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New signal activated Tuesday on TV Highway

The traffic light will help reduce crashes at the 178th Avenue intersection

ODOT will activate a new traffic signal Tuesday morning at Southwest Tualatin Valley Highway and 178th Avenue, an intersection known for a high number of crashes and pedestrian injuries.

Installing a full traffic signal should help make the intersection more safe. In recent years, the site has seen pedestrians struck and vehicles rear-ended. Bus stops and a convenience store contribute to steady foot traffic crossing the highway.

ODOT installed a rapid flash beacon adjacent to the highway lanes in an effort to alert drivers when pedestrians are ready to cross. The beacon helped reduce crashes but the new signal should further increase safety. The beacon that had been at the intersection will be used on another state highway, the location still to be determined.

The new signal will operate in concert with other traffic signals along Tualatin Valley Highway. It will also be activated by pedestrians and by vehicles approaching the highway from SW 178th Avenue. Other project elements include a second crosswalk on the east side of the interchange and new sidewalk ADA ramps.

The signal is the result of planning by ODOT, the Washington County Sheriff's Office, TriMet and Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue, which responds to crashes at the intersection.

Project website: http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1/TV_178/

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