A good start

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City officials are taking a look at reducing the number of red lights that change to green just as often as they change to red. The changes would likely be made in an effort to make traffic flow more smoothly.

The policy change would only apply to certain City of Astoria lights. According to City Engineer Frank Reinhart, the policy would be implemented in the downtown area, where the traffic flow is the most congested.

"The goal is to improve traffic flow by increasing the green time on the lights," Reinhart said. "We want to make sure that the traffic is flowing smoothly, without having to stop and start too often."

The policy change will also apply to some of the City's other traffic lights, which are located in more rural areas.

In addition to reducing the number of red lights, the City is also looking at installing new safety features on some of its older traffic lights.

"We want to make sure that our traffic lights are as safe as possible," Reinhart said. "We are looking at adding new safety features, such as flashing lights and audible signals, to help drivers and pedestrians stay safe."