

Ref: 2007-14

November 19, 2007

PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE:

In accordance with Section 27-65C(3) of Chapter 27, Council Procedures, the attached Motion headed "Running Red Lights – Increased enforcement, fines, demerit points and license suspensions", moved by Councillor Thompson, seconded by Councillor DeBaeremaeker, is referred to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee.

for City Clerk

M. Toft/cd

Attachment

NOTICE OF MOTION**Running Red Lights – Increased Enforcement, Fines, Demerit Points and Licence Suspensions.**

Moved by: Councillor Thompson

Seconded by: Councillor DeBaeremaeker

SUMMARY:

Running red lights in the City of Toronto has become an epidemic. From November 2001 to September 2007 the City of Toronto recorded 71,600 infractions at red camera locations. Six of these infractions led to collisions of which two were fatalities. From January 1st to September 30th of this year, Toronto Police issued an additional 11,203 tickets for running red lights.

On July 18, 2007 at 4:07 p.m., a 39 year old woman waiting for a bus with her husband and children at the corner of Warden Avenue and Lawrence Avenue East was struck by a car and killed, reportedly by a vehicle that had run a red light.

The vast majority of traffic signal violations are a result of aggressive driving by drivers who put their own priorities or impulses ahead of the safety of others. Most of these aggressive acts are preventable, and can be significantly reduced through the application of cost effective technology and concerted action by appropriate stakeholders.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. City Council request the Minister of Transportation for the Province of Ontario to review the present penalties in the Highway Traffic Act as they relate to running red lights and to consider:
 - a. substantially increasing fines for running red lights;
 - b. increasing the demerit points for such offences; and
 - c. suspending the driving licenses of those injuring others while driving through a red signal or who are found guilty of multiple infractions.
2. The General Manager of Transportation Services be requested to report to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee on the following:

- a. the installation of additional red light cameras at intersections, at which there is a history of injuries resulting from red light running, to cover all four entries and exits of the intersection; and
 - b. the identification of additional measures that can increase the safety of both pedestrians and vehicular traffic at problem intersections.
3. The City Clerk be requested to advise the Toronto Police Service, Insurance Bureau of Canada and the Canadian Automobile Association when this matter will be before the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee to provide an opportunity for their input.

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