



"... meeting community needs ... enhancing quality of life."

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
Engineering Division – Traffic Section  
2625 E. Glendale Avenue  
Appleton, WI 54911  
TEL (920) 832-5580  
FAX (920) 832-5570

**To:** Municipal Services Committee  
**From:** Eric Lom, City Traffic Engineer  
**Date:** June 17, 2020  
**Re:** Intersection traffic control at the Brewster Street / Elinor Street intersection  
*Follow-up to a Six-Month Trial Period*

Based on our annual crash records analysis, the Traffic Section reviewed the traffic control at the intersection of Brewster Street and Elinor Street and subsequently initiated a six-month trial period to change from uncontrolled to yield control. This is a four-legged intersection that is located one block west of Mason Street, and two blocks north of Wisconsin Avenue. The land use in the area of this intersection is a mix of commercial and residential.

In a typical intersection control study, we consider traffic volumes, crash history, safe approach speeds, etc. In this case, the estimated entering volume of this intersection is low, at approximately 950 vehicles per day. A review of crash records indicated zero crashes for the recent five-year period of 2015 through 2019. The critical approach speed for the intersection was found to be approximately 11 mph. Both streets are classified as *local*.

More relevant, however, is that the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*, for the sake of consistency, states that intersection control should be installed at uncontrolled intersections which are located in predominantly controlled areas (stops, yields, signals). We have interpreted this to mean that if more than 75% of the four-legged intersections in a particular area (whose boundaries are typically defined by collector or arterial roadways) are controlled, the remaining uncontrolled four-legged intersections should have an appropriate form of control added. The subject intersection is the only four-legged intersection in this area that had remained uncontrolled.

Based on the above, we recommend maintaining the yield control that was implemented for the trial period.

**To accomplish this, the following ordinance action is required:**

1. **Create:** "Install yield signs on Elinor Street at Brewster Street."