Stop and goes of traffic signals

A traffic signal auditor's perspective







Looking backwards and forwards

Axel Downard-Wilke

Aug 2023



2004 SNUG presentation









































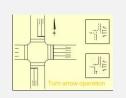










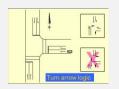








































Availability of "Stops and Goes"

Get your copy here
Order more copies from Transfund
comatcular Appeton
Online soon (LTNZ website)
Thank you



2004 SNUG presentation (slide 1)





















Stops and Goes of Traffic Signals

Axel Wilke

Christchurch City Council

















2004 SNUG presentation (slide 2)























Introduction

- Commissioned by Transfund
- Objective
 - Contribute to improving the efficiency and safety of the network
- Purpose
 - Assist and advise practitioners

















2004 SNUG presentation (slide 5)



















Background

- Representative number of existing traffic signals has been audited
 - Covering some 12 TLAs
 - Including Transit installations
- "Stops and Goes" summarises common trends and themes



















2004 SNUG presentation (slide 6)



















Content of "Stops & Goes"

- Draws attention to items frequently compromising safety and efficiency
- Presents ways how these deficiencies could be addressed
- Includes photos and illustrations showing
 - Good practice
 - Not so good practice



















2004 SNUG presentation (slide 45)







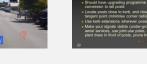
















Conclusions

- Engage competent signal engineer for the peer review of new designs
 - Road safety audit process is not sufficient
 - Signal peer review is separate
- Engage suitably experienced specialists for the auditing of SCATS set-ups



















2004 SNUG presentation (slide 46)



















Conclusions cont'd

- Suitably qualified engineers
 - ask SNUG committee members for a list
 - www.ipenz.org.nz/snug
- Commission audits of your existing traffic signals
- Engage competent signal engineer for the peer review of new designs













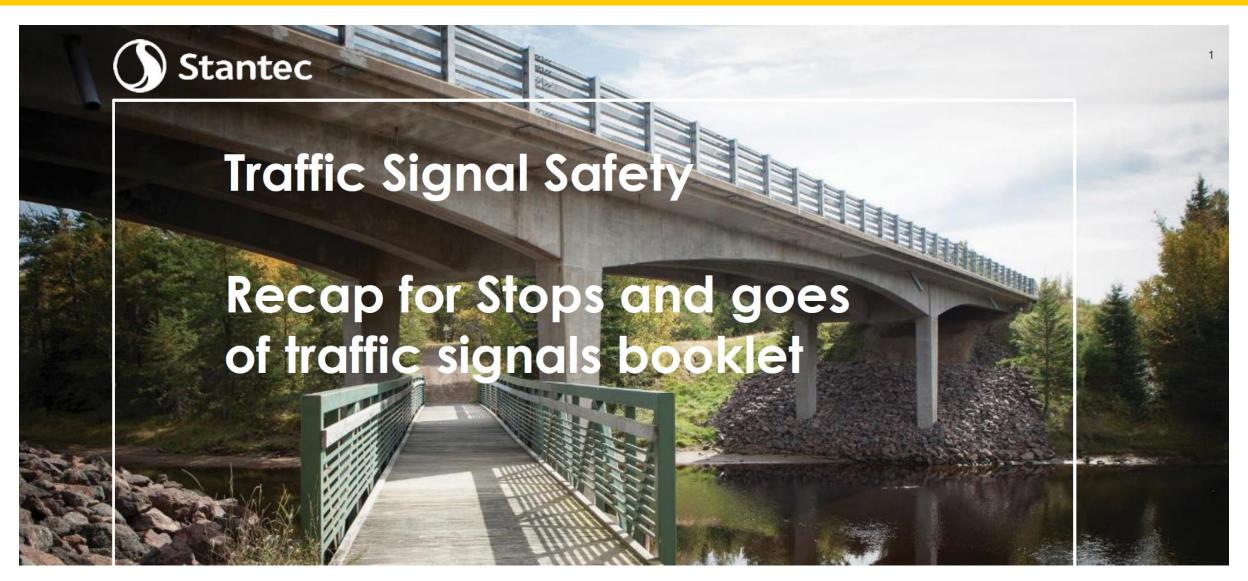








2022 SNUG presentation (Martin Huang)





2022 SNUG presentation (Martin Huang)

Next steps

Rewrite/update the document to reflect the following:

- Crash search / patterns refinement
- Cyclists / pedestrian best practice at signalised intersections
- Bus priority at signalised intersections
- A checklist for future traffic signal review / audit



2004 SNUG presentation (slide 46)













Recommendations
 Ensure RT bays line up ('back to back' design')
 Reduce RT lane width
 Where opposed RT lanes are not possible consider different phasing operation or R' ban



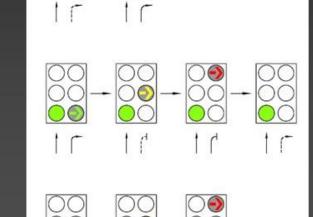
Signal conspicuity

Recommendations
 Should have upgrading programme for conversion to all posts
 Locate posts close to kerb, and close to tangent point (minimas comer radii)
 Use kerb extensions wherever possible
 Make your signals skible (under-ground and sid services, use pint-use price, don plant trees in front of posts, prune trees)







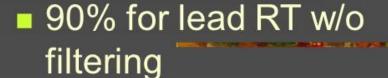


Typical crash rate reductions

Compared to full filtering



68% for lead RT, then filtering



















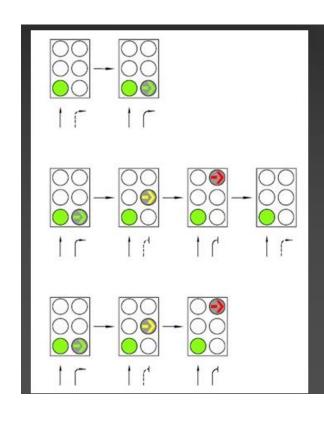


Crash search / patterns refinement (2)

My thoughts

- This can be done
- Will be time-consuming
- What will we learn from it?

Hence – is it worth it?



- 30% for lag right turns
- 68% for lead RT, then filtering
- 90% for lead RT w/o filtering



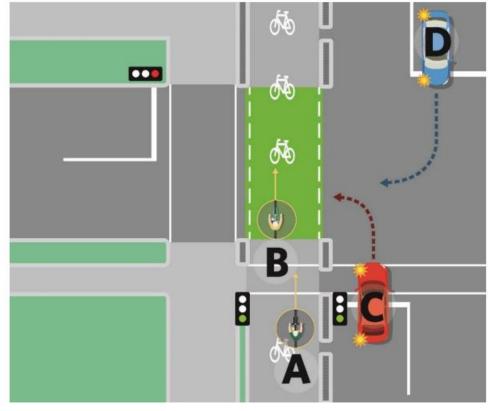
Cyclists / pedestrian best practice

My thoughts

- Cycle best practice is useful
 - Will change completely when
 Accessible Streets package is passed
 - When will that happen?
 - <u>CNG info</u> is not comprehensive
- Pedestrian best practice is useful
 - Good guidance in the PNG, though
 - Signalised crossings
 - Signalised intersections



Proposal 6C). Give cycles and buses priority over turning traffic when they're travelling through an intersection in a separated lane

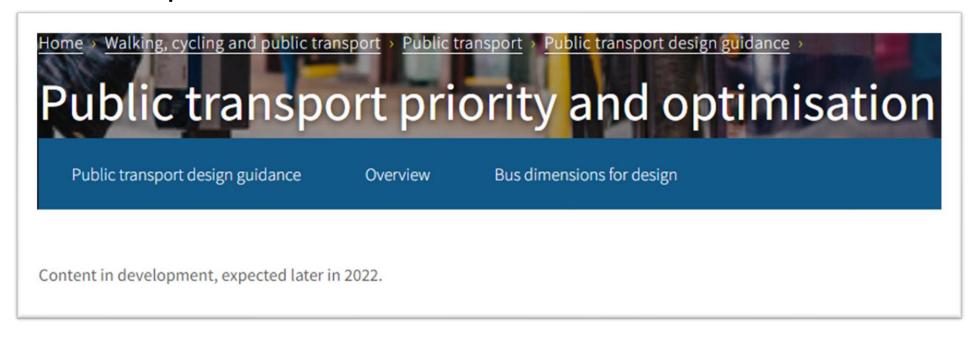


Accessible Streets consultation (Mar 2020)

Bus best practice

My thoughts

- Bus priority is super-useful
- What will be included in the upcoming PTDG?
 - Not useful to duplicate efforts





Review / audit

My thoughts

- Checklist for future traffic signal review / audit
- Should we be doing those audits?
 - Yes
 - It needs to be centrally organised, like it was 20 years ago
 - I don't expect TLAs to do that on their own
 - If there's no desire for central coordination, this is not needed



Discussion

- Crash search / patterns refinement
- Cyclists / pedestrian best practice at signalised intersections
- Bus priority at signalised intersections
- A checklist for future traffic signal review/audit



We share more knowledge on www.viastrada.nz

