Marianne Saglam  
Communications and Media Senior Director  
msaglam@ite.org | 202.785.0060 ext. 123

September 3, 2019

RESCISSION OF ITE RECOMMENDED PRACTICE—GUIDELINES FOR PROHIBITION OF TURNS ON RED

The ITE recommended practice (RP), *Guidelines for Prohibition of Turns on Red (RP-018)* published in 1986 has been rescinded. This RP established a set of uniform guidelines to assist agencies in determining those intersection approaches where right turn on red (RTOR) should be prohibited. The RP was intended to be consistent with the ITE International Board of Direction’s 1981 position “The Institute finds that no overall significant safety detriments occur with implementation of RTOR; further that implementation of RTOR does result in significant benefits reflected in reduced energy consumption, positive environmental impacts, and reduced operational delays.”

Over the last 30 plus years, the content of this RP has become significantly outdated resulting in the ITE Traffic Engineering Council formally recommending rescission of the RP. The following are the substantial reasons for rescission:

- The existing RP fails to provide a sufficiently robust analysis of the impacts, especially with regards to the potential impact on the safety of pedestrians using crosswalks.
- The current 1986 RP lacks any clear recommendations and supporting quantitative data for its application.
- Many recent industry changes and updated publications have occurred since publishing this RP such as *Public Rights-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines*, *Highway Safety Manual*, Complete Streets and Vision Zero initiatives, and automated enforcement. In addition, several major cities are currently undergoing public debates centering around this issue.
- Based on previous attempts to update this RP, it is unlikely the consensus necessary to develop an updated RP will be achieved. Alternatively, the current state of practice will be clearly documented in an informational report (IR) prior to working toward a new RP.

The Traffic Engineering Council’s recommendation to rescind this RP was endorsed by the ITE Coordinating Council leadership and approved by the ITE International Board of Direction at their July 19, 2019 meeting. The ITE Traffic Engineering Council will be replacing this RP with a new ITE IR expected to be published in late 2020.