

Introduced and Read: _____
2nd Reading and Adoption: _____
Posted: _____
Effective Date: _____

CITY OF MOUNT RAINIER, MARYLAND

ORDINANCE NO. 2-2009

Introduced by _____

A Ordinance Authorizing a Red Light Enforcement Camera Program in the City.

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

WHEREAS, red light running is one of the major causes of accidents, deaths, and injuries at signalized intersections; and

WHEREAS, studies show that red light cameras significantly reduce the number of red light violations and intersection crashes; and

WHEREAS, traditional enforcement forces police officers to follow a violator through a red signal in order to cite the violator, but traffic volume and safety considerations mean that police officers can only apprehend a fraction of the violators, putting motorists and pedestrians at risk; and

WHEREAS, red light cameras provide safe and consistent enforcement at a reasonable cost, while allowing police officers to focus on other enforcement efforts; and

WHEREAS, Optotraffic, a subsidiary of Sigma Space Corp. of Lanham, provides mobile red light camera systems and is willing to provide mobile red light enforcement cameras to the City for use at traffic signals on City streets; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to enter into an agreement with Optotraffic for use of its mobile red light camera system to enforce red light violations; and

WHEREAS, the City believes that use of red light cameras at signalized intersections in the City will help prevent red light running and will benefit the public's health, safety, and welfare.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT RAINIER THAT:

1. Red light camera enforcement, using a mobile red light camera system, is authorized at traffic signals at locations within the City as determined by the Chief of Police. The red light

camera locations shall include, but not be limited to, the traffic signal on Rhode Island Avenue, immediately north of the Mount Rainier bus terminal and roundabout.

2. The Council approves and authorizes the City to use the mobile red light camera system provided by Optotraffic for red light camera enforcement at signalized intersections in the City. The City Manager is authorized to enter into appropriate agreements with Optotraffic for the furnishing of labor, equipment and maintenance related to the installation and operation of a red light camera enforcement program. The City shall pay Optotraffic a fee per paid violation, as negotiated by the City Manager, which shall be Optotraffic=s compensation for the provision, installation, operation, and/or maintenance of the mobile red light camera system for use at City traffic signals.

3. The red light camera enforcement program in the City shall be conducted in compliance with all applicable provisions of the Maryland Vehicle Law.

THIS ORDINANCE IS ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT RAINIER THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2009.

Attest:

Jeannelle B. Wallace, City Manager

Malinda Miles, Mayor

Alta Morton, Council Member Ward 1

Jimmy Tarlau, Council Member Ward 1

Pedro Briones, Council Member Ward 2

Bryan Knedler, Council Member Ward 2