

**CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA REPORT**



**CITY OF MILLBRAE
621 Magnolia Avenue
Millbrae, CA 94030**

SUBJECT: Agreement with American Traffic Solutions, Inc. for Automated Red Light Traffic Enforcement. ATTACHMENTS: Resolution Authorizing Execution of Agreement for Automated Red Light Traffic Enforcement with American Traffic Solutions, Inc.	Report No. 5685
	For Agenda of: November 24, 2015
	Department: Public Works
	Originator: Peter Vorametsanti <i>Peter Vorametsanti</i> ✓
Approved: <i>MR King</i>	
Budget Action Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/> Finance Review: <i>AW</i>	

REPORT TYPE: ACTION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INFORMATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/>
ITEM TYPE: CONSENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC HEARING <input type="checkbox"/> EXISTING BUSINESS <input type="checkbox"/> NEW BUSINESS <input type="checkbox"/>

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute an Agreement with American Traffic Solutions, Inc. in a form approved by legal counsel for automated red light traffic enforcement for a three (3) year term expiring November 30, 2018, with a potential two (2) year further extension if desired by the City.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Millbrae utilizes automated red light enforcement equipment to monitor three intersections within the city. These intersections are among the most heavily traveled in the city and include Millbrae Avenue at El Camino Real, Millbrae Avenue at Rollins Road, and Millbrae Avenue at the off-ramp from Interstate 101. The equipment at Millbrae Avenue and Rollins Road were installed and activated on September 7, 2006. The equipment at the two other intersections were installed and activated on November 6, 2009. Vehicular traffic in the area of the city where these intersections are located is by far the heaviest. Their proximity to three major transportation hubs including the San Francisco International Airport, the end of line Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) Station, and CalTrain Station, as well as their intersect with Interstate 101, present a unique and challenging environment for vehicular traffic and traffic safety.

ANALYSIS:

In 2006, the Council approved the use of automated red light traffic enforcement cameras given increased vehicle traffic, roadway congestion, and traffic collisions in the E. Millbrae Avenue traffic corridor. Red light safety cameras are located at three intersections with a total of seven cameras. Along with being very congested and well-traveled, these intersections are among the largest in the city and include multiple lanes. In one of these intersections, there are three left turn lanes in addition to existing right of way access. There is no space to safely pull violators over for enforcement at any of the

intersections. To rely solely on traditional enforcement efforts in these areas present extreme challenges in achieving law enforcement objectives and enhancing safety for the motoring public.

It would not be feasible for law enforcement to continuously monitor the intersections currently equipped with automated red light enforcement equipment. Even if it were possible to provide the same level of enforcement through traditional enforcement efforts, associated court appearances would make it difficult to staff daily patrol shifts. The cost to the city to transition from automated to staff enforcement would likely be extremely high. Even then, the current level of enforcement could not be maintained.

Despite the size of the listed intersections and the amount of daily traffic, collision statistics are low. The level of awareness associated with the automated enforcement program has contributed to maintaining the low frequency of collisions at these intersections.

Since the program began, the automated red light enforcement program has resulted in the issuance of between 250 and 1200 citations per month. The numbers have increased over the years due to the high volume of traffic and community growth, as well as upgraded technology. Trained police officers carefully review every photograph to ensure the vehicle is in violation before a citation is issued. This process is administered under contract with the San Mateo Police Department. Ninety-six percent (96%) of the citations issued as a result of the automated red light equipment are upheld in the San Mateo County court system. Repeat violations are extremely low which indicates success in changing driving behavior.

The use of automated enforcement equipment has become a topic that is regularly discussed and scrutinized. These programs are not appropriate for all communities and intersections. In fact, there are no other intersections in the city where this program is warranted. Given the unique traffic and safety challenges the intersections in question present, the presence of automated enforcement equipment enhances public safety and fills a gap that could not otherwise be filled with the use of traditional enforcement measures.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fees paid under this contract covers the equipment installation, rental, operation and maintenance. The fee for the first year of the contract is \$453,180 and it will drop to \$352,380 for the subsequent two years. The City of San Mateo police department process the potential violation for Millbrae under a separate contract. The fees for processing potential violation is \$62,700 per year with an escalation clause based on the Consumer Price Index. In 2014, these expenses are covered by the fines collected.

COUNCIL ACTION:

Authorize the City Manager to execute an Agreement with American Traffic Solutions, Inc. in a form approved by legal counsel for automated red light traffic enforcement, for a three (3) year term expiring November 30, 2018, with a potential two (2) year extension if desired by the City.

**CITY OF MILLBRAE, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MILLBRAE
AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH
AMERICAN TRAFFIC SOLUTIONS, INC. FOR
AUTOMATED RED LIGHT TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT FOR UP TO A FIVE (5)
YEAR TERM**

WHEREAS, the City of Millbrae supports the use of red light cameras at the specific intersections of Millbrae Avenue at El Camino Real, Millbrae Avenue at Rollins Road, and Millbrae Avenue at the off-ramp from Interstate 101, for more effective and efficient traffic enforcement; and

WHEREAS, the City of Millbrae recognizes that the proximity of these intersections to three major transportation hubs, including Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART), Cal Train, and the San Francisco International Airport, as well as their connections with and proximity to Interstate 101, present a unique and challenging environment for traffic safety; and

WHEREAS, the City of Millbrae now wishes to enter into an Agreement with American Traffic Solutions, Inc. ("ATS"), whereby ATS will continue to provide automated red light traffic enforcement services for a three year period through November 30, 2018 with monthly fees starting at \$5,395 per camera per month the first year and decreasing to \$4,195per camera per month the second two years of the Agreement and the option to extend the Agreement for an additional two years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Millbrae approves the Agreement with American Traffic Solutions, Inc. for automated red light traffic enforcement services, for a three-year period commencing November 30, 2015 until November 30, 2018, with a two-year further extension if desired by the City, in accordance with the monthly fees referenced above and other costs described in the Agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager or designee is hereby authorized to execute the Agreement with American Traffic Solutions, Inc. in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

REGULARLY PASSED AND ADOPTED this 24th day of November 2015.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk