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**For release: October 22, 2010**

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## **Traffic signals get checkups as part of a health prevention program** *Arapahoe County leads the way with innovative Traffic Signal Health Index*

**Littleton, Colo. ---** Arapahoe County's innovative Traffic Signal Health Index Program is catching the eye of traffic engineers across the county. The program identifies and prioritizes traffic signals in need of repair and/or replacement to ensure a more efficient and safer travel environment for the public.

It is the first program of its kind that looks at the health of traffic signals, remaining service life and maintenance needs to assist in prioritizing programmed maintenance and replacement. The system also shows trends in signal deterioration, which helps staff predict future needs and better long term budgeting. The program is a partnership with the County's traffic signal maintenance provider WL Contractors Inc, and is already being reviewed by other agencies for replicating the program in their area.

"I continue to be impressed by our employees' efforts to look at new and innovative ways to serve our citizens with the most efficient use of taxpayer funds," said Commissioner Rod Bockenfeld, who serves as Board Chair. "The traffic signal program allows Arapahoe County to better identify and fix maintenance issues before they affect the public and flow of traffic."

Traffic Operations Manager Jerry Maschka explains, "In addition to the improved safety for motorists, this program will help us catch problems while the parts may still be under warranty thereby in the long run saving taxpayer dollars."

In September, the program was featured in the Institution of Transportation Engineers Journal, an international magazine geared toward professional transportation engineers and other related professionals in the field. In 2010, the program received a first place award from the Colorado Chapter of the American Public Works Association for its innovative excellence.

Arapahoe County's Public Works and Development department works to build strong, attractive and harmonious communities through well maintained roads, a solid infrastructure and enforcement of zoning, land development and animal control codes.

The County is responsible for maintaining the traffic signals in unincorporated Arapahoe County, which includes the 4 Square Mile area between Denver and Aurora and communities such as Byers and Deer Trail. Residents in these areas are urged to call 720-874-ROAD if they encounter a traffic signal in need of repair. Many times, residents are the first line in identifying immediate service needs. Residents also are invited to follow Arapahoe County on Twitter to be notified of road closures and other County news. To learn more visit [www.co.arapahoe.co.us](http://www.co.arapahoe.co.us).

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To download photos click on the link: <http://www.co.arapahoe.co.us/Pub/CM/Photos/PublicWorks/>

*Maschka&Bockenfeld\_SignalCheck*: Public Works Traffic Operations Manager Jerry Maschka explains to Arapahoe County Commissioner Rod Bockenfeld how the County will be able to help predict traffic signal deterioration before it affects the public and flow of traffic thanks to the new traffic signal program.

*Maschka\_SignalLaptopCheck*: Arapahoe County employee Jerry Maschka uses his laptop to check the health status of a traffic signal in Unincorporated Arapahoe County.

*Maschka&Bockenfeld\_InsideSignalCheck*: Arapahoe County Commissioner Rod Bockenfeld spends time with Public Works Traffic Manager Jerry Maschka learning the extent of the County's new traffic signal health index program that will that will ensure a safer environment for motorists.