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Friday, June 19 2015, 07:49 PM EDT

"Smart" Traffic Lights To Ease Boca Raton Roads Congestion

Story by Lauren Hills/CBS12 News

BOCA RATON (CBS12) -- Computers and algorithms and numbers.

That's the life for Aleksandar Stevanovic, an FAU professor who tests and implements specialized traffic systems to make our commutes easier.

He works on something called "smart" traffic signals.

"Either video detection or magnetic in the pavement is used to detect cars," he said.

Based on that, the lights adjust the timing to make the traffic flow smoother with more green lights where it's most needed.

And they're soon coming six intersections on Glades between Powerlinr and just west of the Turnpike, a busy stretch of road.

"Trying to get to class, lots of cars, it's really hard to get on time," said Erica Sullivan, an FAU student.

Stevanovic has been working with the City of Boca raton to study the impacts on the current ones in place on glades between St. Andrews and Northwest 13th.

But the results, haven't lived up to expectations because he says the traffic volume is currently too high.

"We expect system will be better once we have new interchanges at Spanish River Blvd.," said Stevanovic.

Still, he believes they likely will be successful at the new locations.

"I the configuration might be slightly different but it will serve its purpose and reduce delays and stops by a certain amount," he said.

At a cost of \$30,000 an intersection, it's certainly an investment. One many hope will pay off and ease congestion.

The DOT and Palm Beach County will be installing the new systems next year.

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