

# PBOT

PORTLAND BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION

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Dan Saltzman Commissioner Leah Treat Director

May 17, 2017

The Honorable Floyd Prozanski  
900 Court Street NE, HR 343  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Prozanski and Members of the Committee:

We write in support of House Bill 2409, which would provide a pathway to use existing photo radar systems to discourage drivers from speeding through intersections. By issuing citations to drivers who speed through intersections, we can add another tool to improve the safety in our communities.

Counterintuitively, the deadliest crashes in the Portland region occur not on the freeway system but on multi-lane arterial streets. In Portland, the most dangerous of these arterials are on our High Crash Network. Fifty-seven percent of deadly crashes occur on this High Crash Network, which represents just 8 percent of Portland's streets.

The City currently utilizes 11 cameras at 10 intersections to enforce laws against red-light running and to improve safety. Of those 11 red light camera locations, 9 are also on Portland's High Crash Network. Traveling at excessive speeds has been consistently linked to higher crash risks. Portland's High Crash Network have posted speed limits ranging from 25 mph to 45 mph. For example, if a person walking is struck at 20 mph, they have a 90 percent chance of surviving. A person struck by a person driving over the speed limit on Portland's High Crash Network is more likely to die than to survive. Speeding is a top contributing factor to deadly crashes across the Portland region.

Leveraging photo radar as an enforcement tool through a collaborative approach contributes to the City's goal of eliminating all traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2025. We urge your support for HB 2409 to combat speeding and aggressive driving in our communities.

Sincerely,



Leah Treat



*The Portland Bureau of Transportation fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the ADA Title II, and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. For accommodations, complaints and information, call (503) 823-5185, City TTY (503) 823-6868, or use Oregon Relay Service: 711.*