

Sleepy Eye Traffic Signal Deactivated on August 7th, 2017

On Monday, August 7th, the traffic signal at Highway 14 and 1st Avenue in Sleepy Eye was deactivated by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) to evaluate whether the signal can be permanently removed.

In place of the signal, a through-stop (two-way stop) was installed which will require motorists on 1st Avenue to stop for traffic on Highway 14.

Flashing signs for the west crosswalk across Highway 14 were installed at 1st Ave to aid pedestrians crossing Highway 14. Pedestrians crossing Highway 14 can also use the marked crosswalks at adjacent intersections or the traffic signal at Highway 4 / 3rd Avenue West.

As part of this change, we'd ask that parents show children where they should be crossing, and review the safety tips shown below.

Tips: What should pedestrians do?

Look before you cross

- Make eye contact with drivers and ensure they see you and will stop
- Clearly show your intentions to cross
- Watch for turning and passing vehicles

Make yourself visible to drivers

- Stand clear of parked cars or other obstacles before crossing
- Cross in a well-lit area at night

Avoid dangerous and distracted behaviors

- Cross streets at marked crosswalks or intersections; don't cross mid-block
- Remove headphones and stay off cell phones while crossing

Crosswalk Law

- Drivers must stop for crossing pedestrians at marked crosswalks and at all intersection corners without painted lines, signs or stop lights.
- Pedestrians must obey signs and signals at all intersections that have them.
- Vehicles stopped for pedestrians can proceed once the pedestrian has completely crossed the lane in front of the stopped vehicle.
- Pedestrians must not enter a crosswalk if a vehicle is approaching and it is impossible for the driver to stop. There is no defined distance that a pedestrian must abide by before entering the crosswalk; use caution and common sense.
- When a vehicle is stopped at an intersection to allow pedestrians to cross the roadway, drivers of other vehicles approaching from the rear must not pass the stopped vehicle.
- Failure to obey the crosswalk law is a misdemeanor.



Push button and motion activated, LED-enhanced crossing system in Sleepy Eye, MN (1st Ave / HWY 14)



For More
Information
Contact:

Brett Paasch
MnDOT District 7
Traffic Engineer
507-304-6184
brett.paasch@stat.mn.us