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Background

Under the current Seattle Municipal Code, all red light camera infraction fines are a flexible General Subfund resource that can be used for any municipal purpose. This budget action requires that a portion of on-going red light camera revenues be used only for pedestrian safety investments.

This budget action combines all revenue generated from school zone camera infractions with ten percent (10%) of the revenue generated by red light camera infractions and creates a new fund known as the Pedestrian Improvement Fund. Revenues deposited in the Pedestrian Improvement Fund will be restricted to the following uses: (1) school traffic and pedestrian safety infrastructure projects; and (2) pedestrian, bicyclist and driver education campaigns.

For the 2016 Proposed Budget, this budget action does not increase funding for SDOT in general or pedestrian safety investments in particular. If this green sheet is adopted, ten percent of red light camera revenue will no longer be available for General Subfund eligible purposes. The Mayor's current forecast for 2016 red light camera revenue is about \$4.1 million resulting in \$410,000 in red light camera revenue available for pedestrian improvements. The legislation would direct ten percent of red light camera revenue and all school zone camera revenue to the Pedestrian Improvement Fund resulting in a total of \$7.4 million available for the purpose of funding pedestrian safety improvements in 2016. The Director of Transportation will be responsible for administering the Pedestrian Improvement Fund. Table 1 summarizes the budgetary implications related to this green sheet.

Table 1: City Funding for SDOT

	(a) 2016 Proposed Budget	(b) This Budget Action	(c) = (b) – (a) Difference
General Subfund Support to SDOT's Transportation Operating Fund	\$44.3M	\$43.9M	(\$0.4M)
School Zone Fixed Automated Camera Fund	\$7.0M	-	(\$7.0M)
Pedestrian Improvement Fund (includes all School Zone Camera revenues and 10% of Red Light Camera revenues)	-	\$7.4M	\$7.4M
Total Support to SDOT	\$51.3M	\$51.3M	-

This budget action is intended to align City policy with best practices recommended by the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Laws and Ordinances and strictly constrain the use of a portion of red light camera revenue for improvements to pedestrian infrastructure.

Transactions reflecting the budget implications for adopting the ordinance will be available in subsequent versions of this green sheet.