

Naperville Traffic Project Earns National Award

New system allows real-time monitoring and remote control of signals, smoothes traffic to reduce congestion



Traffic monitoring cameras provide live video images of traffic conditions and signal operations to City staff.

Naperville, IL (November 16, 2017) – An innovative traffic management system aimed at smoothing congestion on Naperville streets was selected as the Midwest Project of the Year by the Intelligent Transportation Society of the Midwest.

The Centralized Traffic Management System (CTMS), a \$1.1 million multi-phase initiative that began in early 2014, incorporates state-of-the-art technologies to improve traffic flow by allowing real-time, system-wide remote programming and operation of the City's traffic signals. "We knew adding lanes to alleviate traffic congestion wasn't an option in this part of town, so to use technology to bridge the gap and maximize the efficiency of the traffic signal system we already have in place is a great alternative, especially in this part of the country," said Naperville Engineering Manager Andy Hynes.

Included in these technologies are digital traffic monitoring cameras to visually monitor traffic operations, fiber optic/Ethernet communications and advanced traffic management software to provide much improved control of the signal system as well as self-adaptive signal timing.

Once complete, the modernization initiative will improve traffic flow and congestion in Naperville, where traffic is a large concern.

The City of Naperville teamed with Rosemont-based Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. (CBBEL) on the CTMS project. CBBEL assisted the City with project development, funding, IDOT and FHWA coordination, plans and specifications, permits, system procurement and construction consultation.

ITS Midwest recognized the initial phase of the CTMS project for its scope, location (along Washington Street) and multi-agency coordination. The project was selected from a group of seven projects nominated from all four of the ITS Midwest member states (Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio).

“The City of Naperville takes great pride in providing services that ensure a high quality of life for our residents,” said Naperville Director of Transportation, Engineering and Development Bill Novack. “We are honored to receive this award and proud to have implemented a system that addresses the traffic flow and congestion concerns of our residents by using real-time data to minimize travel times. The CTMS will truly increase public satisfaction, and that is something to be proud of.”

Prior to the start of the project, software controlling each of the city-maintained signals could only be accessed through a dial-up phone connection within the City’s Municipal Center. The first phase of work eliminated gaps in the traffic system location along Washington Street, installed new equipment at 32 intersections and upgraded the signal management software. The improvements made it possible for the city to more effectively respond to signal malfunctions, provide better synchronization of signals and analyze traffic data.

The second phase of the CTMS project is expected to be completed this year, and will use adaptive traffic signal control that enables the city to adjust traffic signals in response to real-time traffic demands. Those changes are aimed at decreasing the duration of congestion during peak hours, accommodating special event or unusual traffic conditions and reducing travel time and fuel consumption.

Representatives from CBBEL recently accepted the award on the City’s behalf at the ITS Midwest annual meeting in Columbus, Ohio.

“CBBEL was honored to accept the 2017 ITS Midwest Project of the Year on behalf of the City of Naperville,” said Thomas Szabo, Senior Project Manager of Traffic Operations for CBBEL. “CTMS truly demonstrates an innovative approach to traffic management and we are excited to see how the project benefits Naperville residents in the coming years.”

While the project is currently focused on Washington Street and adjacent roadways, there are plans to expand the system citywide in the coming years.

CTMS shared the Project of the Year honor with the \$ 2.3 billion Ohio River Crossing project in Louisville, Kentucky.

About Naperville

Located 28 miles west of Chicago, Naperville, Ill., is home to approximately 145,000 people. This vibrant, thriving City consistently ranks as a top community in the nation in which to live, raise children and retire. The City is home to acclaimed public and parochial schools, the best public library system in the country, an array of healthcare options and an exceptionally low crime rate. Naperville has ready access to a variety of public transportation, housing and employment options. The City’s diversified employer base features high technology firms, retailers and factories, as well as small and home-based

businesses. Residents also enjoy world-class parks, diverse worship options, the opportunity to serve on several City boards and commissions, a thriving downtown shopping and dining area, a renowned outdoor history museum known as Naper Settlement and an active civic community. For more information, please visit our website at www.naperville.il.us.

About CBBEL

Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. (CBBEL) is a full-service consulting engineering and surveying firm that comprehensively meets the needs of both private and public sector clients. Founded in 1986 by President Christopher B. Burke, CBBEL's Illinois-based staff consists of experienced and responsive professionals who provide engineering, surveying, and environmental services on a personal level and are committed to delivering consistently accurate, timely and cost-effective solutions to a wide range of engineering and environmental challenges. Learn more at CBBEL.com.

About ITS Midwest

State and regional chapters of the Intelligent Transportation Society of America (ITS America) provide a key role promoting and enhancing public safety and community welfare by: fostering research and development; implementing programs to reduce motor vehicle deaths and injuries; improving mobility; and promoting a system of safer, more economical, energy efficient and environmentally sound highways and other surface transportation through use of advanced technology. In 1994, the members of the Illinois-Indiana-Wisconsin three-state consortium responsible for developing the Gary-Chicago-Milwaukee Corridor (now Lake Michigan Interstate Gateway Alliance or LMIGA) Program Plan, with encouragement from FHWA and the Argonne National Laboratory, formed ITS Midwest, the first multi-state chapter of ITS America. The ITS Midwest chapter was formally chartered by ITS America in Chicago on February 22, 1995, and recognized at the ITS America meeting in Washington D.C. in mid-March.

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