



INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

TO: **Public Safety Committee**
 FROM: **Eric Drever, Chief of Police**
 CC: **Mayor Ekberg**
 DATE: **April 4th, 2022**
 SUBJECT: **School Speed Zone Camera Update**

ISSUE

Update regarding School Zone Cameras.

BACKGROUND

Two Speed Zone Cameras were installed in the School Zone in the 4440 block of S.144th Street covering both directions within the school zone. The cameras were operational In September 2021. There was a one-month grace period between in September when warnings were given, and in October Infractions began to be issued.

Data regarding violations was collected by the vendor (Novoa Global) and forward to the Police Department. Officers from the Tukwila Police Department Traffic Unit reviewed the infractions and forwarded them to the court. Processing by the Court included deferrals, dismissals, and issuing of court proceedings for violations of the school zone speed limit.

DISCUSSION

The Speed Zone Cameras are only operational during the time prior to the opening of the schools and at the end of the school day. Yellow flashing lights and an informational reader board indicating speed are also active during the time that the system in operational.

The images captured by the camera are only of the license plate, and the speed.

Below are the number of Warnings and Infractions that were issued between October, 2021 and the end of February 2022

City of Tukwila	Warnings	Issued Infractions									
		21-Oct	Tukwila Address	21-Nov	Tukwila Address	21-Dec	Tukwila Address	22-Jan	Tukwila Address	22-Feb	Tukwila Address
Address:	21-Sep										
4440 Block S. 144th St. WB		313	124	296	89	179	38	239	90	106	31
4440 Block S. 144th St. EB		391	153	333	99	187	62	230	102	182	62
Totals:	1441	704	277	629	188	366	100	469	192	288	93

(Tukwila Address data represents the number of violations by vehicles registered to Tukwila residents.)

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Revenue

Gross revenue from the cameras through the end of February is \$206,349.40 in paid fines and another \$184,675.60 fines that are due. Not counting the unpaid fees, the estimated annual revenue is approximately \$371,428.00 (Based on nine months of active cameras)

Cost for PD Processing

Annual Cost for PD processing, per City Council approval of 1.0 FTE, 2022 estimated salary and benefits of \$143,435.00. Currently the approved position has not been filled and the work is able to be absorbed with current staffing. If the program were to be expanded, the position would need to be filled to maintain the workload.

Cost for processing for Courts

Cost for Court processing, per City Council approval of 2.25 FTEs, from mid-December 2021 to February 2022 salary and benefits is \$41,857.00. 2022 estimated salary and benefits \$200,913.00.

Fees from Novoa Global

Pricing for the Novoa Global School Speed Zone Camera System is as follows \$2,999.25 per camera system, per month. Currently we have two camera systems, for a monthly total of \$5,998.50 per month, and an annual expense of \$71,982.00

Program sustainability

Total estimated Annual expenditure for the program as it currently exists = \$272,895.00. This leaves an estimated positive revenue from the program in the amount of \$98,533.

RECOMMENDATION

As the data provided above shows, the School Zone Speed Cameras have been successful in reducing speed in school zones near Foster High School and Showalter Middle School. As expected, numbers of warnings/infractions were reduced from 1441 to 288 from the inception of the program until the most recent numbers at the end of February 2022. Both the Police Department and Court recommend continuation of the program.

Additional consideration

With the success of reduced speeds by the program, the PD and Courts would like to open discussions about the potential of adding another pair of cameras in the School Zone on 42nd Ave S.