

*STATE OF TEXAS*

*COUNTIES OF POTTER AND RANDALL*

ON the 29th day of August, 2012, the Amarillo Photographic Traffic Signal Enforcement Citizen Advisory Committee Work Session was held at 1:30 p.m. at City Hall, in Room 305, on the third floor in City Hall, 509 S.E. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Amarillo, Texas, to discuss matters relating to the Photographic Traffic Signal Enforcement Program.

Members present were Dean Downey, Kenneth Graham, Craig Gualtiere, and Frank Nelson. Staff members present were Michael Rice and Judy Alexander.

Commissioner Downey as Chairman established a quorum and called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

Michael Rice, Director of Public Works, stated that city staff and the City Commission want members of the committee to be comfortable with their recommendation concerning additional locations for the red light cameras. He said it certainly would be acceptable if members feel they need more time to study the data before making a recommendation.

Craig Gualtiere asked for more information about the revenue from the red light cameras in the previous four fiscal years and how the money was spent each year.

Kenneth Graham expressed concern about traffic issues for moving pedestrians in a safe manner. He said he would like to upgrade pedestrian walk indicators and signs to eliminate confusion and promote safety.

Craig Gualtiere said that after reviewing the data about the proposed locations and visiting the locations, he would be in favor of eliminating three of them: SW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave at Buchanan, Soncy at I-40 North Frontage Road, and McMasters St. at Amarillo Blvd. He stated he felt the three locations did not meet the standards to be considered for a red light camera and noted they were not on the list of top intersections by number of accidents. Mr. Rice stated the intersections are ranked in the Top Intersections by Number of Accidents based on the number of accidents and the number of vehicles entering the intersection. Frank Nelson concurred that he favored eliminating those three locations. Mr. Gualtiere made a motion to eliminate the three locations from consideration. Mr. Nelson seconded the motion, and motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Nelson asked what is involved in moving a camera from an existing intersection. He said that he is a proponent of the cameras and felt they should be used diligently. He asked if there are additional tools available for the committee to review before making a recommendation.

Mr. Rice said that the city worked with the American Traffic Solutions to choose viable locations for the cameras when they were originally installed five years ago. He said American Traffic Solutions studied various locations in the city for placement of the cameras with input from the city. He reported that the intersection of Coulter and Elmhurst was chosen solely by city input.

Mr. Graham requested updated traffic counts taken by the Traffic Engineering Department. He said he thought the counts would be beneficial to members of the committee. He

questioned if someone from the Police Department could participate in the work sessions. Mr. Rice stated that they certainly could be invited to attend.

Mr. Gualtiere stated he thought there were other intersections that would be good candidates for the cameras. Of the eight suggested intersections, he said his top two choices with the data given would be SW 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Taylor and Tascosa Road and Amarillo Blvd. He said from his observation, the three suggested locations on Amarillo Blvd. have issues other than just red light running issues. He questioned why they were being considered since they were not on the top 14 accident list for 2011. Mr. Rice stated that accident history is one of several considerations given to choosing a location. He said the Amarillo Police Department also had input, and the three intersections on Amarillo Blvd. were included at their suggestion.

Mr. Gualtiere requested more traffic data about various intersections in the city. He specifically requested the top ten intersections for the amount of traffic. He also would like to see more comprehensive information such as citations issued and accident history.

Mr. Rice said the contract with American Traffic Solutions had recently been renewed, and the city has an option for adding additional cameras. He said there are plans to move the cameras at the intersection of SE 3<sup>rd</sup> and Pierce. He said that the City Commission has no specific number of additional cameras in mind. He said they want input on each location from the committee, and a decision on how many additional cameras will be made at a later date.

Mr. Gualtiere said he had been under the impression that there only one additional camera would be installed to take the place of the one removed at SE 3<sup>rd</sup> and Pierce. He said he did not understand that the number of additional cameras had not been determined. He made a motion to remove his original motion to eliminate the three locations from consideration. Kenneth Graham seconded the motion, and motion carried 3:0. Mr. Nelson passed on the motion. He stated that since the committee had limited scope, he felt the traffic engineer and police would be better qualified to choose the best locations.

Mr. Rice stated that another meeting would be scheduled no sooner than two weeks away. A meeting was tentatively set for September 12 at 1:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

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Dean Downey, Chairman