



City Council Referral Request

Tracking Number 2025.58 Date of Referral 11/18/2025 Requester Kelly Green
(Provided by Staff)

Referral To ☐ Study Session ☐ Work Session
☐ Staff ☐ Committee of the Chairs
☒ Community Livability & Public Safety ☐ Finance Committee
☐ Land Use & Environment Committee ☐ Advisory Committee (type here)

Problem Statement

A clear concise description of the issue(s) that need(s) to be addressed.

Recent pedestrian fatalities, statewide traffic and accident data, and resident feedback suggest that speeding on city streets is becoming an increasing problem in our city. Speed safety cameras could help us reduce speeding in certain areas of the city (primarily school zones) and could serve as a reminder to drivers to observe posted speed limits, particularly in high-pedestrian areas.

Request

What is being requested to assist in addressing the issue described in the problem statement?

Research and discussion on the feasibility of speed safety cameras in Olympia and, if the committee deems it worthwhile, a recommendation to Council to consider adopting them. Research must keep in mind issues of privacy and potential implications related to our Sanctuary City commitments. Some items to consider should include:

- Potential number and placement of speed safety cameras. Washington law limits determines types and locations of cameras so data would be required to establish likely camera locations.
- Privacy protections and alignment with Sanctuary City values.
- Information security and the city's ability to protect and manage data captured by speed safety cameras.
- Any data that may currently exist (or need to be collected) to clarify the scope and severity of the problem. The city maintains details on problem streets and intersections and may (or may not) have the ability to gather data from temporary speed reminder boxes or other existing speed reminder infrastructure.
- Resource requirements, particularly what level of staffing would be needed for both installation and management and whether current staff have capacity or whether added staff would be required.
- Potential revenue. State law limits use of revenue to, "construction, maintenance, and operations of traffic safety projects," and "the cost to install and operate the cameras and administer the program."
- Whether similar levels of speed reduction could be achieved through non-camera solutions such as improvements to streets and crossings or adjustments to problem roadways.

Relationship to City Business or Proposed City Business/Services

Describe how this will enhance what is already offered and/or what it will provide that is not currently available. Why is this the City's issue to address? How will this create a more adaptive and resilient organization? How will this enhance the City's work to further equity, climate, and social justice?

Speed enforcement resources are currently minimal and technology could help reduce unsafe driving and protect folks who walk and roll throughout the city. Speed safety camera programs have been proven to positively impact driver behavior and reduce pedestrian fatalities.

Connection to Comprehensive Plan

Choose all that apply.

☒ **Public Health and Safety**

A safe and welcoming Community; reliable and responsive emergency services; a safe and reliable water supply; public Infrastructure in the City is well-maintained; adequate food and shelter

☐ **Community Livability**

A commitment to a diverse, equitable, and inclusive community; access to affordable and stable housing; a safe transportation system with options for everyone; recreation opportunities for everyone; Connections to our culture and history

☐ **Downtown**

Vibrant, attractive urban destination; a safe and welcoming downtown for all; a mix of urban housing options; a variety of businesses; connections to our cultural & historic fabric; engaging arts & entertainment experience

☐ **Economy**

Abundant local products and services; a thriving arts and entertainment industry; sustainable quality infrastructure; a stable thriving economy

☐ **Environment**

Clean water & air; a daily connection to nature; preserved quality natural areas; a toxin-free community; a waste free culture

☒ **Neighborhoods**

Distinctive places & gathering spaces; nearby goods & services; neighborhoods that are engaged in community decision making; safe and welcoming places to live

Options

Describe proposed options for moving the idea or issue forward for the meeting body to consider.

1. Add to CLPS work plan in 2026; or
2. Request staff to research the issue/options and present info to the full council at a study session before deciding whether a committee will take it up.

Timing

Is this issue time sensitive, are there other timing factors to consider?

Designing and implementing an effective speed safety camera program takes time and thorough community engagement so it is in the City's interest to conduct research as early as possible. There have been multiple pedestrian fatalities in 2025 and 2024 so efforts to improve safety, especially around schools and parks, cannot come quickly enough.

Supporting Documentation (Work Plan, Transportation Master Plan, Parks Plan, etc)

Are there documents that support your request or that should be considered?

Transportation Chapter of the Comprehensive Plan (particularly the Complete Streets goals)

Washington Traffic Safety Commission Speed Safety Camera Readiness Guide

(<https://wtsc.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Speed-Safety-Camera-Readiness-Guide-06-2024.pdf>)

Councilmember Signatures

Two Councilmembers must support the request including the Chair of the Committee of referral. (Cannot be a committee quorum unless discussed at an open public meeting of the committee.)

Kelly Green

Sponsoring Councilmember

1. _____Jim Cooper_____
Councilmember

2. _____Robert Vanderpool_____
Councilmember

Staff Supplement

Staff will review the request to generate administrative impacts to be considered as part of proposal (staff to initial after their review):

Budget Impacts: Click or tap here to enter text.

Legal Review (to include regulatory authority): Click or tap here to enter text.

Policy implications: Click or tap here to enter text.

Implementation Considerations: Click or tap here to enter text.

Staff Liaison: Click or tap here to enter text.
