

Fact Sheet

Speed Cameras

What are Speed Cameras?

Speed cameras use radar to track and ticket vehicles driving over the speed limit.

- An Arlington police officer reviews the footage to confirm speeding violations. Then they issue a speeding ticket by mail.

What is the purpose of speed cameras?

The goal is to reduce the chance of fatal or serious crashes by encouraging drivers to go the speed limit.

- The [CDC](#) estimates that speed cameras can reduce traffic crashes by up to 50%.
- The [National Transportation Safety Board](#) recommends speed cameras as a highly effective tool for lowering speeds.

How will speed cameras help Arlington?

We must slow down to save lives.

- The risk of injury and death increases as vehicle speed increases.
- At least one in four crashes in Arlington involves speeding.
- Arlington's [Vision Zero Transportation Safety Action Plan](#) identifies speed cameras as a tool to lower speeds.
- Arlington's [Police Practices Work Group](#) also recommends speed cameras because they reduce biases in enforcement.
- In 2020, Virginia passed [legislation](#) allowing state and local police to use speed cameras **in school and work zones**.
- Warning signs must be posted in advance, informing drivers that they are approaching a speed camera.
- Civil citations of \$50 will be issued to the vehicle's registered owner. No points will be issued to the owner's license. Speed camera tickets are not considered for insurance purposes.



Example of a school zone speed camera warning sign in Kirkland, Washington. Source: [kirklandwa.gov](#).

HIT BY A VEHICLE
TRAVELING AT:

20
MPH



HIT BY A VEHICLE
TRAVELING AT:

30
MPH



HIT BY A VEHICLE
TRAVELING AT:

40
MPH



Graphic demonstrating the inverse relationship between increasing speed and pedestrian survival in a crash. Source: [Seattle Vision Zero Action Plan](#), page 12.

When will speed cameras be on Arlington's streets?

Coming Winter 2022-2023 around Arlington school and work zones.