



CITY OF KIRKLAND

Police Department

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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

Date: May 5, 2021

Subject: SCHOOL SAFETY ZONE CAMERA PROGRAM UPDATE – Q1 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 covered January 1 – March 12, 2020. The program was suspended on March 12, 2020 as school was cancelled due to the COVID-19 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 February 18 – March 31, 2021.

February 18 – March 31, 2021:

During this timeframe, both Rose Hill Elementary and John Muir Elementary schools were open for in person learning four days per week. Kamiakin Middle School did not return to in person learning until after the first quarter of 2021. Data related to Kamiakin Middle School will be included in the second quarter report. Between February 18 – March 31, 2021, 2,856 total citations have been issued, using the four cameras in both school zones. There were 23 school days within this time frame, which means that approximately 124.17 citations were issued per day. Comparing this data to the first three months of the school year of 2020 (111 citations per day) shows that the average number of citations per day has increased in the same manner that it did when the program was first implemented.

As the chart below depicts, southbound 132nd Ave NE continues to be the busiest camera of the four:

Location	Number of Citations Issued
NB 132 nd Ave NE	795
SB 132 nd Ave NE	1146
EB NE 80 th St	523
WB NE 80 th St	392

Citation Data:

The following bullets are provided to further describe the type of citations that were issued between February 18 – March 31, 2021:

- 1,991 citations (70%) were issued to drivers traveling between 26-30 mph and were issued \$136 fines
- 865 citations (30%) were issued to drivers traveling 31 mph and faster and were issued \$250 fines
 - 50 mph is the fastest speed that has been recorded
- The average citations issued per zone, per day, in the first month of the program (October 2019) is nearly identical to the first month (February 2021) when the program was restarted following the COVID-19 pandemic. The downward trend between the 1st and 2nd months was also nearly identical.
 - 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**
- Those vehicles registered to a 98033 or 98034 zip code accounted for 30% of the issued citations.
 - The city outside of Kirkland with the most issued citations to residents is Woodinville with 13% of the total issued citations.
- Recidivism Rate:
 - 92.1% one citations
 - 6.4% two citations
 - 1.5% have received three or more citations
- Afternoon school zone enforcement accounted for 62% of the citations issued, with the morning hours accounting for 38% 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
- 11:50AM–12:50PM after school.
- John Muir Elementary:
 - 8:50AM-9:50AM before school
 - 12:20PM-1:20PM after school.

Mitigations and Hearings:

As of April 15, 2021, 138 people receiving citations in the first quarter have requested mitigation hearings (4.8% of total) and 86 people have requested contested hearings (3.0% of total). In addition to the hearing requests, 120 people receiving citations have submitted affidavits stating that they were not the driver of the vehicle (4.2% of total citations).

The court’s website now 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 Q1 2021*:

Expenditures	2019	2020	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	2021	TOTAL
Construction	\$ 27,319	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 27,319
ATS Contract	\$ 26,871	\$ 17,579	\$ -	\$ 6,679	\$ 17,000	\$ 23,679	\$ 68,129
Utilities	\$ 560	\$ 420	\$ -	\$ 66	\$ 140	\$ 206	\$ 1,186
Police Staffing	\$ 50,284	\$ 166,864	\$ 14,095	\$ 14,949	\$ 14,589	\$ 43,633	\$ 260,781
Court Staffing	\$ 19,308	\$ 60,611	\$ 5,417	\$ 7,108	\$ 6,617	\$ 19,142	\$ 99,061
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$124,342</i>	<i>\$ 245,474</i>	<i>\$ 19,512</i>	<i>\$ 28,802</i>	<i>\$ 38,346</i>	<i>\$ 86,660</i>	<i>\$ 456,476</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	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	2021	TOTAL
Citations	\$400,883	\$ 732,749	\$ 9,291	\$ 5,807	\$ 121,273	\$ 136,371	\$ 1,270,003

The City has received \$1,270,003 in school zone speeding revenues through 3/31/2021. Excluding the partial months, the average monthly revenue is \$175,350. During the last 12 months, with no camera operations, the monthly collection rate on citations issued prior to camera stoppage, was an average of \$17,256.

Cash Flow Analysis:

	2019	2020	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21
Expenditures					
Construction	\$ 27,319	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
ATS Contract	\$ 26,871	\$ 17,579	\$ -	\$ 6,679	\$ 17,000
Utilities	\$ 560	\$ 420	\$ -	\$ 66	\$ 140
Police Staffing	\$ 50,284	\$ 166,864	\$ 14,095	\$ 14,949	\$ 14,589
Court Staffing	\$ 19,308	\$ 60,611	\$ 5,417	\$ 7,108	\$ 6,617
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	<i>\$ 124,342</i>	<i>\$ 245,474</i>	<i>\$ 19,512</i>	<i>\$ 28,802</i>	<i>\$ 38,346</i>
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<i>Total Revenues</i>	<i>\$ 400,883</i>	<i>\$ 732,749</i>	<i>\$ 9,291</i>	<i>\$ 5,807</i>	<i>\$ 121,273</i>
Council Appropriations					
3/5 - NMC00620		\$ 123,157			
Program Balance	\$ 276,541	\$ 640,659	\$ 630,438	\$ 607,443	\$ 690,370

The program balance as of 3/31/2021 is \$690,370. Since April 2020, support for ongoing staffing costs was covered by continuing revenue collections for prior citations issued.

CHANGE IN PROGRAM BALANCE	
Beg. Program Balance - April 1, 2020	\$ 637,508
Add: Revenue Apr. '20-Mar. '21	\$ 328,357
Less: Operational Costs Apr. '20-Mar. '21	\$ (275,495)
Ending Program Balance - March 31, 2021	\$ 690,370

Next steps:

The 2nd Quarter 2021 report will include the results from the rescheduled speed study that was requested by Council at the June 4, 2019 council meeting (scheduled for May of 2021).

Due to the school closures that resulted from the COVID-19 pandemic, the speed studies planned at both school zone safety camera locations were not conducted as scheduled in May

2020. The May 2021 speed study results will be compared to the results of the speed studies that were previously collected in May 2018 and May 2019 to help evaluate the impact the school zone safety cameras are having on driver behavior.