


*Andrew Klein*

<b>FROM</b>	NAME & TITLE	Andrew Kleine, Chief	CITY of <b>BALTIMORE</b> <b>MEMO</b>	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Bureau of the Budget and Management Research Room 432, City Hall (410 396-4941)		
	SUBJECT	City Council Resolution No.12-0047R Speed Camera Revenue for Schools		

DATE: May 24, 2012

**TO** The Honorable President and  
Members of the City Council  
Room 400, City Hall

Attention: Ms. Karen Randle

City Council Resolution 12-0047R has been introduced for the purpose of calling on the Mayor to commit to divert all annual revenue above \$5 million generated by the City's speed camera program from the General Fund into the Public School Construction and Renovation Special Fund.

**Analysis**

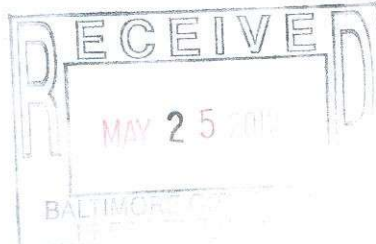
§7-302 of the Annotated Code of Maryland states that any remaining balance of funds after implementing and administering the speed monitoring systems may be spent "solely for public safety purposes, including pedestrian safety programs." School construction and renovation is not an eligible use of speed camera revenue.

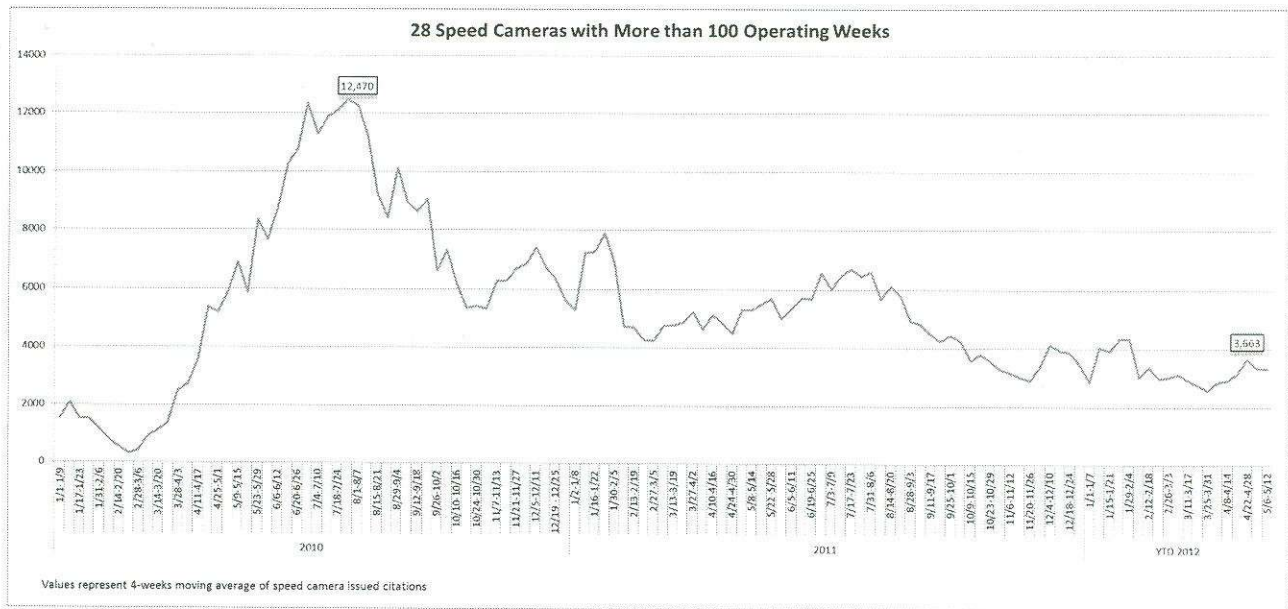
In Fiscal 2013 the City budgeted for \$11.4 million in speed camera receipts. \$2.1 million of the budget is allocated for payments to the vendor that administers the speed monitoring system. The remaining \$9.3 million supports a portion of the following public safety services throughout the City and equates to approximately 123 positions:

- Traffic calming measures
- Pedestrian safety programs
- Police patrol

The speed camera revenue stream is not sustainable at the current level. The department advises that a revenue stream from speed cameras would not be appropriate as a source for long term leveraging. Much of the recent growth in speed camera revenue is attributed to additional cameras, not increased citations per camera. In order to forecast speed camera revenue, BBMR analyzed the life cycle of citations from speed cameras. The findings show that while initially citations increase, they do peak and then start to decline as drivers learn the locations and take corrective action to avoid citations. A review of 28 cameras operating for more than 100 weeks shows a peak of 12,470 citations in July 2010. The number of citations for those same cameras has dropped 70.8% from July 2010 to May 2012 to 3,663. The rate of decline for citations issued is consistent with the two-year 80% rate of decline in Montgomery County, which was the first jurisdiction to install speed cameras.

*in fact Defuse to Law*





## Fiscal Impact

In Fiscal 2013 the City budgeted for \$11.4 million in speed camera receipts. This resolution would require \$6.4 million of speed camera revenue to be removed from the General Fund and put into the Public School Construction and Renovation Special Fund, leaving the General Fund in deficit. A deficit in the General Fund would result in cuts to the above mentioned public safety services.

## Recommendation

The Finance Department opposes City Council Resolution 12-0047R and defers to the Law Department for an opinion regarding §7-302 of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

CC: Harry Black  
 William Voorhees  
 Angela Gibson