



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL
CENTRAL STAFF

Automated Camera Enforcement Financial Policies – CB 120638

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TRANSPORTATION AND SEATTLE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE

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In brief...

- This proposed legislation would:
 - **Consolidate** existing traffic camera financial policies into a single Chapter 5.82 SMC.
 - Establish a new financial policy for **speed enforcement cameras**, directing local revenue to transportation projects that traffic safety, bicycle safety, and pedestrian safety.

Background

- Seattle began use of automated cameras for red light enforcement in 2006, school zones in 2012, and block-the-box and transit-only lane enforcement in 2022.
- Seattle has financial policies governing red light cameras (Chapter 5.82 SMC) and school zone cameras (Chapter 5.81 SMC).
- Spending of block-the-box/transit-only lane enforcement cameras revenues are directed by RCW 46.63.170(6)(e).
- Legislation to authorize speed enforcement cameras heard this year – Ordinance 126869 and Council Bill 120625 (currently in committee).

Existing Financial Policies

- Revenues can pay for the installation and administration of camera enforcement.
- **School Zone Cameras**
SMC 5.81.010.A directs 100 percent of revenue to school traffic and pedestrian safety projects and programs.
- **Red Light Cameras**
SMC 5.82.020.A directs 20 percent of revenue to school traffic and pedestrian safety projects and programs.
- **Block the Box and Restricted Lane Cameras**
RCW 46.63.170(6)(e) directs 50 percent of revenue to the Washington State Cooper Jones active transportation account and requires the remainder be spent only for transportation improvements that support equitable access and mobility for persons with disabilities.

CB 120638

- Establishes a new financial policy for **Speed Enforcement Cameras**.
 - RCW 46.63.170(1)(l) directs 50 percent of revenue to the Cooper Jones account.
 - Proposed policy directs remaining revenue to transportation improvements that support traffic safety, bicycle safety, and pedestrian safety.
- Consolidates existing and proposed traffic camera financial policies under Chapter 5.82 SMC (repealing Chapter 5.81 SMC).

Questions?