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SAFETY and SERVICE

NEWS – For Immediate Release

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For more information or to receive copies of the attached informational sheets, please contact:

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During the week of July 27, 2020, the Bay County Road Commission (BCRC) is scheduled to activate a **HAWK (High-Intensity Activated crossWalk)** beacon on Pine Road between Ridge Road and Youngs Ditch Road in Hampton Township. This is the first installation of its kind in Bay County. The HAWK beacon is used to stop vehicular traffic and allow pedestrians to safely cross a roadway at a location other than a road intersection. When activated by a pedestrian, the HAWK signal will stop traffic at the mid-block pedestrian crossing on Pine Road, allowing them to cross.

The HAWK signal uses an array of yellow and red light faces, arranged with two red signal lights above a single yellow light. There are two of these arrays or three-light clusters in each direction of traffic. For the Pine Road crossing, two clusters face north and two face south.

Unlike an ordinary three-light traffic signal, the HAWK signal remains dark until activated by a pedestrian. The pedestrian presses the button located on a pedestal next to the sidewalk, one on both sides of the road. This activates the HAWK beacon. The HAWK beacon sequence begins with a single, flashing yellow light, indicating a pedestrian has pushed the button. This is followed by a steady yellow light, meaning the driver should slow and be prepared to stop. The yellow light then deactivates and two steady red lights are displayed. Once the red lights come on, vehicles are required to stop until the pedestrian crosses the road. The HAWK will then change to a flashing both red signals (similar to a railroad crossing signal), allowing traffic to proceed, as long as, there are no pedestrians in the crosswalk area. The HAWK then goes dark until activated by the next pedestrian.

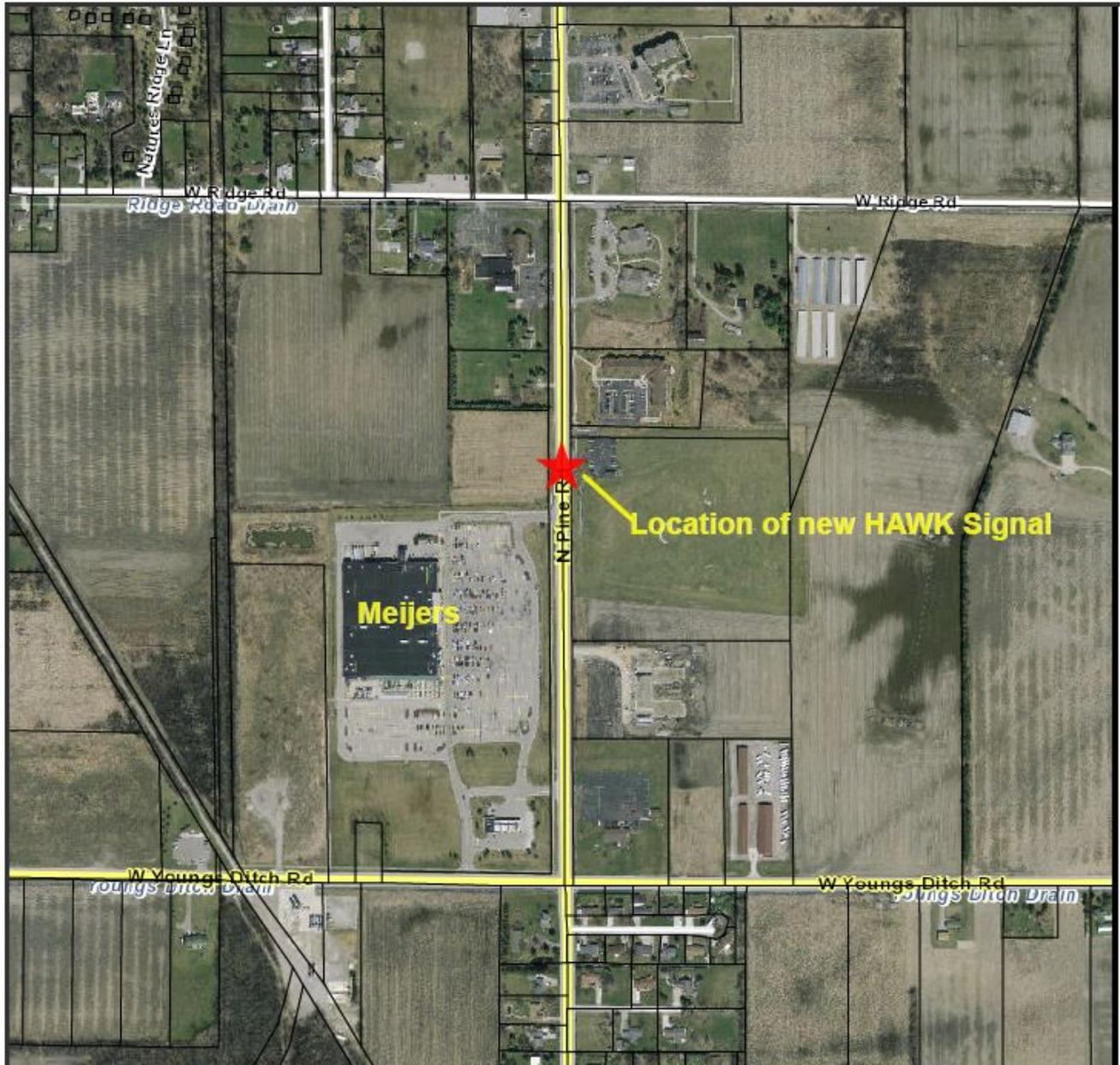
Accompanying the red and yellow signals are pedestrian Walk and Wait signals. As at a typical signalized intersection, the Walk sign or “Walking Figure” will light when the HAWK beacon is in the full-on red mode and it is safe for a pedestrian to cross. The pedestrian signal will begin to “countdown” numerically, advising the pedestrian how much time they have left to cross the road. Once the countdown reaches zero, an orange, constantly lit “Upraised Hand” symbol will appear, indicating pedestrian crossing is no longer permitted. The pedestrian signals, as with the HAWK, go dark until another pedestrian presses the button to reactivate the sequence.

The location of the HAWK and a summary of the light sequence, along with pedestrian and driver responsibilities, are included on the next three pages.

HAWK Signal Operation (High-Intensity Activated crossWalk)

**Pine Road between Ridge Road and Youngs Ditch Road
Hampton Township, Bay County, MI**

HAWK Location Map



HAWK Signal Operation

(High-Intensity Activated crossWalkK)

**Pine Road between Ridge Road and Youngs Ditch Road
Hampton Township, Bay County, MI**

HAWK Signal Operation Sequence Driver Responsibilities

HAWK Signal Activity	Driver Responsibility
Dark Signal	No action required; no pedestrian activity.
Flashing Yellow	A pedestrian has pressed the button and is waiting to cross. Drivers may proceed, carefully observing the crosswalk area, in case pedestrians step out unexpectedly.
Solid Yellow	Drivers should slow and, if able, stop safely; the HAWK signal is about to change to red and give the pedestrian the “Walk” sign.
Solid Red	All vehicles are required to stop to allow pedestrians to cross.
Flashing Red (Similar to a Railroad Crossing Signal)	Drivers may proceed, one at a time, if the crosswalk is clear of pedestrians.
Dark Signal	The signal then goes back to dark until a pedestrian pushes the crosswalk button to restart the sequence.

HAWK Signal Operation

(High-Intensity Activated crossWalk)

**Pine Road between Ridge Road and Youngs Ditch Road
Hampton Township, Bay County, MI**

How does a **HAWK Signal** operate?

INSTRUCTIONS

Drivers		Pedestrians	
...will see this	...will do this	...will see this	...will do this
	Proceed with Caution		Push the Button to Cross
 Flashing	Slow Down <small>(Pedestrian has activated the push button)</small>		Wait
	Prepare to Stop		Continue to Wait
	STOP! <small>(Pedestrian in Crosswalk)</small>		Start Crossing
 Flashing	STOP! Proceed with Caution if Clear	 Flashing	 Countdown
	Proceed if Clear		Push the Button to Cross

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To receive additional copies of this instructional flier, please contact the Bay County Road Commission at the following: Tel: 989-686-4610 Fax: 989-686-4620 E-mail: jlillo@baycoroad.org

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