



Media Advisory – Dec. 18, 2009

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County plans traffic safety cameras at key locations

Snohomish County will begin using traffic-safety cameras for photo enforcement at certain intersections and selected school zones.

The photo enforcement will take digital pictures of rear license plates of vehicles that speed through school zones or run red lights. If a violation is detected, a citation may be issued to the registered owner of the vehicle.

The traffic safety cameras are supported by Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon, Sheriff John Lovick and the County Council.

“Public safety is a top concern of our residents in this county,” Reardon said. “This is another way we can improve the safety of our drivers and pedestrians, especially children walking to schools.”

“More and more children are walking to school now because of budget cuts, so we need to do everything we can to keep them safe,” Lovick said. “These traffic safety cameras are going to remind drivers to slow down and pay attention.”

“Working collaboratively with the Sheriff’s Office and Executive Office, we have the opportunity to reduce collisions at dangerous intersections and make our kids safer in school zones,” said County Council Chairman Mike Cooper.

The county is soliciting a vendor now for the traffic safety cameras. Once an operator is selected, intersections and school zones will be chosen. Cameras are expected to be implemented by the end of next summer in time for the 2010-2011 academic year.

There will be no cost to the county for the service as revenues from citations will fund the program.

Infractions detected through the use of automatic traffic cameras are not part of a registered owner’s driving record. Additionally, infractions generated by the use of automatic traffic safety cameras are processed in the same manner as parking infractions.

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