

# MYTHS ABOUT RED LIGHT CAMERAS



City of Culver City Automated Enforcement Program

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## Red Light Cameras are illegal

State law allows for the use of photo enforcement red light camera systems. (V.C. 21455.5 and V.C. 40518).



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## Vendor issues citations

Before any citations are issued a police officer reviews the photographic evidence and determines if a violation has occurred. ALL CULVER CITY CITATIONS ARE ISSUED BY POLICE OFFICERS.



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Fines – RLC Citations are more expensive than citations issued by officers in the field

Fines for running a red light are determined by the State legislature. **FINES ARE THE SAME REGARDLESS HOW IT IS ISSUED.**



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## Yellow Phase purposely set lower

Culver City's yellow light change intervals are set longer than the minimums required by the Cal-Trans MUTCD.



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## People can ignore these tickets

Los Angeles County Superior Court actively pursues those who ignore such citations through a civil process.



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## Do not impact safety

**Culver City:** Since inception of program in 1999, there has been a 45% decrease in collisions at equipped intersections. From 2004-2008, Insurance Institute for Highway Safety reported the following decreases in collisions: 34% Long Beach, 44% Santa Ana, 53% Sacramento and 62% San Diego. (Based on a 2011 study).

March 2013, City of Poway suspended program for 6 months, but continued to monitor and collect data. 115% increase in detections and per CHP 25% increase in collisions.





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## RLC programs cost City money

Culver City Red Light Program has proven throughout its duration to be cost effective to operate. (Traffic Fines offset expenses)



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## RLC systems are unfair

A citation issued utilizing a photo enforcement system provides the violator with photographic evidence of the violation and an opportunity to review the evidence prior to any court proceedings. (Photos and video)



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## RLC leads to increased rear end collisions

In Culver City there have been no reported rear end collisions for 2012 and 2013 due to the presence of a red light camera system.



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Amount vendor is paid is based on number of citations issued.

The vendor is paid a contractually negotiated fee that is set and does not change based on the number of citations issued. California Vehicle Code 21455.5(h)(1): ***A contract between a governmental agency and a manufacturer or supplier of automated traffic enforcement equipment shall not include provision for the payment or compensation to the manufacturer or supplier based on the number of citations generated, or as percentage of the revenue generated, as a result of the use of the equipment authorized under this section.***

