

**STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTIES OF POTTER AND RANDALL  
CITY OF AMARILLO**

On July 12, 2017, the Amarillo Traffic Advisory Board met at 1:30 p.m. at City Hall, 509 S.E. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, in the Council Chamber on the third floor for a regular meeting.

<b>VOTING MEMBERS</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>NO. MEETINGS HELD SINCE APPOINTMENT</b>	<b>NO. MEETINGS ATTENDED</b>
Dean Downey	No	35	33
Charlie Graham	Yes	35	20
Steve Rogers	Yes	25	20
Barbara Richardson	Yes	22	17
Adam Schaer	No	5	4
Alonzo Everhart	No	3	1
Scottie South	Yes	2	2

Also in attendance were:

David Szmagalski	Traffic Operations Technician
Michael Padilla	Traffic Field Superintendent
Judy Alexander	Recording Secretary
Lt. Louis Sanchez	Amarillo Police Department

Chairman Rogers gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ITEM 1: Call to Order.**

Chairman Rogers established a quorum and called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Traffic Advisory Board to order at 1:30 p.m.

**ITEM 2: Approval of Minutes from the Regular Meeting held on April 26, 2017.**

Motion was made by Board Member Richardson and seconded by Board Member Graham to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2017, meeting. The motion carried 4:0.

**ITEM 4: Presentation on Photographic Traffic Signal Enforcement Contract Renewal (Red Light Cameras).**

Michael Padilla, Traffic Field Superintendent, gave a presentation on the Photographic Traffic Signal Enforcement, a copy of which is attached. He stated the ultimate goal of the City of Amarillo Traffic Signal Safety Program is to change driver behavior. In 2008, the Traffic Engineering Department worked with American Traffic Solutions to choose six intersections for the installation of the cameras. The selection of the intersections was based on engineering studies and input from a local Photo Traffic Enforcement Committee using national and state-recognized procedures including fatalities, accident rates, intersection traffic volumes, and sight restrictions. The original six intersections selected for installation received City Council approval, and the cameras were installed in 2008.

A traffic study was conducted in 2013, and another local committee was formed to study the program. A decision was made to remove the camera at the intersection of S. Pierce St. and

S.E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. and install cameras at four additional intersections. The additional intersections and removal were approved by the City Council and installed in 2013.

Mr. Padilla stated the key finding was that there was a 29.8% decrease in the average yearly intersection-related crashes after the program began (2008-2016 vs. 2001-2007). He gave a breakdown of the revenue and expenses since the inception of the program.

He stated the contract with American Traffic Solutions is up for renewal on August 29, 2017. He said the Traffic Engineering Department recommends renewal of the contract as is. The options to terminate the contract are as follows: (1) terminate after August 29, 2017 with no penalties with 90 days notice, (2) terminate for cause, (3) terminate due to adverse legislation, or (4) terminate if cameras do not generate enough revenue to cover the cost of the vendor. Any relocation or addition of another intersection would require an amendment to the contract and would cost an additional \$2000 per month for the remainder of the 60 months if the contract was terminated early.

The presentation included statistics on the average number of violations per day, total violations by time of day, total violations by day of week, repeat violations, and cost savings to the community for cost components such as workplace, medical costs, property damage, and emergency services.

Mr. Padilla gave an overview of the violation process, which is a civil violation that is not reported on the owner's driving record. The fine is \$75.00, with a \$25.00 late fee added after 30 days. The city's portion of the revenue has been approximately \$150,000 per year, which can only be spent on traffic safety.

Lt. Louis Sanchez with the Amarillo Police Department and Larry Houston, the Administrative Hearing Officer, spoke on their role in the program.

Mr. Padilla asked members to study the data presented and be prepared to meet on July 26, 2017, at 1:30 p.m. to consider a recommendation to the City Council.

ITEM 5: Public Forum.

Nicole Caan with ABC Channel 7 News questioned staff about the accuracy and maintenance of the cameras.

ITEM 6: Adjournment.

There being no further business, Board Member Richardson moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Board Member Graham, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:57 p.m. This meeting was recorded and all comments are on file with the City Traffic Engineering Department.

  
Chairman

ATTEST:

  
Judy Alexander, Board Secretary