

TRAFFIC SAFETY CAMERA PILOT STATE LAW SUMMARY

These details are part of the State law passed in 2024 that enables a traffic safety camera pilot.

GOALS

- Achieve meaningful traffic safety benefits by reducing unsafe driving behaviors
- Support a fair and equitable program, including addressing the disproportionate impacts of fines on people with lower incomes
- Protect privacy
- Build community trust

REDUCING UNSAFE DRIVING BEHAVIOR WHILE PROTECTING FAIRNESS AND EQUITY

- All locations must have advance warning signage and be listed publicly
- Speed camera violations at 10+ mph over speed limit
- 1 month warning period at start of program and 1st violation for each person is a warning
- \$40 tickets; can take a free traffic safety class in lieu of 1 ticket
 - \$84 max charge in collections if someone never pays their ticket
 - \$80 if 20+ mph over limit (doubles like for other speeding tickets)
- Violations do not go on driving records
- Cannot be grounds for revoking or suspending a driver's license or for arrest or for towing a vehicle
- Warnings and citations go to owner of the vehicle (like a parking ticket)
 - Owners can challenge citations and aren't liable if they provide a sworn statement they were not driving vehicle at the time or vehicle was stolen or transferred before the violation

PROTECTING PRIVACY

- Cameras can only be used for traffic safety enforcement and cannot capture pictures that can identify people
 - Cameras can only take picture of back license plate
 - Cameras cannot be used as license plate readers
- Additional data management and privacy protections included aligned with State best practices

BUILDING COMMUNITY TRUST

- City must do equitable community engagement to inform camera locations
- City must do a public information campaign before launch
- City must regular report on the pilot program
- Any citation revenue generated must go to implementation costs or traffic safety/traffic calming measures
- The Minnesota Department of Transportation must contract for an independent evaluation of the pilot and report to the Legislature

WHERE WILL TRAFFIC SAFETY CAMERAS BE LOCATED?

Cameras must be:

- Within 2,000 feet of schools
- At locations with an identified traffic safety concern
- Placed in geographically distinct areas and in multiple communities with differing socioeconomic conditions
- City must do a study to determine camera locations that includes equitable community engagement
- Minneapolis limited to 42 locations for pilot

2024 MINNESOTA STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION

<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/bill.php?b=house&f=hf5247&ssn=0&y=2024>