

NEWS RELEASE From Mayor Dean DePiero

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Tuesday, May 20, 2008 Contact: Jack P. Marschall (440) 885-8181 or (216) 346-9935 (cell)

New Parma Traffic Signals Ease Congestion

(**Parma**) – Parma residents will be noticing a smoother ride through the city's busiest intersections thanks to high-tech, state of the art motion detectors. In all, 35 new pixel imaging detectors will be operating along Ridge Road, State Road, Ridgewood Drive and Day Drive.

The signals are designed to better detect moving autos, quickly allowing the traffic lights to change around the clock according to the flow of traffic.

They are not similar in style or purpose to the so-called "red light cameras" and cannot be used by police to issue speeding or other driving violations.

"This is the newest technology out there," says Mayor Dean DePiero. "We're trying to finally get a handle on bottlenecks around town that has been a big sore point with drivers."

State funds are paying for the five million dollar installation project that will be completed by the fall. This is Phase One of a traffic upgrade that will continue across the city in the years to come.

"The timing for the project is critical because of deteriorating roads in the city," says Guy Papa, Sr., Parma Traffic Technician. "The old system used underground traffic loops to detect vehicle movement, changing the traffic signal when cars rolled by. The new detectors are installed on the mast arms of new traffic poles and are unaffected by road conditions."

The new imaging detectors will improve the flow of traffic while tracking the number of vehicles traveling through busy intersections throughout the day and night. The Miller Cable Company is helping to install the new traffic signals.

Pixel imaging devices will be operating on Ridge Road from Marlborough Avenue to Pleasant Valley Road, on State Road from Tuxedo Avenue o Park Drive, on Day Drive from Ridge to Ames Road and on Ridgewood drive from Ames Road to Parma City Hall.