



## CITY OF KIRKLAND

### Police Department

11750 NE 118<sup>th</sup> Street, Kirkland, WA 98034-7114 425.587.3400

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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Kurt Triplett, City Manager

**From:** Cherie Harris, Chief of Police  
Todd Aksdal, Deputy Chief of Police  
Veronica Hill, Senior Financial Analyst  
Iris Cabrera, Transportation Engineer

**Date:** August 26, 2021

**Subject:** SAFETY CAMERA PROGRAM UPDATE – Q2 2021

### **Recommendation:**

City Council receives an update on the implementation of the School Safety Zone Camera program.

### **Background:**

The last School Safety Zone Camera program update was provided to the City Council on May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021, and covered the period of time from February 18 – March 31, 2021. The program was suspended on March 12, 2020 as school was cancelled due to the COVID-10 pandemic. The Lake Washington School District remained closed until February 18, 2021.

The following is a report on the School Safety Zone Camera program from April 1 – June 15, 2021.

### **April 1 – June 15, 2021:**

During this timeframe, both Rose Hill Elementary and John Muir Elementary schools remained open for in person learning four days per week. Kamiakin Middle School returned to in person learning for four days per week starting on April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Between April 1 – June 15, 2021, 4,347 total citations have been issued, using the four cameras in both school zones. There were 38 school days within this time frame, which means that approximately 114.39 citations were issued per day. There were only 23 days in the first quarter and approximately 124.17 citations were issued each day.

As the chart below depicts, southbound 132<sup>nd</sup> Ave NE continues to be the busiest camera of the four, consistent with the previous reports:

Location	Number of Citations Issued
NB 132 <sup>nd</sup> Ave NE	1,233
SB 132 <sup>nd</sup> Ave NE	2,222
EB NE 80 <sup>th</sup> St	573
WB NE 80 <sup>th</sup> St	319

### **Citation Data:**

The following bullets are provided to further describe the type of citations that were issued between April 1– June 15, 2021:

- 3,071 citations (71%) were issued to drivers traveling between 26-30 mph and were issued \$136 fines
- 1,276 citations (29%) were issued to drivers traveling 31 mph and faster and were issued \$250 fines
  - 47 mph is the fastest speed that was recorded during the second quarter.
- The average citations issued per zone, per day in the first quarter (February-March) was 32.62. The average citations issued per zone per day in the second quarter (April-June) declined in the second quarter to 28.31.
  - October 2019: 35.57 average citations per zone per day
  - November 2019: 29.93
  - December 2019: 24.85
  - January 2020: 18.63
  - February 2020: 22.90
  - March 2020: 23.47
  - February 2021: 35.58
  - March 2021: 29.44
  - **April 2021: 27.46**
  - **May 2021: 30.28**
  - **June 2021: 27.21**
- Those vehicles registered to a 98033 or 98034 zip code accounted for 28.7% of the issued citations in the second quarter.
  - The city outside of Kirkland with the most citations issued was Woodinville which accounted for 14.3% of the total issued citations in the second quarter.
- Recidivism Rate:
  - 91.3% one citation
  - 6.9% two citations
  - 1.8% have received three of more citations

- Afternoon school zone enforcement accounted for 66.6% of the citations issued, with the morning hours accounting for 33.4% of the citations issued. During this reporting period, the cameras were active during the following hours on Mondays, Tuesday, Thursdays and Fridays:
- - Rose Hill Elementary:
    - 8:20AM–9:20AM before school
    - 1:35PM–2:35PM after school.
  - John Muir Elementary / Kamiakin Middle School:
    - 8:05AM-9:50AM before school
    - 1:20PM-3:05PM after school.

**Mitigations and Hearings:**

As of July 19, 2021, 554 people receiving citations in the second quarter have requested mitigation hearings (12.7% of total) and 380 people have requested contested hearings (8.7% of total). In addition to the hearing requests, 305 people receiving citations have submitted affidavits stating that they were not the driver of the vehicle (7% of total citations). 181 citations were dismissed when affidavits were submitted stating that the registered owner was not the driver (4.2 % of all citations). Liability was transferred in the remaining 124 instances where the registered owner asserted that they were not the driver (2.8 % of all citations).

The court’s website offers customers the ability to electronically submit a written statement and any attachments for the consideration by the Judge or they can still file by mail or drop-box. Contested and Mitigation hearings are currently occurring on Mondays and Tuesdays.

**Expenditures through the end Q2 2021\*:**

Expenditures	2019	2020	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	2021	TOTAL
Construction	\$ 27,319	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 27,319
ATS Contract	\$ 26,871	\$ 17,579	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 74,679	\$ 119,129
Utilities	\$ 560	\$ 420	\$ 140	\$ 140	\$ 140	\$ 626	\$ 1,606
Police Staffing	\$ 50,284	\$ 166,864	\$ 14,918	\$ 14,684	\$ 14,684	\$ 87,919	\$ 305,067
Court Staffing	\$ 19,308	\$ 60,611	\$ 7,430	\$ 6,796	\$ 7,968	\$ 42,236	\$ 122,155
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$124,342</i>	<i>\$ 245,474</i>	<i>\$ 39,488</i>	<i>\$ 38,620</i>	<i>\$ 39,792</i>	<i>\$205,460</i>	<i>\$ 575,276</i>

*\*Costs continue to be updated with actual expenses as they are incurred, which is why expenditures from prior months may differ from memo to memo.*

*Construction costs:*

- No additional construction costs beyond the initial set-up costs are anticipated.

*Ongoing costs:*

- Costs for monitoring of the cameras resumed in February 2021 (prorated).
- Utility costs allocated from February 2021 (prorated).

*Police staffing costs:*

- Sustainment staffing costs for 1 FTE Traffic Officer.

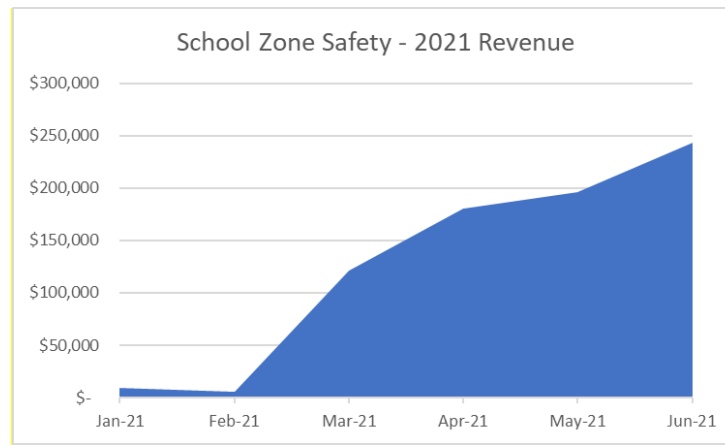
*Court staffing costs:*

- Sustainment staffing costs for .75 FTE JSA II.
- Professional services charges for court commissioner.

**Revenues:**

Revenues	2019	2020	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	2021	TOTAL
Citations	\$ 400,883	\$ 732,749	\$ 180,513	\$ 196,052	\$ 243,500	\$ 756,437	\$ 1,890,069

The City has generated \$1,890,069 in school zone safety citation revenues through 6/30/2021. For this quarter, the average monthly revenue was \$206,688. June 2021 revenue represents the highest amount collected since the program's inception in October 2019. May 2021 revenues were 3<sup>rd</sup> highest. YTD 2021 revenues have already exceeded the total revenue for the entire year of 2020.



**Cash Flow Analysis:**

	2019	2020	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21
<b>Expenditures</b>								
Construction	\$ 27,319	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
ATS Contract	\$ 26,871	\$ 17,579	\$ -	\$ 6,679	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000
Utilities	\$ 560	\$ 420	\$ -	\$ 66	\$ 140	\$ 140	\$ 140	\$ 140
Police Staffing	\$ 50,284	\$ 166,864	\$ 14,095	\$ 14,949	\$ 14,589	\$ 14,918	\$ 14,684	\$ 14,684
Court Staffing	\$ 19,308	\$ 60,611	\$ 5,417	\$ 7,108	\$ 7,517	\$ 7,430	\$ 6,796	\$ 7,968
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 124,342</b>	<b>\$ 245,474</b>	<b>\$ 19,512</b>	<b>\$ 28,802</b>	<b>\$ 39,246</b>	<b>\$ 39,488</b>	<b>\$ 38,620</b>	<b>\$ 39,792</b>
<b>Revenues</b>								
Citations	\$ 400,883	\$ 732,749	\$ 9,291	\$ 5,807	\$ 121,273	\$ 180,513	\$ 196,052	\$ 243,500
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 400,883</b>	<b>\$ 732,749</b>	<b>\$ 9,291</b>	<b>\$ 5,807</b>	<b>\$ 121,273</b>	<b>\$ 180,513</b>	<b>\$ 196,052</b>	<b>\$ 243,500</b>
<b>Council Appropriations</b>								
								\$ 200,000
Balance	\$ 276,541	\$ 487,275	\$ (10,221)	\$ (22,995)	\$ 82,027	\$ 141,025	\$ 157,432	\$ 3,708
<b>LTD Balance</b>	<b>\$ 276,541</b>	<b>\$ 763,816</b>	<b>\$ 753,595</b>	<b>\$ 730,601</b>	<b>\$ 812,628</b>	<b>\$ 953,653</b>	<b>\$ 1,111,086</b>	<b>\$ 1,114,793</b>

The program balance as of 6/30/2021 is \$1,114,793. In June 2021, Council appropriated \$200,000 to support the Neighborhood Safety Program.

<b>CHANGE IN PROGRAM BALANCE</b>	
Beg. Program Balance - April 1, 2020	\$ 760,665
Add: Revenue Apr. '20-June '21	\$ 948,423
Less: Operational Costs Apr. '20-June '21	\$ (394,295)
Less: Re-Appropriations	\$ (200,000)
Ending Program Balance - June 30, 2021	\$ 1,114,793

### **Speed Study Results:**

Public Works has completed three speed studies in the Rose Hill Elementary and John Muir Elementary / Kamiakin school zones. The first speed study was conducted in May 2018 prior to improvements being made in the zones and is considered a baseline study. The 2<sup>nd</sup> study was conducted in May of 2019 to determine the impacts of signage modifications and installation of flashing beacons. The most recent study was conducted in May of 2021 to determine the impacts of the automated speed safety cameras.

City of Kirkland Traffic Engineers provided the following analysis of the 2019 and 2021 speed study data:

#### **Rose Hill Elementary**

- A higher level of compliance was observed in the westbound approach both before and after school.
- Overall higher compliance with the school zone speed limit was observed in 2021. In 2021, 59% of drivers traveled at a speed equal to or lower to 20 mph, compared to 49% in 2019. The overall conclusion is that automated speed safety cameras are having a positive impact.
- Results showed fewer drivers traveling between 20-25 mph. This may be because more drivers were driving equal to or below 20 mph.
- There was an increase in the number of drivers traveling at a speed equal to or greater than 30 mph (17 in 2019 / 30 in 2021).

#### **John Muir Elementary / Kamiakin Middle School**

- A higher level of compliance was seen in the morning than in the afternoon.
- The level of compliance was higher in the northbound approach both before and after school.
- Overall higher (but not significantly higher) compliance with the school zone speed limit was observed in 2021. In 2021, 56% of drivers traveled at a speed equal to or lower to 20 mph, compared to 50% in 2019. The overall conclusion is that the automated school safety cameras are having a beneficial impact.
- The results show fewer drivers traveling within the 20-25 mph and 25-30 mph ranges in 2021 in comparison to 2019. This could be attributed to the fact that more drivers are traveling at speeds equal to or lower than 20 mph.

- There was an increase in the number of drivers traveling at a speed equal to or greater than 30 mph (82 in 2019 / 126 in 2021).

Traffic engineers concluded that speed enforcement in the school zones seem to be working, but there is room for improvement since drivers are still exceeding the 20 mph school speed limits and some are driving faster than 30 mph.

**Next Steps:**

Summer break for the Lake Washington School District began on June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The school zone cameras have stopped recording violations for the summer. The next safety camera program update will be provided after school starts in the fall of 2021.