



Automated Enforcement Expansion Update

Public Works Department

Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee
April 23, 2025



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Overview



Presentation Type: Request for Ordinance

Purpose:

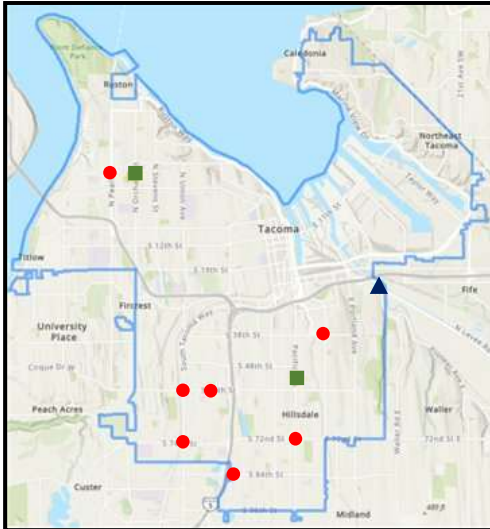
- Provide an overview of Tacoma's existing automated enforcement (AE) system and the legislative changes that went into effect June 2024
- Outline the discussion of the Automated Enforcement Task Force
- Detail updates needed to TMC Chapter 11.60

Staff recommends IPS forward the proposed amended Tacoma Municipal Code Chapter 11.60 to the City Council for consideration and approval

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Background

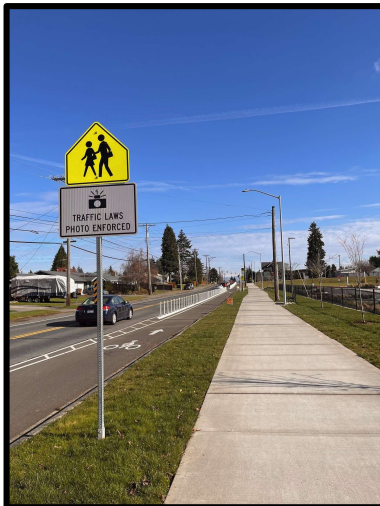


- Tacoma's AE program started in 2008
- Currently fourteen AE cameras installed:
 - Fixed Speed (1) ▲
 - Red Light (9) ●
 - School Speed Zone (4 for 2 school zones) ■
- Research shows AE technology can have a positive impact on traffic safety

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Background



- In March 2024, HB 2384 was signed into law which replaces previous legislation (RCW 46.63.170) with RCW 46.63.220
- Key provisions of the new legislation include:
 - Equity and transparency requirements
 - Expanded locations for camera placement
 - Updated penalties
 - Revenue use and redistribution
 - Expanded authority to review AE traffic citations

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Outreach – AE Task Force



AE Task Force included seven community members, representatives from TPD, and staff from the Center for Strategic Priorities-Equity Program

Task Force Recommendation

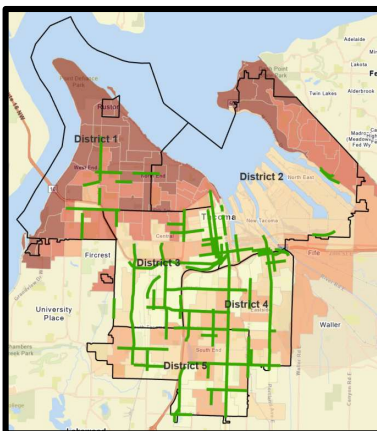
- Focus AE camera locations on the Vision Zero High-Risk Network
- Prioritize sites with a history of fatal and serious injury crashes
- Primarily utilize AE speed cameras and red-light cameras
- As capacity allows, conduct proactive speed studies, prioritizing the High-Risk Network, to identify corridors with excessive speeding for potential camera placement and include consideration for school speed zones

MUST BE A DATA-BASED APPROACH AT EVERY PHASE OF EXPANSION

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Equity – AE Task Force



- Prioritizing deployment in areas with demonstrated safety needs based on data is equitable
- Reinvest citation revenue directly into the affected communities to improve long-term traffic safety, with the goal of phasing out camera use over time
- Provide a 50% reduced fine for low-income individuals for the first citation, in accordance with state guidelines
- Offer interest-free installment payment plans

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Proposed Updates (summary)

- Code Changes Chapter 11.60
 - Updates references throughout chapter to align with RCW 46.63.220
 - Amends portions of TMC 11.60.010:
 - Establishes explicit RCW 46.63.220 references
 - Adds definition of an "Automated traffic safety camera"
 - Updates and provides clarity what types of infractions can be detected via automated traffic safety cameras
 - Amends TMC 11.60.020 to add clarity on timeline requirement for notices of infractions issued to rental vehicles

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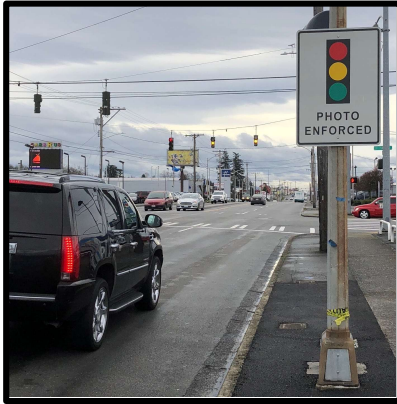
Proposed Updates

- TMC 11.60.060 amended to align fine structure with maximum amount in RCW 46.63.220
 - Establishes new rate at \$145 (\$124 currently)
 - Adjustments for inflation every 5 years beginning January 1, 2029
 - Infractions in school zones may be doubled
- TMC 11.60.090 added to provide more clarity on Public Records Exemptions for data collected
 - No photograph, microphotograph, or electronic image or any other personally identifying data may be use for any purpose other than enforcement of violations

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Next Steps



- Work with AE vendor and begin feasibility analysis of priority locations (crash types, volumes, speeds, funding breakeven)
- Create an education and outreach plan
- Continue to identify staffing needs for an expanded program
- Forward proposed code amendments to full council for consideration and approval
- If approved, establish media campaign to broadcast fine increase

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Recommendations

Staff recommends IPS forward the proposed amended Tacoma Municipal Code Chapter 11.60 to the City Council for consideration and approval

Why is this recommended?

- TMC Chapter 11.60 does not address all types of AE the City can consider in RCW 46.63.220
- To allow consideration of each type of AE within the City's AE program, Title 11 must be amended to better align with the new requirements and expectations contained within RCW 46.63.220
- Recommended proposed edits to TMC Chapter 11.60 establish strong alignment with RCW 46.63.220

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