Baton Rouge Ramp Meter Success Story

In June 2010, Baton Rouge was the first city in Louisiana to install ramp meters. After the installation of sixteen ramp meters on I-12 from Essen to Walker, a study was done to track the results. Below, we share the findings:

- Travel times have been reduced 15% and 19% in the AM and PM.
- Travel speeds have been increased by 4mph and 7mph in the AM and PM.
- Crashes have been reduced by 8.3% and 34.3% in the AM and PM.
- Crashes between Essen Lane and I-10 exit have been reduced from 21 to 6.

Want more information?

You can find information and videos on our project web page at http://bit.ly/RampMeters
What are ramp meters?
Ramp meters are stop-and-go signals that regulate entering the flow of traffic entering the expressway.

Why are they being installed?
The Department of Transportation and Development is making use of traffic management systems, such as ramp meters, as a way to reduce crashes and decrease travel times for commuters.

What are the benefits?
- Reduces congestion
- Provides safer merging
- Improves travel time reliability

More than 20 states in the nation use ramp meters, Baton Rouge was the first city to use ramp meters in Louisiana.

Studies have proven that ramp meters are a cost-effective method of relieving traffic congestion and increasing safety by reducing crashes at on-ramps by an average of 30 percent.

Using Ramp Meters

1. **Pull Up To The White Line**
   - Drive your vehicle to the painted white line next to the ramp signal. Make sure you can see the signal.

2. **Wait For The Green Light**
   - When the signal turns green, one car per lane may drive along the ramp and merge safely onto the freeway.

3. **Use Both Lanes Where Available**
   - Some entrance ramps have more than one lane controlled by its own signal. Follow the signal controlling your lane.

4. **Signals Are Off**
   - When the signal are turned off, motorists should merge as usual.

Ramp Meter Locations

The ramp meters will operate only Monday-Friday during peak travel times.
- Morning: 6:30 am - 9 am
- Afternoon: 3 pm - 7 pm

Continually monitored by DOTD's Traffic Management Centers (TMCs)

Technology has been used successfully in several cities nationwide