Memorandum

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

Date: March 16, 2015

Agenda Item No. 14(B)1
March 17, 2015

To: Honorable Chairman Jean Monestine
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Russell Benford
Deputy Mayor

Subject: Directive No. 150329: Status Report on Red Light Running Cameras

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On March 3, 2015, the Board of County Commissioners requested an update on the current state of Red Light Running Cameras (RLRCs) within Miami-Dade County (County). RLRCs have been authorized within the State of Florida since May 2010, when then Governor Charlie Crist signed into law the Mark Wandall Traffic Safety Act. On January 20, 2011, the Board of County Commissioners passed Ordinance 11-01 authorizing and regulating the use of Red Light Cameras within the County. Since their inception, RLRC systems have been aimed at deterring red light runners and making dangerous intersections safer.

Over the years, changes to RLRC programs have been discussed by the State Legislature. In addition, there have been a number of legal challenges to RLRC programs. Most recently, the 4th District Court of Appeals ruled that the manner in which the City of Hollywood implemented its RLRC program improperly delegated its authority to a private vendor in violation of the authorizing state statute. This ruling has called into question similar RLRC programs across the state and has spurred litigation seeking reimbursement for RLRC fines already issued by those programs. To date only municipalities within the County have implemented RLRC programs, but, in January of 2014, the County issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to establish a County RLRC Program Responses to the RFP have been received and a recommendation for further action on the proposals is currently pending. At this time, the RFP is under the Cone of Silence.

The Traffic Signals and Signs Division of the Miami-Dade County Public Works and Waste Management Department (PWWM) is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the 2,857 traffic signals located within the County; however, the RLRCs are not under the purview of the PWWM. The RLRCs have been installed by municipalities within their legal boundaries on State, County, and local roads through a RLRC Vendor who constructs, maintains, and operates the cameras, detectors, signs, and backroom systems. The RLRCs have been installed at intersections maintained by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) or the County along the different approaches to the intersection (e.g. northbound, southbound, eastbound, westbound, etc.). The RLRC cameras in the FDOT or County maintained right of way are in place by means of a permit and must be removed if so directed by the permitting agency. All of the RLRC installations prior to 2013 are interconnected with the traffic signal system at the intersection. These systems interconnect with the traffic controller and receive power through the County maintained traffic signal power service disconnect. The power consumption cost to the County for each camera is approximately $9.00 per month. This arrangement was allowed in exchange for the vendor upgrading each of the traffic signal power service disconnects, resulting in a cost savings to the County.

In 2013, the County updated its specifications and requirements for RLRCs requiring that these systems be independent of the traffic signal. The only exception is the allowed use of a non-intrusive inductive "doughnut" that goes around the traffic signal cable within the traffic controller cabinet to detect the red light activation. All new RLRC designs include an independent power service disconnect and the use of non-intrusive technologies. Additionally, on roadway projects that include traffic signal modifications, the FDOT is including the reconstruction of new independent traffic signal power service disconnects in order to segregate the service points.

Currently, RLRCs have been installed within the County pursuant to PWWM permits. More specifically, there are 252 RLRCs installed by municipalities at 178 signalized intersections. The County has issued 184 permits for RLRCs for installation at signalized intersections. The permits are based on the installation of the RLRC systems, not the actual number of cameras. Additionally, there are 23 locations permitted for a RLRC where no camera(s) exist at this time, either not installed or removed.

Regarding red light cameras on US-1, there are RLRC systems at 29 signalized intersections along the US-1 corridor in the County providing 46 total cameras; however, only 31 cameras enforce the red lights for traffic on US-1. In the NE portion of US-1, there are 19 intersections with 22 cameras for US-1 traffic. In the SW portion of US-1, there are ten (10) intersections with nine (9) cameras for US-1 traffic. There are four (4) recently issued permits pending FDOT approval for the installation of RLRC systems along North Bound US-1 within the Village of Pinecrest (Village). The PWWM has reviewed the legal boundaries established when the Village incorporated and has confirmed that the Northbound US-1 lanes are within the Village's boundaries. There are two (2) permit applications pending for the installation of RLRC systems along US-1 within the City of South Miami. See the attachment for more detail on RLRCs along the entirety of US-1.

Per Ordinance 14-65, this memorandum will be placed on the next available Board of County Commissioners meeting agenda.

Attachment

c: R. A. Cuevas, Jr., County Attorney
Office of the Mayor Senior Staff
J. D. Patterson, Jr., Director, Miami-Dade Police Department
Lester Sola, Director, Internal Services Department
Antonio Cotarelo, P.E., Deputy Director and County Engineer, Public Works and Waste Management
Christopher Agrippa, Clerk of the Board
Eugene Love, Agenda Coordinator

ATTACHMENT

Red Light Running Cameras On U-S1

Municipality	Address	Approaches under RLRC enforcement
AVENTURA	BISCAYNE BLVD AND NE 199TH ST	SB, NB, WB
AVENTURA	BISCAYNE BLVD AND NE 191ST ST	WB
CORAL GABLES	S DIXIE HWY AND PONCE DE LEON	EB
CORAL GABLES	S DIXIE HWY AND RIVIERA DR	WB
CUTLER BAY	S DIXIE HWY AND CARIBBEAN BLVD	SB, WB, NB
FLORIDA CITY	S DIXIE HWY AND W PALM DR	SB,EB
MIAMI	BISCAYNE BLVD AND NE 71ST ST	NB (SEC)- SB (NWC)
MIAMI	BISCAYNE BLVD AND NE 36TH ST	NB (SEC), SB (NEC), EB (SWC)
MIAMI	S DIXIE HWY AND SW 22ND AVE	SB, EB, WB,
MIAMI	S DIXIE HWY AND SW 27TH AVE	EB (SEC)
MIAMI	S DIXIE HWY AND SW 32ND AVE	NB (SEC)
MIAMI	S DIXIE HWY AND SW 37TH AVE	SB (NWC)
MIAMI	S DIXIE HWY AND SW 17TH AVE	NB
MIAMI	BISCAYNE BLVD AND NE 62ND ST	SB
MIAMI	BISCAYNE BLVD AND NE 64TH ST	NB
MIAMI	BISCAYNE BLVD AND NE 76TH ST	NB, SB
MIAMI	BISCAYNE BLVD AND NE 78TH ST	SB
MIAMI	BISCAYNE BLVD AND NE 81ST ST	SB
MIAMI	BISCAYNE BLVD AND NE 61ST ST	NB
MIAMI	BISCAYNE BLVD AND NE 54TH ST	NB
MIAMI	BISCAYNE BLVD AND NE 8TH ST	NB, SB
MIAMI	S DIXIE HWY AND BIRD RD	EB
MIAMI	BISCAYNE BLVD & NE 69TH STREET	NB
MIAMI	S DIXIE HWY AND DOUGLAS RD	SB
MIAMI	BISCAYNE BLVD AND NE 50TH TERR	NB, SB
NORTH MIAMI	BISCAYNE BLVD AND NE 135TH ST	SB
NORTH MIAMI	BISCAYNE BLVD AND NE 123RD ST	WB
NORTH MIAMI BEACH	BISCAYNE BLVD AND NE 172ND ST	NB
NORTH MIAMI BEACH	BISCAYNE BLVD AND NE 163RD ST	SB