

Dear Dominique,

I am writing as a resident of ward 6. I strongly oppose the City of Guelph's decision to expand the Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) program from four to twelve cameras, including permanent locations. While safety is important, this initiative represents yet another policy that unfairly targets drivers, adds to congestion, and prioritizes enforcement over practical solutions.

1. Increased Congestion and Unnecessary Slowdowns

ASE cameras force drivers to become overly cautious, often braking suddenly or driving well below reasonable speeds, leading to increased traffic congestion. With Guelph's road infrastructure already under pressure, the last thing we need is a system that causes unnecessary slowdowns and delays for commuters.

2. Lack of Transparency in Location Selection

The city has failed to disclose where these new cameras will be placed, which raises concerns about arbitrary enforcement. Without transparency, residents have no way of ensuring that cameras are placed in truly necessary locations rather than being used as a revenue tool.

3. Targeting Everyday Drivers Instead of Addressing Real Traffic Issues

The vast majority of drivers are not reckless, yet this expansion treats all motorists as if they are dangerous. Instead of automated ticketing, the city should focus on improving traffic flow, synchronizing lights, and addressing problem intersections that cause congestion and frustration.

4. Financial Burden Disguised as 'Safety'

While the city claims this program is "revenue-neutral," it's clear that ASE cameras generate substantial fines. Many tickets are issued for minor infractions that have little to do with actual safety risks, penalizing responsible drivers rather than deterring reckless behavior.

5. Drivers' Rights Must Be Considered

This is yet another example of policies being implemented without consideration for the needs and rights of drivers. Many residents rely on their vehicles for work, errands, and daily responsibilities, yet the city continues to introduce measures that restrict movement and increase costs for law-abiding motorists.

I urge you to reject this expansion and instead focus on solutions that actually improve traffic conditions rather than punishing drivers. I look forward to hearing your response on this matter.

Sincerely,

Rob Vettor

Whetstone Cres, Guelph, ON, [REDACTED]
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