

Benefits of an Administrative Penalty System for Automated Offences

1. The program will allow the City to advance the Vision Zero Road Safety Plan through expanded RLC and ASE operations

In a December 20, 2021 update to City Council on the Vision Zero Speed Management Strategy, City staff reported that the implementation of an Administrative Penalty System including a new case management solution is a requirement for expanded RLC and ASE operations. A more efficient dispute resolution program for automated offences will ensure the long-term viability of both programs and contribute positively to public safety.

2. The program will allow Red Light Camera and Automated Speed Enforcement disputes to be heard and resolved in less time

An Administrative Penalty System can process Red Light Camera and Automated Speed Enforcement disputes faster than the provincial offences courts allowing the City to process disputes within a reasonable period. APS also allows for more online service delivery and will assist in alleviating much of the frustration experienced by the public with the current court-based program by providing clear information on the conditions to be met for a penalty to be cancelled. In 2021, it took an average of 68 days to conclude the first dispute stage for parking penalties. In 2016, when parking offences could be disputed under the Provincial Offences Act, it was an average of 225 days.

3. The program will improve the customer experience.

An Administrative Penalty System will assist in alleviating much off the frustration experienced by the public with the current court-based program by providing clear information on the conditions to be met for a penalty to be cancelled. An Administrative Penalty System will also support a shorter timeframe for a review and decision to be made, along with the greater use of online services in the process.

4. The program will contribute to public safety by building capacity within the court system for the processing of other offences.

Under Provincial legislation, the Ontario Court of Justice is responsible for determining when courtrooms can be used and the nature and volume of charges that can be scheduled into each courtroom. Removing Red Light Camera and Automated Speed Enforcement disputes from the provincial courts allows the judicial system to better balance the limited court space available so that trials can be held for other offences.

5. The program will create efficiencies to streamline the payment of Red Light Camera and Automated Speed Enforcement contraventions

Under an Administrative Penalty System, disputes will be processed faster, and interpretation services can be provided via telephone.

6. The program will include a scalable technology solution

A new case management system is required to expand the City's Administrative Penalty System. The new system will replace a legacy application that is nearing end of life with a scalable solution that provides online tools for customers and permits the addition of new types of contraventions.