



Lynwood Police Department

RUSSELL L. PEARSON
CHIEF OF POLICE

21460 LINCOLN HIGHWAY
LYNWOOD, IL 60411
PHONE: (708) 758-4744
FAX: (708) 758-7141

Village of Lynwood Launches Red Light Camera Program

The Village of Lynwood will begin implementing a Red Light Photo Enforcement Program September 6, 2010 at the intersections of US 30 (Lincoln Hwy) & Il Route 83 (Glenwood Dyer RD) and US 30 & Sauk Trail Road, with signs clearly posted alerting drivers to the presence of the cameras. The primary objective of the program is to provide 24-hour automated intersection enforcement and increase traffic safety by reducing the number of red light violations, primarily no turn on red, or failure to stop before turning on red.

Statistics indicate red light running is the leading cause of urban auto accidents. Motorists and pedestrians are more likely to be injured severely in accidents involving failure to obey traffic controls than in any other type of accident. Chief Russell Pearson is confident moving forward with the program will benefit the community. "We spent a substantial amount of time evaluating information and comparing both the technology and services provided by a number of vendors. We wanted to be absolutely certain we made the best choice on behalf of our residents".

Currently a grace period is underway during which time violators will receive Warning Notices as opposed to actual \$100 citations. "We have no intention of springing this on our residents, and have taken steps to ensure everyone is aware of the new program," Chief Pearson confirmed.

The video of all potential violations is first reviewed by a specially trained Lynwood Police Officer before any notices are sent to the vehicle's registered owner. Like a parking ticket, these violations are treated as a civil offense and will not impact driving records or insurance rates. When a citation is issued and received by the violator through the mail, they will be referred to a website where they can review the still and video images of their violation. The vehicle's registered owner has the right to contest a citation through the Village's administrative hearing system for red light enforcement violations. This hearing system is a local method to judge municipal violations as opposed to going through the County court process.

According to the Chief, there are a number of benefits associated with these cameras. Specifically, the installation of the equipment came at absolutely no cost to the Village and a camera monitoring an intersection frees up officers to focus on other areas within the community.