What is the benefit of the flashing yellow left turn arrow?

They are safer
A decade-long national study by the Federal Highway Administration found that drivers had fewer crashes with the flashing yellow arrow.

They are more efficient
The new signal provides more options for controlling traffic based on variable traffic volumes since the timing sequence can be made to vary throughout the day.

Reminder to all drivers:
Any flashing yellow signal means drivers are to slow down and proceed through the intersection with caution. A flashing red signal means motorists should come to a complete stop before proceeding.

At a Glance:
- **Steady red arrow**: Drivers must stop and wait.
- **Steady yellow arrow**: Drivers must prepare to stop if it is safe to do so.
- **Flashing yellow arrow**: Drivers must yield to pedestrian and oncoming traffic prior to making the left turn.
- **Steady green arrow**: Drivers turning left have the right of way.

**Variation of flashing yellow arrow**
In some instances motorists may encounter a flashing yellow arrow in a three-section head as seen here. The same guidelines apply; however, no green arrow will be present.
**NEW FOUR-HEAD SIGNAL**

A new style traffic signal is being installed throughout Wisconsin to control left turns and improve safety at intersections. New four-section signal heads with arrows will gradually replace the traditional five-section signal heads that had a combination of circular lights and arrows. The new signal heads with arrows provide a more direct, less confusing, message.

**FLAShING YELLOW ARROWS**

**A SAFER YELLOW TURN SIGNAL**

As usual, red means stop. A green arrow means a driver has the right of way to make a left turn. A solid yellow arrow means prepare to stop. A flashing yellow arrow means a driver may make a left turn if there is no oncoming traffic and there are no pedestrians crossing the street. The new flashing yellow arrow provides a more direct message for left turns: yield to opposing traffic and pedestrians before proceeding.

**Comparison of left turn signals**

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<th>Traditional five-section signal</th>
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**STEADY RED ARROW**

Stop and wait.

**STEADY YELLOW ARROW**

The left-turn signal is about to change. Do not enter the intersection if you can stop safely. Vehicles in the intersection should complete their turn.

**FLASHING YELLOW ARROW**

You are allowed to turn left after yielding to oncoming traffic and pedestrians. It also means oncoming traffic has a green light and you must determine if there is an adequate gap before turning.

**STEADY GREEN ARROW**

You have the right of way to turn left.