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## HPD Reminds Motorists Not to Evade Traffic Signals

Harrisonburg, VA – The Harrisonburg Police Department aims to educate and remind citizens of the dangers and consequences of evading traffic signals and signs.

According to Virginia Code §46.2-833.1, it shall be unlawful for the driver of any motor vehicle to drive off the roadway and onto or across any public or private property in order to evade any stop sign, yield sign, traffic light, or other traffic control device.

The Department has received complaints about vehicles driving through parking lots to avoid traffic lights.

Evading traffic signs or lights poses a safety hazard to pedestrians and other motorists, who are not anticipating drive-through traffic in a parking lot.

For the shortest commute, motorists are encouraged to go the speed limit, travel on main roads and not to cut through side streets or parking lots.

Starting next week, officers will step up enforcement throughout the City of Harrisonburg.

Evasion of traffic control devices is considered aggressive driving and is a Class 2 Misdemeanor.

*In the **City of Harrisonburg**, the Public Works Department's Traffic Engineering Division is responsible for the installation, maintenance and repair of street signs and for the maintenance, timing, and operation of 85 signalized intersections. More information about traffic signals and signs is online at [www.HarrisonburgVA.gov](http://www.HarrisonburgVA.gov).*

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