



## Takoma Park City Council Meeting – March 23, 2022

### Agenda Item 1B

#### **Voting Session (Consent Agenda)**

Single Reading Ordinance Approving a Contract between the City of Takoma Park and Conduent State and Local Solutions, Inc. for Red Light Camera Enforcement Services

#### **Recommended Council Action**

Approve the ordinance.

#### **Context with Key Issues**

The Police Department is seeking authority to enter into a contract with Conduent State and Local Solutions, Inc. (Conduent) in accordance with the terms of an existing contract between Conduent and the City of Newport News, VA. Failure to obey traffic signals is one of the primary causes of crashes at intersections. In an effort to enhance traffic safety, Maryland law, Transportation Article 21-202.1, allows the use of Automated Enforcement by law enforcement agencies. Automated Enforcement detects and identifies violators of the law without the dependency of a police presence. This allows police officers to focus on other urgent community needs. As we continue to strive to reduce motor vehicle collisions, especially those occurring at intersections, the City of Takoma Park is seeking to ride off the City of Newport News' contract for photo enforcement services.

The proposed contract will provide the required equipment and processing of all violations related to the program. The contract will stipulate the implementation of cameras at seven locations in Takoma Park. The cost for each camera is \$3,175 per month.

#### **Council Priority**

Engaged, Responsive and Service Oriented Government

#### **Environmental Considerations**

The City of Takoma Park and Conduent State and Local Solutions, Inc. are entering into this contract to reduce red light camera violations and accidents at intersections to prevent injuries and fatalities among pedestrians and motorists.

#### **Fiscal Considerations**

The Red Light Camera Program is self-sustaining and does not require startup costs from the City.

#### **Racial Equity Considerations**

In July 2017, the City Council passed Resolution 2017-45 Establishing the City Council's Goals and Priorities for the Takoma Park Police Department. It is the expectation of the City Council that the Contract authorized by this Ordinance is consistent with these goals and priorities and that any employee authorized to perform duties under the Red Light Camera Program in the City of Takoma Park will be familiar with and abide by those Goals and Priorities pertinent to their role in the City. Use of speed cameras reduces concerns that traffic enforcement may be subjective and possibly affected by the race of vehicle occupants.

#### **Attachments and Links**

- Draft Single Reading Ordinance

Introduced by:

Single Reading Ordinance

**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2022 - \_\_\_\_\_**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER  
TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR A RED LIGHT CAMERA ENFORCEMENT  
PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, Maryland law allows municipalities to enact photo red light enforcement programs; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the red light enforcement program is to reduce traffic violations and accidents in intersections in an effort to prevent injuries and fatalities among pedestrians and motorists; and

WHEREAS, photo red light cameras are an additional tool available to police in traffic enforcement and public safety; and

WHEREAS, the City of Newport News competitively bid and awarded a contract for a red light enforcement program to Conduent with a cost of \$3,175 per camera per month; and

WHEREAS, the total cost for running the red light enforcement program is offset by the revenue generated. There is no fee for the set up of red light camera locations and once the contract ends the locations are restored to their previous conditions at no cost. If any existing locations were removed, it would incur a fee; and

WHEREAS, the locations of the red light cameras will be data based on frequency of reported accidents. The information garnered from the red light cameras will only be used for traffic violations and any issuance of citations will be governed by State law; and

WHEREAS, entering into a contract with Conduent under the terms of the City of Newport News contract would result in the establishment of a Red Light Camera Program in the City; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the City's purchasing code, the City may enter into contracts or agreements for cooperative purchasing, without the requirement of competitive bidding.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND THAT:

SECTION 1. The City Manager is authorized to enter into a contract with Conduent State and Local Solutions, Inc. for a photo speed enforcement program.

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2022.

AYE:

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: