

INTRODUCED: March 10, 2026

AN ORDINANCE No. 2026-058

To amend Ord. No. 2025-057, adopted May 12, 2025, which adopted the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Special Fund Budget and made appropriations pursuant thereto, by (i) increasing anticipated revenues by \$2,000,000.00 from certain fines and fees collected from the Safety Camera Program, (ii) creating a new special fund for the Department of Police entitled the “Safety Camera Program Special Fund,” and (iii) appropriating the increase to the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Special Fund Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the Department of Police’s “Safety Camera Program Special Fund” by \$2,000,000.00, all for the purpose of funding the Safety Camera Program and Vision Zero Action Plan.

Patron – Mayor Avula

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: APR 13 2026 AT 6 P.M.

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

§ 1. That Article I, Section 2 of Ordinance No. 2025-057, adopted May 12, 2025, which adopted the Special Fund Budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, and made appropriations pursuant thereto, be and is hereby amended by:

AYES: _____ NOES: _____ ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: _____ REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

(a) Increasing anticipated revenues from certain fines and fees collected from the Safety Camera Program by \$2,000,000.00;

(b) Creating a new special fund for the Department of Police entitled the “Safety Camera Program Special Fund;” and

(c) Appropriating \$2,000,000.00 of the increase in anticipated revenues described in subsection (a) of this section to the special fund created by subsection (b) of this section, all for the purpose of funding the Safety Camera Program and Vision Zero Action Plan.

§ 2. This ordinance shall be in force and effect upon adoption.

City of Richmond

Intracity Correspondence

O&R Transmittal

DATE: October 23, 2025

TO: The Honorable Members of City Council

THROUGH: The Honorable Danny Avula, Mayor

THROUGH: Tanikia Jackson, DCAO Finance and Administration

THROUGH: Letitia Shelton, Director of Finance

THROUGH: Meghan Brown, Director of Budget and Strategic Planning

FROM: Richard G. Edwards, Chief of Police

RE: Establish the Safety Camera Program Special Fund authorized by City Code Sec. 27-132(c) to Remit Traffic Violation Enforcement Revenues of \$2,000,000

ORD. OR RES. No.

PURPOSE: To establish Safety Camera Program Special Fund and an initial appropriation of \$2,000,000 to receive revenue generated from fines.

REASON: City Council adopted ordinance 2007-179-156 on June 25, 2007, adding a new section of the Code of Richmond, Virginia, establishing a traffic signal enforcement program. The City code establishing the traffic signal enforcement program currently does not dedicate the fines from City Code Sec. 27-131 to sustain the Safety Camera Program and to implement Vision Zero Action Plan strategies. The City of Richmond plans to install devices and begin to issue civil penalties for disregarding red lights in the next several months; however, the program is not sustainable without directing the civil penalties to pay for the Safety Camera Program.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that this Special Fund is established with an initial appropriation of \$2,000,000

BACKGROUND: The City of Richmond established a traffic signal enforcement program on 06/25/2007 to enhance public safety. An amendment to City Code Sec. 27-131 is needed to dedicate anticipated civil penalties to sustain the Safety Camera Program and implement Vision Zero Action Plan strategies.

FISCAL IMPACT / COST: These resulting funds from the civil penalties will increase the FY26 Special Funds Budget.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS: The addition of these funds (\$2,000,000) will allow the Richmond Police Department and the Department of Public Works to sustain the safety camera program and to implement the strategies in the Vision Zero Action Plan.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NECESSARY: Yes. This request amends the FY26 Special Fund Budget.

REVENUE TO CITY: The City of Richmond will add \$2,000,000 to the FY26 Special Funds Budget.

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon Adoption

REQUESTED INTRODUCTION DATE: March 10, 2026

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DATE: March 23, 2026

REQUESTED AGENDA: Consent Agenda

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL COMMITTEE: Public Safety

CONSIDERATION BY OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES: None.

AFFECTED AGENCIES: Department of Finance, Department of Budget and Strategic Planning, and the Richmond Police Department

RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING ORD. OR RES.: This ordinance is requested due to amends ORD 2007-179-156 and ORD 2025-057

REQUIRED CHANGES TO WORK PROGRAM(S): None.

ATTACHMENTS: ORD 2007-179-156; ORD 2025-057; Safe & Healthy Streets Resolution

STAFF:

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SUPPORTING THE MODIFICATION OF SECTION 27-131 TO DIRECT SAFETY CAMERA PROGRAM PROCEEDS TOWARDS THE VISION ZERO ACTION PLAN SPECIAL FUND

WHEREAS, the Safe and Healthy Streets Commission was established in 1966 to develop and oversee a comprehensive highway safety program for the City of Richmond, conducting quarterly reviews to assess the program's operations and outcomes;

WHEREAS, the Richmond City Council remains committed to supporting the Commission's vital efforts, recognizing the importance of maintaining and enhancing transportation safety for all residents;

WHEREAS, in pursuit of a safer Richmond, the City Council has adopted a Vision Zero approach, with the goal of eliminating all traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries on city streets by the year 2030;

WHEREAS, the General Assembly and the Governor of Virginia enacted legislation allowing for the implementation of photo speed enforcement cameras for red light running violations;

WHEREAS, the Richmond City Council adopted Section 27-131 to direct proceeds from the Safety Camera Program to the Vision Zero Action Plan Special Fund to support the program and to implement actions found in the Vision Zero Action Plan created and monitored by the Safe and Healthy Streets Commission and implemented by the Vision Zero Task Force;

WHEREAS, the City of Richmond, in collaboration with its local, state, regional, and non-profit partners, is well-positioned to implement the Vision Zero Action Plan using proven and innovative countermeasures, such as the Safety Camera Program to enforce red light running violations;

WHEREAS, effective Vision Zero programs prioritize a range of strategies, including cost-efficient systemic engineering solutions, high-visibility enforcement measures, public communication, education, advocacy, and policy initiatives to create lasting behavioral change;

WHEREAS, the Commission plays a critical role in overseeing the implementation of the Vision Zero Action Plan, ensuring that the built environment is redesigned to promote safe speeds and shift the transportation safety culture in the City of Richmond;

WHEREAS, the Vision Zero Task Force was established to drive forward the Vision Zero Action Plan, actively seeking resources to support a safe speeds approach and foster a cultural shift in traffic safety;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Safe and Healthy Streets Commission strongly supports and encourages Richmond City Council to add the following language to section 27-131

“Civil penalties collected under this section resulting from a summons issued by a City police officer shall be paid to the City and placed in a special fund called the Vision Zero Action Plan Fund to be applied to first sustaining the photo enforcement program established pursuant to this section and second implementing the strategies set forth in any Vision Zero Action Plan adopted by the Safe and Healthy Streets Commission.”

Resolution for Safety Camera Program proceeds to be directed to the Vision Zero Action Plan Special Fund



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission recommends that the Richmond City Council allocate any additional resources necessary to ensure the successful demonstration and implementation of these Vision Zero strategies, reinforcing the City’s commitment to creating safer streets for all.