

RESOLUTION NO. 942 -2019, CONDUCTING A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON WAIVING ADMINISTRATIVE FEES FOR CERTAIN FIRST-TIME RED-LIGHT CAMERA OFFENDERS

WHEREAS, many drivers, even those who have never received a traffic ticket, receive an initial ticket for violating red-light laws via video monitoring; and

WHEREAS, education on red light safety and defensive driving may change the behavior of drivers who received their first ticket under this program; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the residents of Suffolk County to allow first-time red-light camera offenders an opportunity to change their driving behaviors and pay a reduced fine; and

WHEREAS, given the opportunity, many first-time red-light camera offenders will not re-offend after taking an educational defensive driving course, which will make the roads and intersections in Suffolk County much safer; and

WHEREAS, the Traffic and Parking Violations Agency, in coordination with the red-light camera vendor, should conduct a study to determine the feasibility of implementing a program for first-time red-light camera offenders to eliminate the administrative portion of the fine by taking a Department of Transportation approved defensive driving course; now, therefore be it

1st RESOLVED, that the Traffic and Parking Violations Agency is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to conduct a study, in consultation with the vendor which is awarded the next contract to operate the County red-light camera equipment, on the feasibility of implementing a program for first-time red-light camera offenders that will eliminate the administrative portion of the red-light camera fine through the successful completion of a New York Department of Transportation approved defensive driving course upon receipt of the initial notice of violation; and be it further

2nd RESOLVED, the study shall include information on whether the County can waive the administration fee for first-time red-light camera offenders, the fiscal impact that the fee waiver would have on the County, the feasibility of implementing this program in the long-term, the impact this study would have on the first-time red-light camera offenders, and an analysis of the effect of defensive driving courses on driving behavior; and be it further

3rd RESOLVED, that the Traffic and Parking Violations Agency shall deliver a copy of its written report with findings and recommendations to the County Executive, the Clerk of the Legislature, and each member of the County Legislature within ninety (90) days of the execution of a new vendor contract for the operation of the Red Light Camera Program; and be it further

4th RESOLVED, that this Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this resolution constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(26) of Title 6 of the NEW YORK CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS (6 NYCRR) and within the meaning of Section 8-0109(2) of the NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW as routine or continuing administration and

management not including new programs or major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment, and the Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is hereby directed to circulate any appropriate SEQRA notices of determination of non-applicability or non-significance in accordance with this resolution.

DATED: October 2, 2019

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steven Bellone
County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: October 09, 2019