

# Cameras to record red-light runners

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By Don Grigas

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WOODRIDGE, IL -

Motorists who roll through red lights in Bolingbrook beware: there is a traffic ticket out there just waiting for you — or at least the owner of the vehicle you are driving.

During a Feb. 27 Bolingbrook Village Board meeting trustees approved an ordinance allowing the village to place video cameras at four major intersections in town designed to catch motorists who violate traffic signal codes.

The cameras are triggered whenever a vehicle illegally enters an intersection, and the image recorded will be used to issue a traffic citation to the vehicle's registered owner.

"A ticket won't be issued to the driver, it will be issued to the registered owner of the vehicle," said Mayor Roger Claar. "We are seeing more and more of these automated traffic law enforcement systems being used throughout the state to monitor key intersections."

A total of 15 cameras will be placed at four intersections along Boughton Road: at Weber Road, Schmidt Road, Route 53, and Pinecrest Road.

"All but Boughton and Schmidt will have four cameras each. ... The intersection at Boughton and Schmidt will have three," said Chief of Police Raymond McGury.

Cameras at Schmidt Road will monitor traffic on east and westbound Boughton Road, and southbound Schmidt Road.

"Northbound Schmidt Road at Boughton goes into a parking lot," McGury said.

Each camera is electronically connected to traffic signals so they are "energized" at some time when the light turns yellow, said Jim Boan, village attorney. After a brief delay, the camera will begin recording images of vehicles in the intersection.

Violators will be fined \$100 for each offense, and if a citation is unpaid after 14 days the fine will increase to \$200.

If five citations are unpaid, the registered driver of the vehicle could have his or her driver's license suspended by the Illinois secretary of state's office, Claar said.

The initiative — called Project Red Speed — will be administered by Red Speed Illinois LLC.

The firm owns the cameras and will install them, the village is responsible for supplying power to the systems, according to Boan.

All revenues from collected fines that aren't shared with Red Speed Illinois LLC will go to the village, not the county or state, McGury said.

No details were provided on the breakdown of revenues between the village and Red Speed Illinois LLC.

According to the ordinance vehicle owners cited will have the chance to appeal the citation before paying the fine.

More cameras could be located at other intersections in the future, Claar said.

Bolingbrook residents have voiced concerns at Village Board meetings recently, in particular citing areas along Janes Avenue near Rockhurst Road, and Briarcliff Road near Commonwealth Drive and Jennifer Lane as locations of dangerous vehicular speeding.