

EXPANDING SPEED SAFETY CAMERAS IN BELLEVUE



Speed safety cameras are automated devices that detect and record vehicles exceeding the posted speed limit, in accordance with Washington State law. These systems are used in safety-critical areas to encourage compliance and reduce crash risks.

Expanding the program

Recognizing the safety benefits of speed safety camera programs, the Washington State Legislature passed a law (RCW 46.63.250) allowing cities and counties to expand the use of speed safety cameras beyond school speed zones.

Before expanding the city's camera enforcement program, Bellevue will develop the Speed Safety Camera Program Operations Guide to support future implementation. The guide will include policies and procedures that are data-driven, informed by community feedback and rooted in national best practices.

The goal is to ensure a program that is both equitable and effective in improving traffic safety for all road users.



Additional areas where cameras may be placed



School zones



High-risk roads



Hospital zones



Park zones

How the speed safety camera program works

-  1 Select camera locations
-  2 Educate & sign new locations
-  3 Turn on safety cameras
-  4 Break the law, receive a ticket
-  5 Invest in safety improvements
-  6 Monitor & evaluate

Timeline



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Why is the city expanding enforcement using speed safety cameras?

Expanding the use of speed safety cameras is part of Bellevue's commitment to Vision Zero and improving traffic safety. Speeding is a leading factor in severe and fatal crashes.

Research shows that speed safety cameras are effective at:

- Reducing speeding
- Improving compliance with posted speed limits
- Lowering the risk of serious injuries and deaths

By expanding the program, Bellevue aims to reduce dangerous speeding in areas where cameras are installed. In addition, revenue from citations will be reinvested into safety projects citywide.

How will the new program consider equity?

Bellevue is committed to ensuring the expanded Speed Safety Camera Program is implemented equitably. As required by RCW 46.63.220, equity analyses must be incorporated into multiple aspects of the program.

With input from community members and various city departments, Bellevue is developing an equity framework to help guide decisions related to:

- Camera locations
- Fines and penalties for low-income individuals
- Re-investment of program revenues into neighborhoods with lower incomes

What information can be collected by speed safety cameras?

Speed safety cameras capture images and video of vehicles that exceed the posted speed limit.

The data collected typically includes:

- Vehicle speed
- License plate number
- Time and date of the violation
- Location of the violation

Speed safety cameras do not capture images of the driver, only the license plate is captured. Citations are classified as civil infractions, like parking tickets. They do not appear on your driving record or affect your insurance rates.

How will revenues from the expanded program be invested?

Revenues collected from speed safety camera infractions will be used to:

- Cover the cost of administering the program
- Support the construction and maintenance of traffic safety infrastructure and operations

As required by state law, a portion of revenues must be reinvested in:

- Areas of Bellevue with the lowest household incomes
- Locations with above-average rates of injury crashes

These reinvestments will help ensure the program delivers safety improvements where they are needed most.

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