directing traffic will wear an ANSI reflective vest. Officers will position themselves to be clearly seen by the traffic they are directing.

Exigent circumstances may not allow time for an officer to put on the ANSI reflective vest immediately. Officer are expected to put on the ANSI reflective vest as soon as practicable.

When directing traffic, officers should use large arm and hand movements, which clearly indicate what action the motorist is to take. See below for acceptable hand signals.

F. Traffic Control boxes

Officers may use Traffic Control boxes to modify the flow of traffic when requested as part of a Special Events permit or when directed by a supervisor. The key for the traffic control boxes are kept at the Command Tower.

G. Traffic Cones

Marked squad cars are equipped with 6 traffic cones. These traffic cones may be used in conjunction with the marked squad car to temporarily direct traffic. Officers and supervisors may request additional traffic control signs from public works as necessary. Additional equipment may include large barricades, additional cones and sign boards.

Hands signals as taught by Macon County Law Enforcement Training Center.

Stop



Traffic approaching
from the front



Traffic approaching from
both front and behind



Traffic approaching
from behind

To beckon traffic on



From the side



From the front



From behind*