

..TITLE

ORDINANCE OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS ESTABLISHING THE USE OF
AUTOMATED TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT SAFETY DEVICES IN THE CITY OF NEW
HAVEN PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GRANTED IN PUBLIC ACT 23-116, AN ACT
IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE VISION ZERO COUNCIL

..BODY

WHEREAS, speeding and red-light running are significant problems in New Haven with respect to roadway safety and traffic violations; and

WHEREAS, studies have shown that both speeding and collisions involving red light violations have a significantly large impact on fatal and serious injury motor vehicle accidents, with particularly destructive effects on economically and socially disadvantaged communities; and

WHEREAS, both driving behaviors can be greatly mitigated by improved enforcement; and

WHEREAS, automated traffic enforcement is one such enforcement tool that can be utilized by the City of New Haven (the “City”) to reduce the prevalence of excessive speed and the running of red lights, thereby improving roadway safety for all users; and

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut on June 27, 2023 enacted Public Act No. 23-116, providing in section 11 thereof that “any municipality may authorize the use of automated traffic enforcement safety devices (“ATESD”) at locations within school zones, pedestrian safety zones and other places in such municipality, provided (1) the municipality adopts an ordinance in accordance with the provisions of this section, and (2) the locations of such devices are identified in a plan approved by the Department of Transportation pursuant to section 17 of this act”; and

WHEREAS, The City’s vision of significantly reducing and eventually eliminating serious roadway injuries and deaths, known as “Vision Zero” aligns with the City’s long-term safety vision plan (“Safe Routes for All”) and the United States Department of Transportation’s National Roadway Safety Strategy; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the City to create an ATESD program as a tool for more effectively prioritizing those enforcement resources and strategies that have the greatest impact on

traffic safety, while keeping equity and fair distribution of the program throughout the City at the forefront; and

WHEREAS, by adopting the ordinance and ultimately implementing an ATESD program, the City will move closer to fulfilling the goal of eliminating deaths and serious injuries resulting from motor vehicle collisions; and

WHEREAS, the City's ATESD program shall be implemented, administered, and overseen by the City's Transportation, Traffic and Parking Department; and

WHEREAS, the "New Ordinance" (as defined below) expressly contains the various requirements of Public Act 23-116, including stipulating the conditions under which a motor vehicle may be cited for speeding or running a red light and the associated fine as well as various operational protocols such as permissible uses of the technology, privacy, alleged violation adjudication and available recourse for appeal all as set forth in the New Ordinance or companion Operational Plan.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, that there shall be permitted within the City the use of ATESD pursuant to the authority granted in Public Act 23-116, An Act Implementing The Recommendations Of The Vision Zero Council in accordance with an amendment to Chapter 29 of the New Haven Code of Ordinances in the form attached hereto (the "New Ordinance") and Operational Plan.