

Martin O'Malley, Governor
Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor



Beverley K. Swaim-Staley, Secretary
Melinda B. Peters, Administrator

June 6, 2012

Ms. Nancy Maisel
13512 Arrowwood Lane
Bowie MD 20715

RECEIVED

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City of Bowie

Dear Ms. Maisel:

This is in further response to your request for a traffic signal at MD 197 (Laurel Bowie Road) and Old Chapel Road, north of Bowie Plaza. The State Highway Administration (SHA) District Three Traffic Office has completed its review, and is writing to provide you the results.

The SHA follows the nationally-accepted *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (MUTCD) as a guideline to when and where traffic control devices should be installed. These guidelines are nationwide in scope and endorsed by the Federal Highway Administration. As a highway operations agency, the State Highway Administration assumes an obligation to follow these guidelines.

A traffic signal warrant analysis was performed based on a recent turning movement counts at the intersection. Numerous factors were analyzed such as traffic volumes, crash history, sight distances, operational delay, and prevailing speeds at the intersection. A 13-hour traffic volume count was taken at MD 197 at Old Chapel Road and the volume count revealed the vehicular and pedestrian volumes do not meet the threshold for installation of a traffic signal. The measured delays for the eastbound approach on Old Chapel Road were not excessive; the peak period averages were approximately 35 seconds in the morning and 48 seconds in the evening, and the highest recorded delay was 90 seconds. A review of the history of reported collisions from the past three years did not reveal a pattern of crashes that could be corrected by installation of a traffic signal. Field observations revealed that, with consideration given to the prevailing speeds, there is more than adequate intersection sight distance for motorists to turn safely onto MD 197. Based on the results of the analysis, a signal is not recommended at this time.

Thank you again for sharing your concerns. If you have any additional questions or concerns, please feel free to contact my Team Leader for Traffic, Ms. Shaneka Owens, at 301-513-7424 or 1-800-749-0737. Ms. Owens will be pleased to assist you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Felecia C. Murphy'.

Felecia Murphy
Assistant District Engineer-Traffic (Prince George's County)

FM:SO:ST:sm

My telephone number/toll-free number is [301-513-7300](tel:301-513-7300) or [1-800-749-0737](tel:1-800-749-0737)
Maryland Relay Service for Impaired Hearing or Speech 1.800.735.2258 Statewide Toll Free

Street Address: 9300 Kenilworth Avenue • Greenbelt, Maryland 20770 • Phone 301.513.7300 • www.roads.maryland.gov