

Nilufa Begum

Tanzim Shahnaz

Professor: Yolande Brener

Writing for Humanities

### **Abstract**

Traffic lights and signals are placed not only for traffic flow but for safety reasons and to protect all pedestrians. There is a tremendous need for traffic lights and signals on 81st street, 101 avenue, Ozone Park. There has been multiple car accidents in the intersection causing some serious injuries to civilians in the neighborhood. The area is highly populated due to the nearby public school, park, subway, laundry and several other markets. Even though there is signals and traffic lights on 82nd and 80th street the necessity for lights on 81st street is immense. Due to the incidents civilians in that area live with such a fear that they feel the need to walk one block extra just so they can cross the street safely with loved ones. This project raises funds from government agencies in order to save lives by installing traffic lights and signals.

## **Problem Statement**

Traffic lights and signals are placed not only for traffic flow but for safety reasons and to protect all pedestrians. There is a tremendous need for traffic lights and signals on 81st street, 101 avenue, Ozone Park, Queens. There has been multiple car accidents in the intersection causing some serious injuries to civilians in the neighborhood. The area is highly populated due to the nearby public school located on 82nd street and 101st Avenue and subway on 80th Street and Liberty Ave. Even though there is signals and traffic lights on 82nd and 80th street the necessity for lights on 81st street is immense. Due to the incidents civilians in that area live with such a fear that they feel the need to walk one block extra just so they can cross the street safely with loved ones.

**Timeline/Gannt Chart:**

<b>Task Name</b>	11/13	11/20	11/27	11/29
Write problem statement	<b>Nilufa</b>			
Create Grannt Chart	<b>Tanzim</b>			
Find prospective Grant		<b>Nilufa/Tanzim</b>		
Find one source			<b>Nilufa</b>	
Budget		<b>Tanzim</b>		
Project Narrative			<b>Nilufa/Tanzim</b>	
Abstract			<b>Nilufa</b>	

## **Budget**

	<b>Amount \$</b>
4 Traffic lights	\$37,000
8 Walk Signals	\$12,000
Routine maintenance	\$8,000
Installing 4 traffic lights	\$400,000
Supplies	\$500
<b>Men power</b>	
Transportation Engineer \$50/hr x 5 hrs/week x 2 wks	\$2,500
6 traffic signal technician \$21.54/hrs x 5 hrs/week x 2 wks	\$1,292.40
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$461,292.4</b>

The employers will not be provided with insurance because of the duration of the project is very short and they are already insured with the company they may be working with.

The amounts were collected based on research and it may vary. An estimate was taken where ever it was necessary in order to come up with a relevant calculation.

Two government based funds agency will be contacted in order to obtain this money. The two funds will roughly cover up all the expenses necessary to fulfill this project.

## **Project Narrative**

The necessity for the traffic lights and signals are immense because it will not only help traffic flow, it will have a long term safety impact that can have the neighborhood that is becoming tremendously populated. Traffic signals provide a solution to specific operational challenges, such as stopping heavy flow of traffic on a major roadway to permit crossing movements from intersecting minor streets. There is an immense need for traffic light on 81st 101 ave, Ozone Park, Queens. There is a Deli and Laundromat on each corner of the street. There is a public school on the next block and the subway station, this increased the number of lives in risk of an accident. Although there are traffic light on the next block, parents fear greatly for their children while crossing the street. The road is not only unsafe for the pedestrian but also for the drivers too, just last year alone there has been at least ten car accidents on that street due to the lack of traffic light. Although there was not fatal injury many cars had some serious damages. This calls for a desperate need to for traffic light.

There has been many accidents that were eye witnessed by local residents. There was an incident back in 2014 of a 3 years old girl who lives on 102nd ave and 81st street. When she walked out of the laundry with her mom, she ran to the road and a car directly hit her. She was hospitalized for several months. Even though she recovered slowly this accident changed this little girl's life. She came out of the hospital with face deformities. It is very upsetting that the future of our society is not safe while trying to do a everyday life function, which is crossing the streets in their neighborhood safely. This is just one example from the many accidents that have occurred which were major to minor. To minimize and slowly eradicate this prevalence the youth of the society is taking actions by asking for government help. Government's financial help and

support in this cause can not only minimize this huge issue but eventually eradicate it completely and make 81st street and 101 ave a fear free street.

The community is very worried about the traffic issue and it can be seen through the small survey we conducted. The Survey was taken by 25 member of the community. The members were randomly selected by the experimenters on the corner of 81st street and 101 ave. Every other person trying to cross that street was selected in order to get a valid representation of the sample. The sample of the population included; parent/guardian of a student in PS 64, residents in the area, owner of the local business and daily subway commuter, the result follows.

The survey below demonstrates the questions that were asked to the participant. The participants permission was obtained in order to complete this survey. They were informed that

this was for a class project and they are free to withdraw or skip questions if they felt like it. The participants were thanked for their participation this survey in order to make a difference. The numbers next to the questions shows the frequency of the response provided by the participants.

## **Survey**

**1. We are sharing this questionnaire with a number of groups and organizations. Which one of the following are you? (Please select the one that best applies to you).**

- A Parent/guardian of a student in PS 64 )(11)
- Commute with the subway on a daily basis (4)
- Resident in the area(6)
- Local businessman(5)

**2. Which of the following Traffic Calming concerns have you raised with the 81st intersection in the last three years?**

- Speeding at residential street (3)
- Safety at a residential intersection(5)
- Need for more traffic lights and signals(18)
- Did not raise a concern

**3. Have you witnessed accidents in this intersection or heard about it?**

- Yes (18)
- No (5)
- Unsure or new to the neighborhood (2)



#### 4. Do you feel safe crossing the street at this intersection?

- Yes (6)
- No (8)
- Cross where there is lights and signals? (11)

As the survey demonstrates when asked what is the most traffic calming concern, 18 people has answered the need for traffic light. Also 18 out of 25 have witness a traffic accident in the intersection, that is 72% of our participants. As a result of all this they do not feel safe to cross the intersection, and half the people feel safer to walk a extra black and cross where there are lights and signals.

The benefits outway the negatives despite the money and time that will be spent on putting this project together. It is very costly to install traffic lights and we estimated our budget to be around \$461,292.40. The project will run for two weeks with a transportation engineer and six traffic technician. There will have to be yearly maintenance and routine checks needed to make sure the traffic are flowing in order. This will cost a lot of money and work. However, to look at the long term effect of this cost it is difficult to even imagine how many lives can be saved by investing the money that is required. These lights not only help smooth traffic flow they can help save million of lives. Therefore, install lights and save lives!

#### References

- <http://www.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/infrastructure/signals.shtm>
- <https://wsdot.wa.gov/Operations/Traffic/signals.htm>
- <http://www.pekintimes.com/article/20100426/NEWS/304269974>