

# Road commission says new stoplight at Torrey, Thompson Roads is reflection of traffic volume

By [Eric Fish | Flint Journal](#)

December 09, 2009, 9:16AM

*This story has been updated from an [earlier post](#).*

**FENTON TOWNSHIP, Michigan** — Fenton Township drivers received a bit of a surprise Friday when the longtime four-way stop at Thompson and Torrey roads was replaced with a regular automated stop light.

Township supervisor Bonnie Mathis said the change was a multi-year process working with the [Genesee County Road Commission](#) to update the popular intersection.

“I’ve worked on it for three years,” Mathis said. “I wanted a traffic light there, but I had to prove to them that it was a necessity.”

The Torrey and Thompson Road intersection is in close proximity to U.S. 23, Lake Fenton Middle School, the Lake Fenton administration building and a Mott Community College campus site, which creates heavy area traffic at times.

“We went through the requirements that we’re required to follow as far as volume and crashes and it met those conditions,” said Bonnie Wood, Genesee County Road Commission traffic engineering manager. “There wasn’t a crash problem at all, it was really the volume of traffic.”

The road commission conducted a study on the interchange and decided to install the stop light.

Mathis said it may take time for drivers to get used to but will make the township safer in the long run.

Mathis said in the past, she’s seen drivers blow right through the stop signs.

“If it was wrong, (the stop light) wouldn’t have happened,” she said.

Wood said the road commission may have to tweak the timing of the light depending on morning and afternoon rush hour volumes.