

ORDINANCE NO. 1055

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON ESTABLISHING
A NEW CHAPTER IN THE SHORELINE MUNICIPAL CODE, CHAPTER 10.21,
AUTHORIZING THE USE OF AUTOMATED TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT CAMERAS
IN SCHOOL ZONES.**

WHEREAS, the City of Shoreline is a non-charter optional municipal code city as provided in Title 35A RCW, incorporated under the laws of the State of Washington; and

WHEREAS, RCW 46.63.220 authorizes the City to use automated traffic safety cameras after adoption of an ordinance setting forth, at a minimum, statutory restrictions for use of the cameras and provisions for public notice and signage; and

WHEREAS, automated traffic safety cameras are a proven technique for reducing speeds and increasing safety, and studies have shown that these cameras encourage reduced vehicle speeds, resulting in a nearly 50 percent reduction in speeding violations with lasting deterrent effects, and improve safety for school children and other pedestrians in school zones; and

WHEREAS, as required by RCW 46.63.220, the City has prepared an analysis of the locations within the City where automated traffic safety cameras are proposed to be located and this analysis includes equity considerations including the impact of the camera placement on livability, accessibility, economics, education, and environmental health as well as evidence of vehicles speeding, rates of collision, and other requirements; and

WHEREAS, the City Council discussed the use of automated traffic safety cameras at its June 10, 2024, March 31, 2025, February 23, 2026, and March 30, 2026, regular meetings; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has considered the use of automated traffic safety cameras and any and all comments received from the public, written or oral, in regard to the same and has determined that use of such cameras will create a safe walking environment for school-aged children and promotes the walkable vision the community desires; and

WHEREAS, based on the analysis, the City Council determined that locating an automated traffic safety camera near Meridian Park Elementary School, in the vicinity of Meridian Avenue N and N 175th Street, is warranted and equitable;

**NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE,
WASHINGTON DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

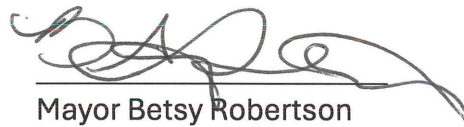
Section 1: Establishment of SMC Chapter 10.21, Automated Traffic Safety Cameras. SMC Chapter 10.21 is hereby established as set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto.

Section 2: Corrections by City Clerk or Code Reviser. Upon approval of the City Attorney, the City Clerk and/or the Code Reviser are authorized to make necessary corrections to this Ordinance, including the corrections of scrivener or clerical errors; references to other local, state, or federal laws, codes, rules, or regulations; or ordinance numbering and section/subsection numbering and references.

Section 3: Severability. Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance, or its application to any person or circumstance, be declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid for any reason, or should any portion of this ordinance be preempted by state or federal law or regulation, such decision or preemption shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance or its application to other persons or circumstances.

Section 4: Publication and Effective Date. Summary of this Ordinance consisting of the title shall be published in the official newspaper. This Ordinance shall take effect five days after publication.


ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON MARCH 30, 2026.


Mayor Betsy Robertson

ATTEST:


Jessica Simulcik Smith
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Margaret King
City Attorney

Date of Publication: April 2, 2026

Effective Date: April 7, 2026

Shoreline Municipal Code

Chapter 10.21

AUTOMATED TRAFFIC SAFETY CAMERAS

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10.21.010 Purpose.

The purpose of this chapter is to adopt an automated traffic safety camera program, in accordance with RCW 46.63.220, to establish a mechanism to deter and reduce speeding near schools so as to provide for safer city streets for all users.

10.21.020 Nonexclusive enforcement.

Nothing in this chapter prohibits a law enforcement officer from issuing a notice of traffic infraction to a person in control of a vehicle at the time a violation occurs under RCW 46.63.030(1)(a), (1)(b), or (1)(c).

10.21.030 Definitions.

For purposes of this chapter, if not defined below, the definitions of words and phrases set forth in RCW 46.63.210 and 46.63.220 shall apply to this chapter or, if not defined in the RCW, shall be given their usual and customary meaning within the context of this chapter.

“Automated traffic safety camera” means a device that uses a vehicle sensor installed to work in conjunction with a speed measuring device, and a camera synchronized to automatically record one or more sequenced photographs, microphotographs, or electronic images of the front or rear of a motor vehicle at the time the vehicle exceeds a speed limit as detected by a speed measuring device.

“City” means the City of Shoreline, Washington.

“City Traffic Engineer” means a qualified professional engineer licensed in the State of Washington retained by the City within the Public Works Department to perform the duties set forth in WAC 308-330-260 through WAC 308-330-270.

“Day” means calendar day.

“Police Chief” means the Chief of the Shoreline Police Department.

“RCW” means the Revised Code of Washington, as amended from time to time.

“School speed zone” means a school or playground speed zone established by, or under, RCW 46.61.440

“School speed zone violation” means a violation of RCW 46.61.440, subject to the operation limitation as defined by this chapter.

“Vehicle” shall have the same meaning as set forth in RCW 46.04.670.

“WAC” means the Washington Administrative Code, as amended from time to time.

10.21.040 Authorized use of automated traffic safety cameras.

- A. The City Council may authorize the placement or relocation of automated traffic safety cameras at any school speed zone fully or partially located within the City; provided, that for each individual placement or relocation the City Traffic Engineer must prepare an analysis of the location(s) consistent with the requirements of RCW 46.63.220(3) and present that analysis to the City Council before adding automated traffic safety cameras to a new location or relocating any existing camera to a new location.
- B. Any automated traffic safety camera installed in accordance with subsection A of this section may only be used by the City to detect school speed zone violations.
- C. The use of automated traffic safety cameras is further subject to the following restrictions:
 - 1. Automated traffic safety cameras may only take pictures of a vehicle and vehicle license plate and only while an infraction is occurring.
 - 2. Pictures taken by an automated traffic safety camera may not reveal the face of the driver or of the passengers in the vehicle.
 - 3. If reasonably feasible, automated traffic safety cameras shall be installed in a manner that minimizes the impact of camera flash on drivers.
 - 4. At least thirty (30) days prior to activation of an automated traffic safety camera, signs must be erected at the school speed zone at which the camera is installed.
 - a. Signs must follow the specifications and guidelines of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for streets and highways as adopted by the Washington State Department of Transportation under RCW Chapter 47.36. The City Traffic

Engineer, or designee, may authorize the installation of any signage as necessary to ensure compliance with this chapter.

- b. Signs must remain in place for the duration that an automated traffic safety camera is being utilized at that location. Such signs must be clearly visible to the driver approaching an automated traffic safety camera and must clearly indicate to a driver that:
 - i. the driver is within an area where automated traffic safety cameras are authorized; or
 - ii. the driver is entering an area where violations are enforced by an automated traffic safety camera.

10.21.050 Limitation on the use of images from an automated traffic safety camera.

- A. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all photographs, microphotographs, or electronic images prepared under this chapter are for the exclusive use of City in the discharge of duties under this chapter and are not open to the public and may not be used in a court in a pending action or proceeding unless the action or proceeding relates to a violation under this chapter.
- B. No photograph, microphotograph, or electronic image, or any other personally identifying data may be used for any purpose other than enforcement of violations under this chapter nor retained longer than necessary to enforce this chapter.

10.21.060 Notice of infraction.

- A. Pursuant to RCW 46.63.030(1)(d), City law enforcement officers, persons commissioned by the police chief, and City employees within the Public Works Department performing under the supervision of the City Traffic Engineer (collectively, “Authorized Persons”) have the authority to review infractions detected through the use of the automated traffic safety camera authorized by this chapter and to issue notices of infraction consistent with this chapter and RCW 46.63.220(9).
- B. Whenever a photograph, microphotograph, or electronic image taken by an automated traffic safety camera captures a school zone violation, then a notice of infraction shall be mailed to the registered owner of the vehicle within 14 days of the violation, or to the renter of the vehicle within 14 days of establishing the renter’s name and address under this section.
- C. If the registered owner of the vehicle is a rental car business, then before a notice of infraction is issued under subsection (1) of this section, the City shall first provide a written notice to the rental car business that a notice of infraction may be issued to the rental car business if the rental car business does not, within 18 days of receiving the written notice, provide to the City by return mail:

1. A statement under oath stating the name and known mailing address of the individual driving or renting the vehicle when the infraction occurred; or
2. A statement under oath that the business is unable to determine who was driving or renting the vehicle at the time the infraction occurred because the vehicle was stolen at the time of the infraction (must be accompanied by a copy of a filed police report regarding the vehicle theft); or
3. In lieu of identifying the vehicle operator, the rental car business may pay the applicable penalty.

Timely mailing of a valid statement to the City pursuant to subsection (C)(1) or (C)(2) of this section relieves a rental car business of any liability under this chapter for the notice of infraction.

- D. The Authorized Person issuing the notice of infraction shall include with it a certificate, or facsimile thereof, based upon inspection of photographs, microphotographs, or electronic images produced by an automated traffic safety camera, stating the facts supporting the notice of infraction. This certificate, or facsimile thereof, is prima facie evidence of the facts contained in it and is admissible in a proceeding charging a violation under this chapter.
- E. The registered owner of a vehicle is responsible for an infraction detected through the use of an automated traffic safety camera unless the registered owner overcomes the presumption set forth in SMC 10.21.080 or, in the case of a rental car business, satisfies the conditions under subsection (C) of this section. If appropriate under the circumstances, a renter identified under subsection (C) of this section is responsible for an infraction.
- F. As required by RCW 46.63.220(15), notice of infraction must provide the registered owner of the vehicle with information on the eligibility and opportunity to apply through mail or internet for a reduction in penalty amounts if they are recipients of public assistance under RCW Title 74 or participants in the Washington women, infants, and children program. Eligibility for Medicaid under RCW 74.09.510 is not a qualifying criterion under this subsection

10.21.070 Infractions processed.

Infractions detected through the use of automated traffic safety cameras are not part of the registered owner's driving record pursuant to RCW 46.52.101 and 46.52.120. Additionally, infractions generated by the use of automated traffic safety cameras under this chapter shall be processed in the same manner as parking infractions, including for the purposes of RCW 3.50.100, 35.20.220, 46.16A.120 and 46.20.270(2).

10.21.080 Prima facie presumption.

- A. In a traffic infraction case involving an infraction detected through the use of an automated traffic safety camera under this chapter, proof that the particular vehicle described in the notice of traffic infraction was involved in a school speed zone violation, together with proof that the person named in the notice of infraction was at the time of the violation the registered owner of the vehicle, shall constitute in evidence a prima facie presumption that the registered owner of the vehicle was the person in control of the vehicle at the point where, and for the time during which, the violation occurred.
- B. This presumption may be overcome only if the registered owner, under oath, states in a written statement to the court or in testimony before the court that the vehicle involved was at the time stolen or in the care, custody, or control of some person other than the registered owner.

10.21.090 Penalties.

- A. The fine for an infraction detected under authority of this chapter shall be as follows, not including applicable court costs:

Speed of Violation	Monetary Penalty
Exceeding the School Zone Speed Limit by 4 mph but no more than 9 mph	\$50
Exceeding the School Zone Speed Limit by 10 mph but no more than 13 mph	\$130
Exceeding the School Zone Speed Limit by 14 mph or more	\$260

B. Fees and penalties for failure to respond shall follow the standard court schedule for infractions.

C. Nothing in this chapter prohibits the City Council from increasing or decreasing the monetary penalties, provided that at no time may the penalties exceed the maximum amount set forth in RCW 46.63.220(16).

10.21.100 Use of revenue.

- A. Any revenue generated by automated traffic safety cameras must first be used to administer, purchase, install, operate, and maintain the automated traffic safety cameras, including the cost of processing infractions.
- B. Any revenue in excess of that necessary for subsection 1 of this section must be used for traffic safety activities related to construction and preservation projects and maintenance and operations purposes consistent with the requirements set forth in RCW 46.63.220.

- C. Beginning four years after an automated traffic safety camera authorized under this chapter is initially placed and in use, 25 percent of the noninterest money received for infractions issued by such cameras in excess of the cost to administer, install, operate, and maintain the cameras, including the cost of processing infractions, must be deposited into the Cooper Jones active transportation safety account created in RCW 46.68.480.

10.21.110 Contract with manufacturer/vendor of automated traffic safety cameras.

- A. Notwithstanding the City Manager’s purchasing threshold set forth in SMC 2.60.040(G), the City Manager may enter into a contract with a manufacturer or vendor of automated traffic safety cameras and associated equipment, software, and services. The compensation paid to the manufacturer or vendor under any such contract must be based only upon the value of the equipment and services provided or rendered in support of the City’s automated traffic safety camera program and may not be based upon a portion of the fine or civil penalty imposed or the revenue generated by the automated traffic safety cameras.
- B. In accordance with SMC 10.21.050, the manufacturer or vendor shall not use, sell, or distribute any data captured by the automated traffic safety cameras for any purpose other than processing school speed zone pursuant to this chapter.

10.21.120 Annual reporting and City website.

- A. Annual Reporting.
 - 1. For each year in which an automated traffic safety camera is activated within the City, the City Traffic Engineer, or designee, shall prepare an annual report setting forth, at a minimum, the number and locations of each automated traffic safety camera in the City and the information for each location as required by RCW 46.63.220(6)(b)(i).
 - 2. To the extent practicable, the annual report should include the number of traffic accidents, speeding violations, single vehicle accidents, pedestrian accidents, and driving under the influence violations that occurred at each location where an automated traffic safety camera is located in the five years before each camera’s authorization and after each camera’s authorization.
 - 3. The City shall post the annual report to the City’s website no later than January 31 of the year following the reporting year.
- B. The City shall provide the Washington State Traffic Commission with the data it requests for the preparation of the report required under RCW 46.63.220(6)(b)(ii) in a form and manner specified by the commission.
- C. The City Traffic Engineer, or designee, shall post the restrictions, policies, and rules regarding the City’s use of automated traffic safety cameras on the City’s website.

10.21.130 Administrative rules.

The City Traffic Engineer is authorized to promulgate reasonable policies and procedures for the administration of the automated traffic safety camera program that are consistent with and implement this chapter.