



Seattle

Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board



*Stewards of the
Pedestrian Master Plan*

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October 12, 2023

To: Seattle City Council Members & Central Staff

Re: Seattle 2024 Budget Issue Considerations

Esteemed Council Members,

The Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board asks the Council not to discontinue or pause the planned expansion of the automated enforcement camera programs, such as school zone speed enforcement, red light running enforcement, and the don't block the box and transit lane pilot programs. These programs offer an equitable, non-invasive way to provide quick-wins for the safety and efficiency of the transportation system, especially for pedestrians. To discontinue these programs at a time when the City is trying to redouble its efforts to improve pedestrian safety is self-defeating.

We also ask the Council to reconsider any cuts to pedestrian and school safety projects related to the reduced revenue from SPD not issuing tickets from these automated enforcement programs. Cutting funding these projects will only increase the needs by further pushing off pedestrian and safety improvements we already know we need.

By not staffing the program, SPD is crippling it from producing the revenue needed to expand it and to construct safety projects that could eventually remove the need for it altogether. Therefore, we also ask the Council to evaluate a plan that ties SPD funds specifically to their ability to operate the automated enforcement cameras and issuing tickets, with a provision to increase the resources as the program expands and more officer time is required.

In the long run, the board supports an effort to work with the Washington State Legislature to allow for these tickets to be issued by someone other than an officer so that police resources don't further limit the program. However, please don't delay the important pedestrian and school safety improvements we need due to SPD's staffing issues.

The Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board shall advise the City Council, the Mayor and all the offices of the city on matters related to pedestrians and the impacts which actions by the city may have upon the pedestrian environment; and shall have the opportunity to contribute to all aspects of the city's planning insofar as they relate to the pedestrian safety and access.

*-City Council Resolution
28791*