

Public Works Agenda Item

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Meeting Date:	December 9, 2025
Agenda Item:	Left turn arrows at Main and Franklin
Staff Contact (name, email, phone):	Brad Marquardt, bmarquardt@whitewater-wi.gov, 262-473-0139

BACKGROUND

(Enter the who, what when, where, why)

The City received a request to look into left turn arrows on Main Street at Franklin Street. A traffic study could be performed to see if left arrows are warranted. The traffic study would involve 2-hour AM and PM peak traffic counts. A traffic model would then be built to run simulated traffic to determine Level of Service and backups for left turning vehicles. This model is based upon a snapshot in time of traffic.

Another option is to proceed with the installation of the left turn arrows and set them up to function with "3rd vehicle detection". The detection would be set approximately 60 to 70 feet from the stop bar and the left turn arrow would only be triggered if there were three vehicles or one semi-truck waiting to turn. This set up is similar to the left turn arrow for west bound Main Street at Elizabeth Street and east bound Main Street at Tratt Street.

The signals have operated in their current condition since W Main Street was reconstructed in 1997.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS - COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

(Dates, committees, action taken)

N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT

(If none, state N/A)

The estimated cost of a traffic study is around \$3,500. The estimated cost to incorporate left turn arrows into the Main Street/Franklin Street intersection project is \$5,300. The construction cost to install the necessary equipment for the left turn arrows is being computed and will be provided at the meeting.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

With the south leg of the intersection being reconfigured, now would be the time to include left turn arrows, if they are ever going to go in. With the "3rd vehicle detection" they would only be activated when needed. Staff's recommendation would be to forego the traffic study and install the left turn arrows as part of the Franklin Street and Main Street intersection project.

ATTACHMENT(S) INCLUDED

(If none, state N/A)

1. N/A