



Aldermanic Request:

Automated Speed Enforcement System Revenues

August 16, 2022

Under Municipal Code Chapter 2-53 for the City of Chicago, the Council Office of Financial Analysis (COFA) is required to conduct financial analyses upon the request of a member of the City Council.

On August 4, 2022, Alderman Matthew Martin of the 19th Ward submitted the following request to COFA:

Can [COFA] track down how much revenue the City received from speed camera's tickets for FY2021 and YTD FY 2022? Also, for FYs 2021 and (YTD) 2022, was that revenue earmarked for one or more specific programs?

Automated Speed Enforcement (Speed Camera) Revenues

The Department of Finance provided COFA with the following revenue figures associated with the City's Automated Speed Enforcement System:

- For the fiscal year 2021, the City generated \$78.21 million in revenues from fines associated with the Automated Speed Enforcement System.
- The year-to-date fine revenues generated as of July 2022 are \$32.04 million.ⁱ

Expenditures of Speed Cameras' Net Proceeds

The City's Municipal Code outlines how the expenditures of net proceeds related to the automated speed enforcement system may be appropriated. Section 9-101-060 of the Code states that "the net proceeds received from civil penalties imposed for a violation of an automated speed enforcement system pursuant to this chapter shall be maintained in separate accounts and shall be expended or obligated, subject to appropriation by the City Council, only for the purposes specified in subsection (d) of Section 11-208.8 of the Illinois Vehicle Code, 625 ILCS 5/11-208.8(d)."ⁱⁱ



According to the Illinois Compiled Statutes (ILCS) database published on the Illinois General Assembly's website, Section 11-208.8 of the Illinois Vehicle Code states that the net proceeds that a municipality receives from civil penalties imposed under an automated speed enforcement systemⁱⁱⁱ shall be expended or obligated by the municipality for the following 4 purposes:

1. Public safety initiatives to ensure safe passage around schools, and to provide police protection and surveillance around schools and parks, including but not limited to:
 - a. Personnel costs
 - b. Non-personnel costs, such as construction and maintenance of public safety infrastructure and equipment
2. Initiatives to improve pedestrian and traffic safety
3. Construction and maintenance of infrastructure within the municipality, including but not limited to roads and bridges
4. After school programs^{iv}

Aside from these general spending purposes, COFA was unable to identify specific programs for which the revenues generated from the City's speed cameras are earmarked. COFA also did not receive a response on an inquiry on the specific programs earmarked to receive funds pertaining to the City's Automated Speed Enforcement System.

Endnotes:

ⁱ City of Chicago, Department of Finance

ⁱⁱ *9-101-060 Limits on expenditures of net proceeds.* (n.d.). American Legal Publishing Corporation. codelibrary.amlegal.com

ⁱⁱⁱ After deducting all non-personnel and personnel costs associated with the operation and maintenance of such system.

^{iv} Illinois Compiled Statutes. (n.d.). *Sec. 11-208.8. Automated speed enforcement systems in safety zones.* Illinois General Assembly. Retrieved August 2022, from www.ilga.gov