



JOHN ARENA
Alderman, 45th Ward

Ward Office
4754 North Milwaukee Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60630
(773) 286-4545
(773) 685-4527 FAX
email: ward45@cityofchicago.org

City of Chicago
City Council
City Hall, Room 300
121 North LaSalle Street
Chicago, Illinois 60602
(312) 744-6841

COMMITTEE
MEMBERSHIPS
Aviation
Economic, Capital & Technology
Development
License and Consumer Protection
Special Events, Cultural Affairs &
Recreation

February 21, 2013

Joseph M. Ferguson
Inspector General
City of Chicago Office of Inspector General
740 N. Sedgwick, Suite 200
Chicago, IL 60654

Dear Mr. Ferguson,

As I understand, your office has recently begun an audit of the City of Chicago Department of Transportation's (CDOT) Red-Light camera enforcement program. I would like to request that this audit address a number of concerns members of the City Council have regarding this program.

Several colleagues and I have introduced a resolution (R2013-183) calling for a hearing on how the City determined the location for Red-Light camera installations, as well as whether the revenue potential for each location played a role in site selection. Nearly half of the City Council has signed onto it.

To better inform this hearing, and to ensure an independent analysis of the City's Red-Light program, I request that your audit seek to answer the following questions:

- 1) Has the City installed, and is the City installing Red-Light cameras in locations with the highest number of angle crashes?
- 2) Has the City used, and is the City using accurate data in determining the location for red light cameras?
- 3) CDOT has established the Red-Light Prioritization Model to calculate annual Total Crash Rate and Angle Crash Rate at each intersection. How often is this Model reviewed, and who is responsible for verifying its accuracy?
- 4) How often does the City reassess if Red-Light cameras should be relocated?
- 5) Is CDOT following its own prioritization steps for Red-Light camera relocations?
- 6) Are field evaluations for potential Red-Light camera installations being done in accordance with the appropriate traffic engineering standards?
- 7) Which City departments, consultants, and or employees of Redflex are involved in the decision to install or relocate Red-Light cameras, and how?
- 8) What data does the City collect regarding the amount of revenue generated by each Red-Light camera, and what influence does that revenue data have on the decision to maintain or relocate cameras?
- 9) What is the total cost of the camera system, including installation and annual maintenance?

Additionally, I would like to request a briefing for myself and other interested aldermen detailing the audit findings upon its completion.

Respectfully,

John Arena
Alderman, 45th Ward

Scott Waguespack
Alderman, 32nd Ward

Roderick T. Sawyer
Alderman, 6th Ward

Robert Fioretti
Alderman, 2nd Ward

Ricardo Muñoz
Alderman, 22nd Ward

Nicolas Sposato
Alderman, 36th Ward



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
City of Chicago

Joseph M. Ferguson
Inspector General

740 N. Sedgwick Street, Suite 200
Chicago, Illinois 60654
Telephone: (773) 478-7799
Fax: (773) 478-3949

February 22, 2013

John Arena
Alderman, 45th Ward
City Hall, Room 300
121 North LaSalle Street
Chicago, IL 60602

Alderman Arena,

Thank you for your letter concerning the City of Chicago Office of Inspector General's (IGO) ongoing audit of the City's Red-Light camera program. We will endeavor to address your concerns in our report, and believe that the questions you set forth in your letter very much correspond to our objectives for this audit.

In light of your request, the audit will be given immediate priority. I will also be sure to work with your office to schedule a briefing for you and other interested members of the City Council following the completion of this audit.

We appreciate your request and your consideration of this office as a resource for information and analysis of the performance of City programs.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

Joseph M. Ferguson
Inspector General
City of Chicago

cc: Alderman Robert Fioretti
Alderman Scott Waguespack
Alderman Ricardo Munoz
Alderman Roderick Sawyer
Alderman Nicolas Sposato