

Ordinance No. 2002-19

An ordinance requiring that all new or modified traffic signals within Walton County be equipped with Emergency Vehicle Preemption equipment; providing that future equipment will be compatible; Limiting use to Walton County emergency vehicles; providing a penalty for violations of use; providing for authority; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date.

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioner finds that the safety, health, and welfare of the citizens of Walton County would be best protected by the use of emergency vehicle preemption equipment; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that it is in the best interest of the citizens that this equipment is used for all new or replacement traffic signals

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners does ordain

Section 1: Emergency preemption equipped traffic signals.

All new or replacement traffic signals within the unincorporated areas of the county are required to be equipped with emergency vehicle preemption equipment. This equipment shall be installed per manufacture recommendations, in sufficient quantity to provide emergency vehicle preemption of the traffic signal from all directions and so that each direction of traffic will move independently, allowing for protected left turn movements.

Section 2: Future Equipment Compatibility.

All future preemption equipment provided shall always be state of the art and be compatible with existing emergency vehicle preemption equipment.

Section 3. Use limited to Emergency Vehicles.

Use of preemption equipment shall be limited to Walton County emergency vehicles. Use by private citizens is prohibited.

Section 4: Penalty.

Violations of section 3 of this ordinance are punishable pursuant to Section 125.69 Florida Statutes. Violations of county ordinances shall be prosecuted in the same manner as misdemeanors are prosecuted. Such violations shall be prosecuted in the name of the state in a court having jurisdiction of misdemeanors by the prosecuting attorney thereof and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine not to exceed \$500 or by imprisonment or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Section 5: Authority.

This ordinance is adopted pursuant to the authority granted to counties by Chapter 125.

Section 6. Severability.

Should any word, phrase, sentence or section of this ordinance be held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be illegal, void, unenforceable or unconstitutional then such shall be severed from this ordinance and the remainder of the ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 7. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall take effect as provided by law.

ADOPTED this 12th day of November, 2002.



Lane Rees, Chair

ATTEST:



Martha Ingle, Clerk

