



WILLIAM S. HULTS
COMMISSIONER

STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES
504 CENTRAL AVENUE
ALBANY 1, NEW YORK

September 23, 1963

Mr. Guy J. Rising
18 Norwood Avenue
McKownville
Albany 3, New York

Dear Mr. Rising:

Your comments on traffic safety, as contained in your recent letter are very much to the point and I have considered them carefully.

As you point out, the right-of-way rules included in our new Driver's Manual are deserving of wide-spread publicity and I have directed our Office of Public Information to make further efforts to educate drivers on them. There still are a great many who are not aware of the second paragraph under "Exceptions" pertaining to making left turns at intersections, in particular.

As to the second portion of your letter regarding traffic signal control on Western Avenue at its offset intersection with Norwood Avenue and McKown's Road, I have taken up the matter with our Chief Traffic Engineer, Mr. Lloyd A. Maeder.

Somewhat more than a year ago, an investigation of conditions was conducted on Western Avenue, Route 20, between the westerly Albany City line and Fuller Road to determine the need for additional traffic signals at intersections. This included the intersection about which you wrote.

On the basis of factors developed from the investigation, it was the consensus of the Department of Public Works, the Division of State Police and the Department of Motor Vehicles that a traffic control signal on Route 20 at this intersection was not warranted at that time. These factors, among others, included low volumes of side street traffic and no more than normal delays to traffic entering or crossing Western Avenue from the side streets.

However, in view of the information contained in your letter concerning increased traffic volumes in the area and excessive delays to side street traffic and pedestrian crossings, I am having another investigation conducted at the Western Avenue-Norwood Avenue and McKown's Road intersection.

This investigation will include peak hour vehicular and pedestrian counts, delays to side street traffic, and a review of the accident record over the past few years. As soon as the field reports have been analyzed, I will advise you of the Traffic Commission's decision on the desirability of installing a traffic signal or signals there.

Your interest in traffic safety is most laudable and I thank you for your comments.

Very truly yours,



WILLIAM S. HULTS *ms*

Commissioner

WSH:rmb