



NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

TO: NOACA Board of Directors
FROM: Grace Gallucci, Executive Director
DATE: December 1, 2017
RE: **Resolution 2017-050; Traffic Signal Preemption Policy**

ACTION REQUESTED

The Board of Directors is asked to approve the proposed revision the current Traffic Signal Preemption Policy within the Regional Transportation Investment Policy.

The Policy Committee recommended this action.

BACKGROUND / JUSTIFICATION FOR CURRENT ACTION

The NOACA Regional Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Architecture is a roadmap for transportation systems integration in the 5 county (Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, and Medina) NOACA region over the next 15 years. The architecture was last updated in 2009 and was developed through a cooperative effort by the region's transportation agencies, covering all modes and all roads in the region. The NOACA Regional ITS Architecture documents how the region envisions that each agency's systems will work together in the future and how sharing of information and resources will help provide a safer, more efficient, and more effective transportation system for travelers in the region.

In the current Regional ITS Architecture, emergency vehicle signal preemption was identified as a long term priority for the region. Additionally, NOACA's current signal preemption planning policy, as contained in the Regional Transportation Investment Policy, states:

NOACA strongly encourages regional and countywide signal preemption policies that help police, fire and other emergency vehicle response times. Based on existing preemption equipment and agreements, NOACA requires that 1) future preemption systems in Cuyahoga and Medina counties be sound activated and 2) future preemption systems in Lake County be light activated.

Requests for new traffic signaling systems must be coordinated with the agency responsible for public transit in the project study area to help ensure that the system is capable of signal priority for public transit vehicles in a transit corridor.

This policy was added to the RTIP on July 14, 2006 via Resolution 2004-061. Traffic signal preemption technology has advanced since the policy was implemented.

On June 9, 2017, the Board of Directors adopted *AIM Forward 2040*, the long-range transportation plan developed by NOACA for the regional transportation system. *AIM Forward 2040* contains recommendations to be undertaken by NOACA and its regional partners. To best guide and advance implementation of the recommendations, specific policies will need to be updated, developed and adopted by the agency.

A potential revision to the preemption policy was presented to the Safety and Operations Council at its August meeting, the Transportation Subcommittee at its September meeting and the Policy Committee at its October meeting.

NOACA strongly encourages regional and countywide signal preemption policies that help police, fire and other emergency vehicle response times. Based on existing preemption equipment and agreements, NOACA requires that 1) future preemption systems in Cuyahoga and Medina counties be sound activated and 2) future preemption systems in Lake County be light activated. Other emergency vehicle preemption systems will be allowed, provided communities in Cuyahoga and Medina Counties maintain sound activated preemption as a parallel system, and communities in Lake County maintain light activated preemption as a parallel system.

The Policy Committee was in support of the policy update with the following revision:

NOACA strongly encourages regional and countywide signal preemption policies that help police, fire and other emergency vehicle response times. Based on existing preemption equipment and agreements, NOACA requires that 1) future preemption systems in Cuyahoga and Medina counties be sound activated and 2) future preemption systems in Lake County be light activated. Other ~~emergency vehicle~~ traffic signal preemption systems will be allowed, provided communities in Cuyahoga and Medina Counties maintain sound activated preemption as a parallel system, and communities in Lake County maintain light activated preemption as a parallel system.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact at this time.

CONCLUSION / NEXT STEPS

With Board approval, the Regional Transportation Investment Policy will be updated to include the revised Traffic Signal Preemption Policy.

GG/ks/2982b

RESOLUTION 2017-050
(Traffic Signal Preemption Policy)

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY

WHEREAS, the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the counties of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, and Medina, and the areawide water quality management agency for the same region; and

WHEREAS, in the current Regional ITS Architecture, emergency vehicle signal preemption was identified as a long term priority for the region; and

WHEREAS, the current policy was added to the RTIP on July 14, 2006 via Resolution 2004-061; and

WHEREAS, traffic signal preemption technology has advanced since the policy was implemented; and

WHEREAS, NOACA's Safety and Operations Council and Transportation Subcommittee reviewed the proposed policy and provided input and the Policy Committee reviewed and recommended that the Board of Directors approve the revised policy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, consisting of forty-five principal officials serving general purpose local governments throughout and within the counties of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, and the City of Cleveland that:

Section 1. The Traffic Signal Preemption Policy, as defined is approved.

Section 2. The revised Traffic Signal Preemption Policy will be incorporated into the Regional Transportation Investment Policy.

Section 3. The Executive Director is authorized to transmit certified copies of this resolution to appropriate federal, state, and local agencies.

Certified to be a true copy of a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency adopted this 8th day of December 2017.

Secretary: _____

Date Signed: _____

Timothy C. Lennon