Suggestion to lower NOx and PM matter in Imperial Valley cities.

There is a direct relationship between the amount of traffic and the amount of ozone and particulate non-attainment. In the report the NOx and ozone limits are exceeded more often in El Centro than Calexico. There is very little industry in El Centro. El Centro has considerably more stop light controlled traffic near the air quality monitor. Considering the traffic, the major cause of pollution from vehicle traffic in town is starting, stopping and idling. These behaviors are exasperated by the traffic signals. To elaborate, drivers tend to try to “make” a light controlled intersection which increases acceleration and braking. Intersections controlled by a four-way stop are not reacted to in the same manner. Additionally there is time spent idling by waiting cars when the intersection itself has no cars. I suggest that traffic be controlled by flashing 4 way red lights during the hours of light traffic and revert to traffic light control during only the busiest times of the day.

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