



## Signal optimization project speeds up traffic on Pike, Greene Streets

by Tom Lotshaw

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Traffic is moving more smoothly through frequently congested areas of Pike and Greene Streets in Marietta now that a traffic signal optimization project is complete, city officials said last week.

By adjusting and synchronizing traffic signal timing, the pilot project, funded primarily by the Ohio Department of Transportation, aimed to speed up the flow of traffic in a corridor of Pike and Greene Streets between Third Street and County House Lane.

According to city officials, the project has successfully reduced travel times and the number of stops experienced by drivers and increased average vehicle speeds during peak times of traffic in the corridor.

"This is an important project for council, the administration, and the public to understand because it's something you don't see, but the results are real," City Engineer Joe Tucker told city council's streets and transportation committee during a July 7 meeting.

"Overall I'm very pleased with the results," Tucker said.

According to Tucker, travel times through the corridor overall decreased by 2% eastbound and 10% westbound during the morning traffic peak; by 3% eastbound and 1% westbound during the afternoon traffic peak; by 3% eastbound and 6% westbound during the evening traffic peak; and by 11% eastbound and 19% westbound during off peak hours.

"The corridor showed improvements during all peak periods. With a very little amount of money from the city we improved that corridor and reduced gas consumption and air pollution and let people get through faster," Tucker said.

The city spent a total of \$10,890 on the traffic signal optimization project, which was completed by Mason, Ohio-based TEC Engineering.