

Stamford Safety Speed Camera 2/28/24 BOR Meeting

CITY OF
STAMFORD



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VISION
ZERO

Draft Ordinance

- Located in Chapter 231. – Vehicles and Traffic
- Article XIII (13)- Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Devices
- Ordinance is based heavily on language from State Law

Sec. 231-82 (NEW). Purpose- Use of automated traffic enforcement safety devices.

- Authorizes use of safety speed cameras in the following locations:
 - School Zones
 - Pedestrian Safety Zones
 - “other places within the boundaries of Stamford”
- Does NOT authorize the use of red light cameras
- States that the “locations of such devices will be identified in a plan submitted to and approved by the Board of Representatives and subsequently submitted to and approved by the Connecticut Department of Transportation”
 - ***All camera locations have to be approved by the Board of Representatives***
 - This Ordinance does not approve the installation of any specific cameras.
 - This is simply the required enabling legislation.

Sec. 231-83 (NEW). Definitions.

- Definitions are taken from the State Law and existing City Ordinance
 - Automated traffic enforcement safety device
 - Automated traffic enforcement safety device operator
 - Number plate
 - Owner
 - Pedestrian Safety Zone
 - **Personally Identifiable information**
 - Information created or maintained by the City or a vendor that identifies or describes an owner and includes, but need not be limited to, the owner's address, telephone number, number plate, photograph, bank account information, credit card number, debit card number, or the date, time, location, or direction of travel on a highway.
 - Important for Section 231-92
 - School Zone
 - Traffic Authority
 - Traffic control sign and traffic control signal
 - Vendor

Sec. 231-84 (NEW). Vendors.

- Permits the City to enter into agreements with vendors for the design, installation, operation, or maintenance, or any combination thereof, of automated traffic enforcement safety devices.
- Vendor's fees may not be contingent on the number of citations issued or fines paid
 - Per State Law
 - This reduces chances of fraud to increase vendor's profit.

Sec. 231-85 (NEW). Operation of automated traffic enforcement safety device.

- All automated traffic enforcement safety devices shall be operated by an automated traffic enforcement safety device operator.
 - In essence means that a City Employee will be responsible for reviewing citations and at the end of the day will oversee the program.

Sec. 231-86 (NEW). Violation.

- A. The owner of a motor vehicle commits a violation of this ordinance if the person operating such motor vehicle: (1) Exceeds the posted speed limit by ten (10) or more miles per hour and such operation is detected by an automated traffic enforcement safety device.
 - A violation is anything 10 or more Miles Per Hour over the speed limit
- B. Automated traffic enforcement safety devices shall be used solely for identifying violations of this ordinance.
 - The cameras cannot be used for other purposes such as license plate readers
- C. For the first thirty (30) days after a location is equipped with an operational automated traffic enforcement safety device, the owner of a motor vehicle that allegedly violates this ordinance that is detected by such device shall receive a written warning instead of a citation.
 - 30 day warning notice period is required for new installations.

Sec. 231-87 (NEW). Penalty for violation.

- **Any possible violation has to be reviewed and approved by a City of Stamford Employee before being issued.**
 - Private vendors will not be able to send out citations without City Staff review
- The First Class mailed citation has to include the following information on it:
 - (1) The name and address of the owner of the motor vehicle;
 - (2) The number plate of the motor vehicle;
 - (3) The violation charged;
 - (4) The location of the automated traffic enforcement safety device and the date and time of the violation;
 - (5) A copy of or information on how to view, through electronic means, the recorded images that captured the alleged violation;
 - (6) A statement or electronically generated affirmation by the employee who viewed the recorded images and determined that a violation occurred;
 - (7) Verification that the automated traffic enforcement safety device was operating correctly at the time of the alleged violation and the date of the most recent Draft calibration check performed pursuant to the Public Act;
 - (8) The amount of the fine imposed and how to pay such fine; and
 - (9) The right to contest the violation and request a hearing pursuant to § Sec 231-90 of this Article.

Sec. 231-88 (NEW). Fine for violation.

- Fine of \$50 for the first violation
- Fine of \$75 for subsequent violations if previous citations are unsettled or uncontested
- \$15 processing fee
- Payment of fees can be in person or online
- Any funds from this program shall be for transportation mobility and infrastructure improvements, as well as the cost of the program.
 - Revenue will not go into the general fund.

Sec. 231-89 (NEW). Removal or immobilization of motor vehicles bearing outstanding citations.

- Scofflaw booting
- Utilizes exact same language from our current parking ordinance
- Separate list from parking scofflaw list
- Only applies if the vehicle owner has a cumulative amount of \$250 or more in unpaid citations or has three or more delinquent citations.
- Safety benefits

Sec. 231-90 (NEW). Appeal.

- Per State Law, utilizes the City's existing appeal procedure in Chapter 97 in the Code of Ordinances

Sec. 231-91 (NEW). Defenses.

- Available defenses are per the State law
 - (a) The operator was driving an emergency vehicle in accordance with the applicable provisions of C.G.S. § 14-283.
 - (b) The traffic control signal was inoperative, which is observable on the recorded images.
 - (c) The violation was necessary for the operator to comply with an order or direction from a law enforcement officer, which is observable on the recorded images.
 - (d) The violation was necessary to allow the passage of an authorized emergency vehicle, which is observable on the recorded images.
 - (e) The violation took place during a period of time in which the motor vehicle had been reported as being stolen to a law enforcement unit, as defined in C.G.S. § 7-294a, and had not yet been recovered prior to the time of the violation.
 - (f) The automated traffic enforcement safety device was not in compliance with the calibration check required pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Public Act.

Sec. 231-92 (NEW). Disclosure of personally identifiable information.

- All below is per the State Law
- (a) No personally identifiable information shall be disclosed by the City or a vendor to any person or entity, including any law enforcement unit, except where the disclosure is made in connection with the charging, collection, and enforcement of the fines imposed pursuant to this ordinance.
 - **Data cannot be given to the Police Department for investigations or other purposes**
- (b) No personally identifiable information shall be stored or retained by the City or a vendor unless such information is necessary for the charging, collection, and enforcement of the Draft fines imposed pursuant to this ordinance.
- (c) The City or a vendor shall destroy all personally identifiable information and other data that specifically identifies a motor vehicle and relates to a violation of this ordinance not later than thirty (30) days after any fine is collected or the resolution of a hearing conducted for the alleged commission of such violation, whichever is later.
 - **All personally identifiable information shall be destroyed once the fine is paid or appeal is issued.**
- (d) Any information and other data gathered from automated traffic enforcement safety devices shall be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, as defined in C.G.S. § 1-200, except that no personally identifiable information may be disclosed.

Sections 231-93-95

- Sec. 231-93 (NEW). The Public Act.
- Sec. 231-94 (NEW). Severability.
- Sec. 231-95 (NEW). Repealer.

Schedule

Subject to change

Stamford Speed Safety Camera Program Timeline					Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Phase	Task	Task Name	Status	Task Description	2023	2023	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2025	2025	2025
1. Pre-planning	Task 1.1	Best Practice Review	Complete	Review of best practices	Yellow	Yellow															
	Task 1.2	Program Structure Development	Complete	Develop internal framework for camera program		Yellow	Yellow														
	Task 1.3	Internal/External Coordination	Complete				Yellow														
2. Planning	Task 2.1	DOT Guidance Review	Complete	Review CTDOT Camera Guidance		Blue	Blue														
	Task 2.2	Location Planning Analysis	On going	Develop recommended locations for Phase 1 Cameras			Blue	Blue													
	Task 2.3	Guidelines and Program Development	On going	Develop and formalize program guidelines			Blue	Blue	Blue												
	Task 2.4	Internal/External Coordination	On going					Blue	Blue												
3. Pre-Implementation	Task 3.1	Legislative	On going	Enabling Ordinance for speed cameras				Orange	Orange	Orange											
	Task 3.2	Operatons Plan Development		Speed Camera Operations Plan					Orange	Orange											
	Task 3.3	Operations Plan Approval		Review and approval of operations plan							Orange	Orange									
	Task 3.4	DOT Application		Submit approved plan to DOT								Orange	Orange								
	Task 3.5	Request for Proposals		Advertise a RFP for cameras							Orange	Orange									
	Task 3.6	Budgeting		Develop budget base don RFP submissions									Orange	Orange							
	Task 3.7	Procurement/Contracts		Develop and execute vendor contract										Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange				
	Task 3.8	Internal/External Coordination						Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange									
4. Implmentation	Task 4.1	Equipment Planning, Design, and Installation		Aquire, plan, and install cameras and associated materials																	
	Task 4.2	Program Rollout		Go live time																	Red Star
	Task 4.3	Performance Review, Evaluation, and Reporting		Review and monitoring of program once live																	Green
	Task 4.4	Internal/External Coordination																			Green

Next Steps

- BOR
 - Discuss draft ordinance
 - If approved, go to public hearing
- City
 - Present draft locations by next month's meeting for review
 - Develop more detailed internal operations plan and FAQs for review
 - Develop RFP Scope



Stamford VISION ZERO

Thank You

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stamfordct.gov/government/vision-zero-927

