



EVANS

WASHINGTON ROAD CORRIDOR GEORGIA

VALIDATION STUDY BRIEF

STUDY SUMMARY

In early 2010, Columbia County studied five InSync-equipped intersections on the North Sector of Washington Road. In late 2011, the county studied InSync as deployed on an additional seven intersections in the South Sector, creating a continuous network of 12 InSync intersections encompassing 4.8 miles. This two-phase study compares each sector of Washington Road's traffic operations under its previous coordinated timing plan with its operations using InSync adaptive traffic control.

OBJECTIVES

Reduce stops, travel time, delay and fuel consumption in the network by optimizing traffic signal operations using InSync.

CHALLENGES

The North Sector of Washington Road intersects with another arterial, N. Belair Road, making signal optimization along the two arterials particularly challenging. Both sectors experience high volume on the side streets, heavy AM/PM peak commuter traffic, variable traffic patterns and flow generated by many large businesses along the corridor and major event traffic that the previous coordinated timing plan was unable to properly serve.

SOLUTION

Columbia County selected InSync adaptive traffic control to meet its objectives. The system was subsequently upgraded from InSync, which only uses video detection, to InSync:Fusion, which also integrates inductive loops. Rhythm Engineering helped configure the system, monitored its performance and made adjustments as needed to optimize traffic flow.

BENEFITS

The benefits to the community summarized below are based on the results of InSync on 12 intersections along Washington Road. All calculations are based on normal weekday travel and the results indicate approximate benefits to drivers. Because Columbia County operates additional InSync intersections not studied here, benefits are likely greater.

The initial five intersections on the North Sector of Washington Road were analyzed for safety results. Crashes reduced by 26% from 2009, the year before InSync was deployed, to 2010, the first year InSync was operational. This result is the summation of a 14.6% reduction in mid-block and driveway collisions and a 30.7% decrease in intersection collisions. Overall, there were 42 fewer crashes on this segment alone. Using an average cost of \$27,731 per crash, this provides an additional economic benefit of \$1,164,702 per year as well as a likely decrease in injuries and potentially fatalities.

It was amazing to see the transformation in the road in mere minutes after the system was turned on. In the past five years, I have driven this corridor several times a day. I can clearly remember only making it through the corridor, without stopping, one time in those five years. We were able to do it three times in a row within 30 minutes of activating the system.

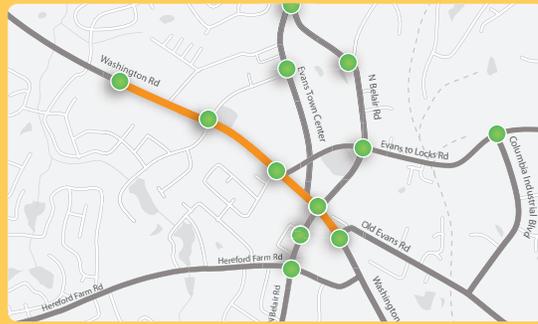
Matt Schlachter, P.E.
 Director
 Construction & Maintenance Services Division
 Columbia County

	DAILY BENEFIT	ANNUAL BENEFIT
Vehicle Hours of Travel (reduction)	895 hours	232,764 hours
Fuel Consumption (decrease)	671 gallons	174,403 gallons
Stops (eliminated)	75,362 stops	1,959,099 stops
Total Economic Benefit <small>(fuel * \$2.50) + (stops * \$.10) + (time * \$15.00)</small>	\$23,313	\$6,061,270

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NORTH SECTOR

InSync:Fusion with video detection and inductive loops.

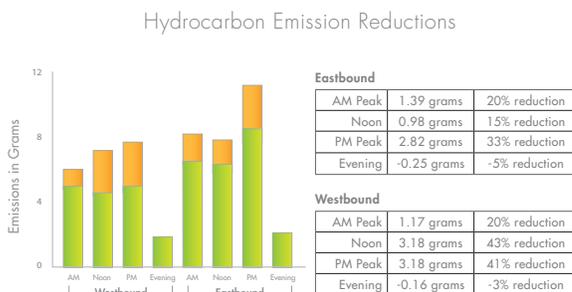
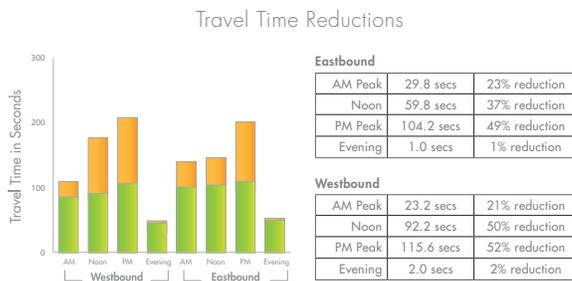


MOST NOTEWORTHY IMPROVEMENTS:

- 52% travel time reduction
- 100% stop reduction
- 110% average speed increase
- 93% delay reduction
- 43% hydrocarbon emission reduction
- 33% fuel reduction

The study results below evaluate and compare the travel time, number of stops, speed, delay, emissions and fuel consumption before implementation of InSync and after implementation of InSync:Fusion.

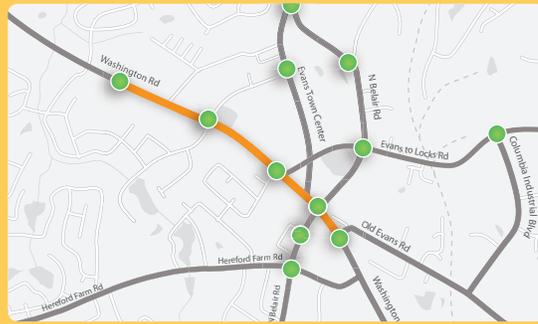
NORTH SECTOR WITH INSYNC:FUSION MAP & RESULTS



Before After

NORTH SECTOR

InSync with only video detection.



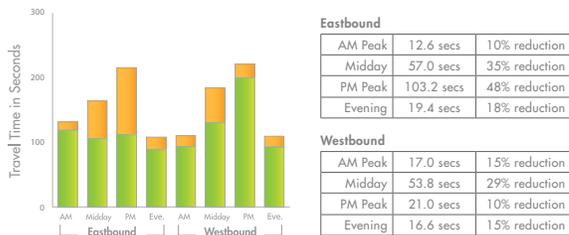
MOST NOTEWORTHY IMPROVEMENTS:

- 48% travel time reduction
- 100% stop reduction
- 93% average speed increase
- 78% delay reduction
- 39% hydrocarbon emission reduction
- 32% fuel reduction

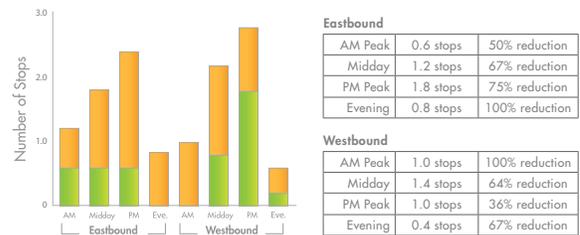
The study results below evaluate and compare the travel time, number of stops, speed, delay, emissions and fuel consumption before implementation of InSync and after implementation of InSync equipped with only InSync's video detection.

NORTH SECTOR WITH INSYNC AND VIDEO MAP & RESULTS

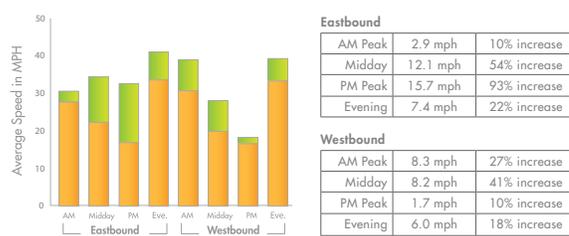
Travel Time Reductions



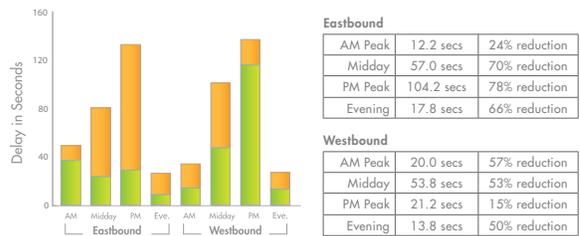
Stop Reductions



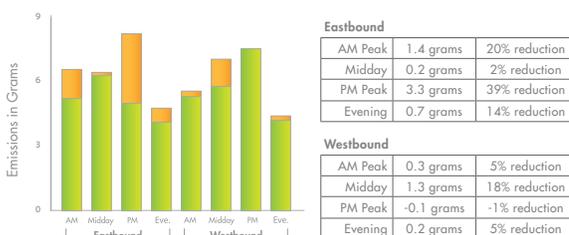
Average Speed Increase



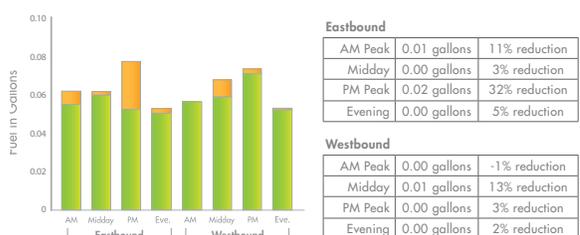
Delay Reductions



Hydrocarbon Emission Reductions



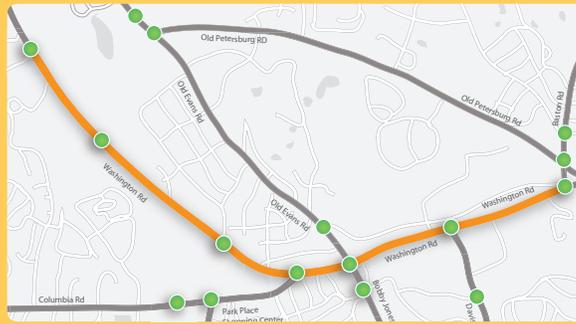
Fuel Reductions



Before After

SOUTH SECTOR

InSync:Fusion with video detection and inductive loops.



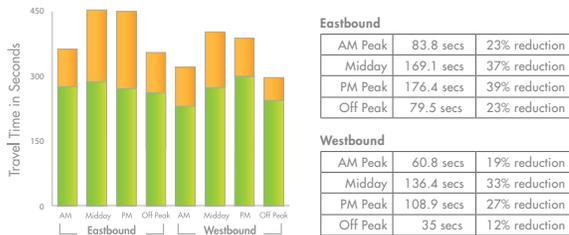
MOST NOTEWORTHY IMPROVEMENTS:

- 39% travel time reduction
- 90% stop reduction
- 65% average speed increase
- 82% delay reduction
- 29% hydrocarbon emission reduction
- 20% fuel reduction

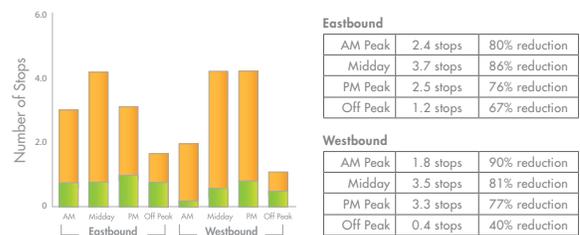
The study evaluates and compares the travel time, number of stops, speed, delay, emissions and fuel consumption before and after the implementation of the InSync:Fusion system.

SOUTH SECTOR MAP & RESULTS

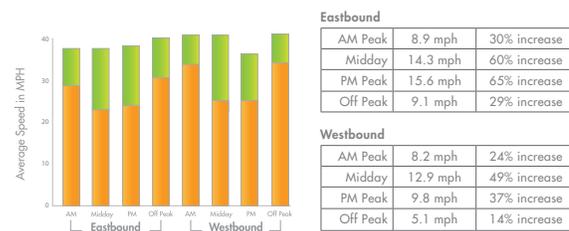
Travel Time Reductions



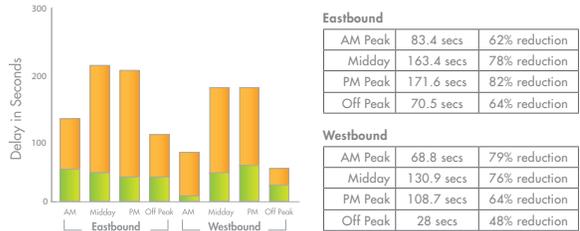
Stop Reductions



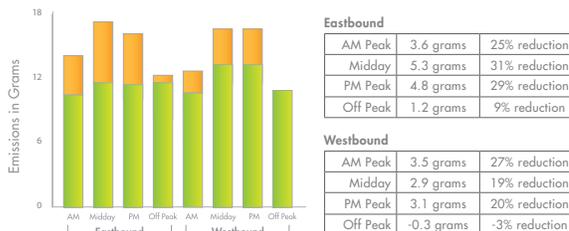
Average Speed Increase



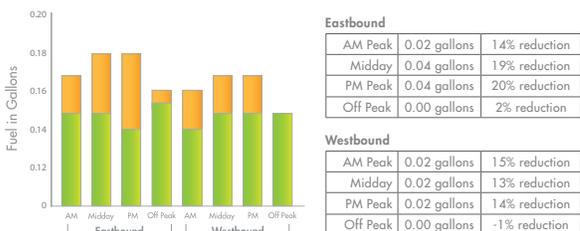
Delay Reductions



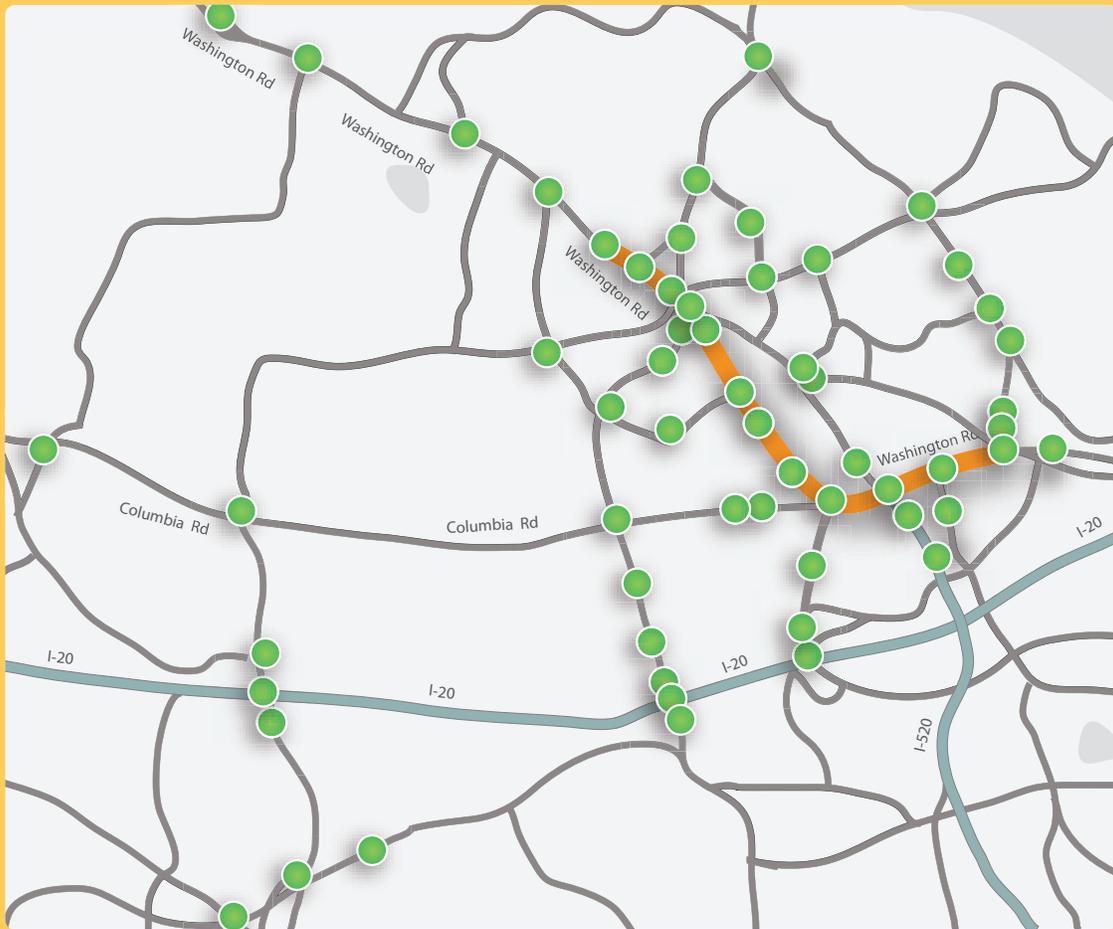
Hydrocarbon Emission Reductions



Fuel Reductions



Before After



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The green markers indicate the intersections where InSync is deployed. The Washington Road corridor is highlighted in orange.

STUDY DATA COLLECTION

Agency representatives collected before-and-after field data. North Sector “before” data was collected in January 2010 with InSync “after” data collected in February 2010 and InSync:Fusion data collected in September 2010. South Sector “before” data was collected in August 2011 with “after” data collected in January 2012.

The studies of both sectors were conducted during normal weekday travel conditions to ensure similar travel patterns between studies. This corridor has >40,000 ADT (average daily traffic). Travel time runs were conducted through each sector of the corridor in both directions during multiple time-of-day periods (AM peak, noon peak, PM peak, and evening) on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

The drivers conducting the travel time used the “floating car method,” in which the drivers attempt to travel with the flow of traffic, changing lanes so as to pass as many cars as pass them. This method is used so that the travel times collected are representative of the travel time of the average vehicle traveling through the corridor. Data were gathered by driving the corridor using GPS equipment and software, collecting data, then processing the data using PC-Travel software.

The overall quality of performance and level of satisfaction we have with Rhythm Engineering’s support and operations led us to make the decision to incorporate InSync on every traffic signal within Columbia County.

Glen Bollinger
Traffic Engineer
Columbia County