



CITY OF KIRKLAND

Police Department

11750 NE 118th Street, Kirkland, WA 98034-7114 425.587.3400

www.kirklandwa.gov

MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager

From: Cherie Harris, Chief of Police
Todd Akسدal, Deputy Chief of Police
Veronica Hill, Senior Financial Analyst

Date: April 26, 2023

Subject: AUTOMATED SAFETY CAMERA PROGRAM UPDATE – Q1 2023

Recommendation:

City Council receives an update on the Automated Safety Camera Program.

Background:

The last Automated Safety Camera Program update January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022.

The following is a report on the Automated Safety Camera Program from January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023.

January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023:

During this timeframe, Rose Hill Elementary, John Muir Elementary and Kamiakin Middle School all remained open for in person learning for five days per week.

Between January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023, 3,435 citations were issued, using the four cameras in both school zones. There were 59 school days during this time frame, which means that approximately 58.22 citations were issued per day.

As the chart below depicts, southbound 132nd Ave NE remained the busiest camera of the four during the first quarter of 2023:

Location	Number of Citations Issued Q1 2023
NB 132 nd Ave NE	866
SB 132 nd Ave NE	1,773
EB NE 80 th St	462
WB NE 80 th St	354

Citation Data:

The following bullet points are provided to further describe the type of citations that were issued between January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023:

- 2,453 citations (71%) were issued to drivers traveling between 26-30 mph and were issued \$136 fines
- 982 citations (29%) were issued to drivers traveling 31 mph and faster and were issued \$250 fines
 - **53 mph** is the fastest speed that was recorded during first quarter.
- The average citations issued by each of the four cameras, per school day in the first quarter of 2023 was 14.55.
 - January 2022: 16.43 average citations per camera per day
 - February 2022: 13.93
 - March 2022: 14.51
 - April 2022: 17.94
 - May 2022: 16.79
 - June 2022: 18.21
 - September 2022: 23.42
 - October 2022: 19.20
 - November 2022: 16.79
 - December 2022: 14.33
 - January 2023: 15.26
 - February 2023: 14.04
 - March 2023: 14.31
- Those vehicles registered to a 98033 or 98034 zip code accounted for 25.24% of the issued citations in first quarter of 2023.
 - The city outside of Kirkland with the most citations issued was Woodinville which accounted for 10.19% of the total issued citations in first quarter 2023.
- Recidivism Rate for First Quarter of 2023:
 - 94.2% received one citation
 - 4.8% received two citations
 - 1% received three or more citations
- During the first quarter of 2023, afternoon school zone enforcement accounted for 63.7% of the citations issued, with the morning hours accounting for 36.3% of the citations issued.

Mitigations and Hearings:

As of April 25, 2023, 332 people receiving citations in the first quarter of 2023 have requested mitigation hearings (9.7% of total) and 108 people have requested contested hearings (3.1% of total). In addition to the hearing requests, 128 people receiving citations have submitted

affidavits stating that they were not the driver of the vehicle (3.7% of total citations). 85 citations were dismissed when affidavits were submitted stating that the registered owner was not the driver (2.5% of all citations). Liability was transferred in the remaining 43 instances where the registered owner asserted that they were not the driver (1.3% of all citations).

The court's website offers customers the ability to electronically submit a written hearing statement and any attachments for consideration by the Judge or they can file by mail or drop-box.

Expenditures through the end Q1 2023:

Cash Flow Analysis:



The ending cash balance as of 03/31/2023 is \$2,785,904. Much of this balance will be invested along with the bond revenues from the \$20 car tab to complete Safer Routes to School and Active Transportation Plan priority projects beginning in 2024.

Expenditures*:

**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:

- Construction cost covered by REET funds.
- No additional construction costs were incurred.

Ongoing costs:

- ATS Contract - Costs for monitoring of cameras.
- Utilities/Other - Costs for electricity to operate cameras.

Police staffing costs:

- Sustainment staffing costs for 2 FTE Traffic Officers.

Court staffing costs:

- Sustainment staffing costs for 1.0 FTE JSA Lead.
- Sustainment staffing costs for 1.50 FTE JSA II.
- Professional services charges for court commissioner.

Revenues:

The Program has generated \$4,802,262 in total revenues through 03/31/2023. All revenues will either pay for operating costs of the camera and staffing costs of court and police personnel or be invested in school zone pedestrian and bicycle safety projects as required by the ordinance authorizing the cameras.

Next Steps:

In 2022, the City Council approved expanding the Automated Safety Camera Program to provide coverage to two additional school zones located at Lakeview Elementary and on 84th Ave Ne on Finn Hill. The cameras in the two new zones were activated in March of 2023 and a 1-month warning period was initiated. Ticketing in the new zones began April 17, 2023. The second quarter 2023 Automated Safety Camera Program update will include citation data from the new school zones.