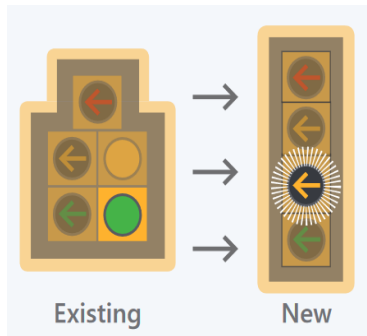


## Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program (VHSIP) Proactive Systemic Initiatives for VDOT Owned/Maintained Roads:

# Flashing Yellow Arrow



*Example of a 5 to 4-head traffic signal conversion using a flashing yellow arrow*



*Flashing Yellow Arrow Installation in Virginia*

VDOT works hard to provide a roadway network that operates safely, efficiently, and effectively. In 2019, the Commonwealth Transportation Board approved the deployment of highly effective, low-cost safety improvements to help reduce serious injury and fatal crashes across the Commonwealth. This data-driven strategy focuses on proactively targeting locations with higher crash risk. The goal is not to wait for crashes to occur before we proactively treat high-risk locations on the roadway network!

**Flashing Yellow Arrow (FYA)** is a treatment applied to traffic signals that helps drivers who are turning left avoid confusion about who has the right-of-way and also reminds them to proceed cautiously. The concern is that drivers turning left when the light is green (a green ball) might mistakenly think that they have the right-of-way over opposing traffic,

especially under certain geometric conditions.<sup>1</sup> FYA provides clearer guidance to the drivers that they should proceed with caution when turning left, by showing flashing yellow arrows (i.e., yield). Research has proven that FYA can reduce crashes at signalized intersections by up to 50%.<sup>1</sup>

To reduce intersection crashes, the VHSIP program is funding the installation of FYA at all appropriate VDOT-maintained traffic signals throughout the Commonwealth.

For any questions on inquiries on VHSIP, please email: [hsiprogram@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:hsiprogram@vdot.virginia.gov)

VHSIP offers email notifications. Sign up to be notified of revised guidance, program updates, training opportunities, and more! Listserv Sign-up link: <http://eepurl.com/hY1DSj>

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/research/safety/19035/19035.pdf>