



DATE December 9, 2005
TO Chief Ulibarri via Captain Foley
FROM Lieutenant Jim Bizieff
SUBJECT Photo Red Light Statistics

The attached document shows the original citation projections submitted to the City Council as well as the results we attained by month. I have also included other pertinent statistical information to be explained below.

Prior to the implementation of this project, Red Flex conducted surveys at each intersection and "approach" proposed for inclusion in the project. After reviewing their numbers, we made projections as to how many citations each approach would generate based on those surveys. Those projections were reported to Council in the staff report. Since not all of the intersections and approaches in that staff report were selected by Council for inclusion in the project, I broke out the numbers for those intersections chosen and reflected the monthly projection for each approach.

Red Flex reviews all incidents pursuant to our business rules and then rejects those that do not meet the requirements to be sent to us for review. Red Flex breaks those out into two separate sections. The first section is those incidents rejected due to uncontrollable factors. This would include things like drivers ducking, paper plates on vehicles, obstructed license plates, etc. The second section is for camera and equipment malfunctions.

We then review those incidents sent to us to ensure that they are prosecutable. We reject those that are not and then issue citations on those that are.

On the chart I have included the total number of incidents captured by the camera equipment (Total Red Flex Incidents), the total number of incidents sent to us for review (Available for Issuance), the number of citations that we issued, the number of incidents rejected by UCPD, the percentage of overall incidents rejected by Red Flex for uncontrollable factors as well as camera malfunctions, and the number of incidents rejected by Red Flex due solely to camera malfunctions.

The initial projections, as well as the first few weeks of operation, were based on faulty yellow light timings. The yellow light issue was found and fixed on September 18 – 21, 2005. October 2005 was the first full month with the system operating with the correct yellow light timings. There is an obvious drop off in incidents and citations from August to October.

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Aside from the yellow light timing issues, I have also noted that there are a lot of incidents that are not prosecutable due to camera and equipment malfunctions. When we first researched the project, we were told that we could expect to issue citations on about eighty percent of the incidents captured by Red Flex. This number accounted for police rejections, uncontrollable factors, and camera malfunctions. Our experience has shown that the number of incidents (potential violations) sent to us by Red Flex is well below that eighty percent expectation. As a matter of fact, the percentage of incidents unavailable due to camera malfunctions alone is increasing, and in November, camera malfunctions accounted for the loss of 208 (or 21.9%) citations.

This is substantial because Red Flex told us that we should expect to issue citations on 80 % of the incidents captured. This was factored into our initial projections. Red Flex also told us that because we were receiving a newer generation camera with higher resolution, that we should expect to have fewer incidents lost due to camera malfunctions and picture related issues.

Red Flex charges us \$6070 per month per approach. We have assigned one officer full time to this position, at a cost of about \$120,000 per year (\$1250 per approach per month). Factoring this into the equation, each approach would need to generate 53.8 paid citations per month to approach a break even point. Since only 70 percent of citations issued are expected to be paid and collected, this means that each approach would have to generate 77 citations to break even. Referring to the attached chart, for the last two months, only 5 approaches have generated that number of citations issued.

In addition to the costs of the program mentioned above, there are other items that are not factored directly into the program. We have had to purchase and maintain computer equipment to operate the program. We have had to send several staff members to training. We are currently faced with a traffic commissioner who routinely finds right turn on red violators guilty of a section with a substantially lower fine; \$351 verses \$75.

Red Flex has told us that whenever yellow light timings are lengthened, there is a drop in the number of violations in the first few months, but that we should expect a rebound in following months with citation numbers gradually approaching, but falling short of, the original numbers.

Using the numbers projected for our current approaches, we should have expected to receive about \$2,200,000 dollars a year in revenue. After subtracting out the salary of the Red Light Officer, and the monthly fees due Red Flex, which should have left approximately \$1,500,000 that would have been returned to the City's General Fund.

The original Staff Report to Council made projections based on 13 approaches being selected; however, only 8 were approved.

Because yellow light timings were adjusted around September 21, 2005, it is difficult to project what the long range effects will be. However, averaging the numbers from October and November, and assuming that the number of incidents lost due to camera malfunctions stays the same, it would appear that we will see a 65 percent reduction in citations issued (compared to projections), at least in the next few months.

Using the averages from October/November, we should expect to issue at least 614 citations a month through the end of this fiscal year. If Red Flex decreases the number of camera malfunctions, that

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number would be higher. Using the 614 number, we should expect 70% of those to be paid generating \$136 per citation to Union City, or \$58,344 (430 paid cites X \$136) a month. Unless Red Flex Fees are renegotiated, we will be charged \$48,560 a month by them, and another \$10,000 per month for Officer Salaries and benefits. This alone reflects a program that is revenue neutral.

Also of importance is the time lag between citations being paid and the return of the money to the City's General Fund. I would expect based on past history, that there is at least a three month lag between the fine being paid and the money hitting the City. This is partially due to the normal lag in paperwork processing with the courts, and partially due to the recent change in Alameda County from a thirty day court date to a sixty date court date.

Finally, I have reviewed our December to date numbers. Since there are so many incidents in the process of being evaluated, it is not possible to determine if the percentage of incidents lost due to camera malfunctions remains as high as November. It does appear that the overall number of incidents through December 8, 2005, has increased slightly and would probably approach the numbers from October. Since the Christmas Holidays are approaching, I would expect the end of the month numbers to drop since commute patterns will drop with vacations and holidays, etc.

Red Flex may argue that over time our incidents and citations should gradually return back to the numbers seen in August. Red Flex has also told us that we should expect a drop in the number of incidents/citations in subsequent years due to public education and the success of the program; however, we have been told by Fremont that they did not experience any drop off in citations in following years (They believe that due to the huge volume of commuter traffic, that most violators are not local and the education/enforcement effect does not create a long term reduction in violations for that reason).

I would recommend we review the Red Flex contract and renegotiate the manner in which we are charged. I believe a "per approach" cost neutral option would work out much better. That would mitigate the huge negative effects that the three under producing intersections are having, while allowing the other intersections to at least generate a portion of the revenues projected:

	Original Revenue Projection Adjusted to Chosen Intersections	Revised Revenue Projection
Overall	\$2,167,132	\$700,128
Minus Fees	\$582,720	\$582,720
Minus Salary	\$120,000	\$120,000
Net	\$1,464,412	<\$2,582>

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34009 ALVARADO-NILES ROAD
UNION CITY, CALIFORNIA 94587

POLICE DEPARTMENT

DATE **October 10, 2006**

TO **Chief Randy Ulibarri**
 UCPD Command Staff

FROM **Lieutenant Jim Bizieff**

SUBJECT **Photo Red Light Enforcement – September 2006**

The number of incidents and the number of citations issued decreased for the month of September, down from August. Alvarado-Niles and Decoto continues to produce low numbers of incidents and citations. Using our court printout and projected costs, it would indicate the system would have netted \$22,418.53 for the month (Not including a deduction for officer salary).

On the attached spreadsheet are the last 8 months of numbers from the Red Light Photo Enforcement Program. There were 912 total incidents for September. 567 of those resulted in citations. We normally pay Red Flex \$6070 X 8 approaches (\$48,560) and officer's salary (\$10,000), but Red Flex has granted us a courtesy credit of \$12,140 on our September bill. We will receive the credit for October and November, which will be the ninth month of the credit. At that time it will cease and our monthly bill will return to \$48,560.

Our most current court printout (attached) reflects that we received \$58,838.53 in gross revenues from the court. The court printout reflects that this is based on 487 citations being paid.

Attached you will find copies of the spreadsheet and the September court printout.

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REDFLEX
TRAFFIC SYSTEMS

Redflex Traffic Systems, Inc.
15020 N. 74th Street
Scottsdale, AZ 85260
Tel: 480 607 0705
Fax: 480 607 0752
www.redflex.com

Invoice

Sold To:
Union City
Police Dept. Attn: A/P Dept.
34009 Alvarado-Niles Rd.
Union City, CA 94587
USA

Invoice Number:
050457

Invoice Date:
Oct 31, 2006

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Customer ID	Customer PO	Payment Terms
City of Union City		Net 30 Days
		Due Date
		11/30/06

Quantity	Item	Description	Unit Price	Extension
		October - 2006 Intersection Service Fees		
1.00		Union City & Smith - NB	6,070.00	6,070.00
1.00		Union City & Smith - SB	6,070.00	6,070.00
1.00		Union City & Rocklin - SB	6,070.00	6,070.00
1.00		Union City & Lowry - NB	6,070.00	6,070.00
1.00		Decoto & Alvarado Niles - NB	6,070.00	6,070.00
1.00		Decoto & Alvarado Niles - SB	6,070.00	6,070.00
1.00		Alvarado Niles & H St./Royal Ann - WB	6,070.00	6,070.00
1.00		Alvarado Niles & H St/Royal Ann-EE	6,070.00	6,070.00
1.00		Courtsey Credit	12,140.00	-12,140.00

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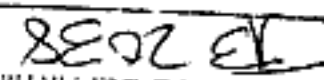
Subtotal	36,420.00
Sales Tax	
Total Invoice Amount	36,420.00
TOTAL	36,420.00

Intersection	Initial Projections	Aug-05	Sep-05	Oct-05	Nov-05	Dec-05	Jan-06	6-Feb	6-Mar
Alvarado-Niles / H W/B	451	298	213	155	128	119	181	160	174
Alvarado-Niles / H E/B	223	319	221	153	77	173	210	221	222
Total	674	617	434	308	205	292	391	381	396
Decoto / Alvarado-Niles S/B	120	184	79	55	33	46	43	46	37
Decoto / Alvarado-Niles N/B	96	76	71	34	20	60	44	47	42
Total	216	260	150	89	53	106	87	93	79
UCB / Lowry N/B	336	230	309	129	104	80	149	112	118
UCB / Rocklin S/B	128	285	95	27	0	32	101	103	96
UCB / Smith S/B	192	93	121	60	108	96	98	57	80
UCB / Smith N/B	351	75	105	65	81	37	84	92	113
Total	543	168	226	125	189	133	182	149	193
Available For Issuance		1851	1477	923	824	773	1062	1004	993
Number Rejected by UCPD		37	46	61	65	53	66	91	67
Overall Citations Issued	1897	1560	1214	678	551	643	910	838	882
Total Redflex Incidents		2148	1750	1057	949	880	1223	1177	1161
Percentage Not Available Due to Uncontrollable and Camera Malfunctions	20%	26%	28%	30%	35%	20%	20%	21%	18%
Number Unavailable due to Camera Malfunctions		254	217	184	208	77	86	75	44
Percentage		11.8	12.4	17.4	21.9	8.8	7	6.3	3.8
Court Printout \$							57,003	50,406	66,410
RedFlex Bill							48560	48560	36420
Net (Does not include Ofc Salary)							\$8,443	\$1,846	\$29,990

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Intersection	Initial Projections	6-Feb	6-Mar	6-Apr	6-May	6-Jun	6-Jul	Aug-06	6-Sep
Alvarado-Niles / H W/B	451	160	174	159	167	75	95	125	101
Alvarado-Niles / H E/B	223	221	222	206	208	174	183	183	135
Total	674	381	396	365	375	249	278	308	236
Decoto / Alvarado-Niles S/B	120	46	37	32	54	41	19	49	30
Decoto / Alvarado-Niles N/B	96	47	42	42	55	31	44	43	37
Total	216	93	79	74	109	72	63	92	67
UCB / Lowry N/B	336	112	118	61	95	62	85	98	84
UCB / Rocklin S/B	128	103	96	40	110	51	50	36	57
UCB / Smith S/B	192	57	80	90	125	75	79	54	69
UCB / Smith N/B	351	92	113	81	102	58	63	61	54
Total	543	149	193	171	227	133	142	115	123
Available For Issuance		1004	993	864	971	683	793	783	690
Number Rejected by UCPD		91	67	62	31	69	61	86	51
Overall Citations Issued	1897	838	882	711	916	567	618	649	567
Total Redflex Incidents		1177	1161	1092	1276	995	1057	1013	912
Percentage Not Available Due to Uncontrollable and Camera Malfunctions	20%	21%	18%	29%	28%	36%	36%	27%	32%
Number Unavailable due to Camera Malfunctions		75	44	70	24	47	114	48	72
Percentage		6.3	3.8	6.4	1.9	4.7	10.8	4.7	7.9
Court Printout \$		50,406	66,410	64,251.02	67,893.13	65,747	58,972.01	59,766.52	58,838.53
RedFlex Bill		48560	36420	36420	36420	36420	36420	36420	36420
Net (Does not include Ofc Salary)		\$1,846	\$29,990	\$27,831.02	\$31,473	\$29,327.30	22,552.01	23,346.52	22,418.53


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