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CITY OF OAKLAND



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Office of the City Attorney
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September 27, 2011

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Public Safety Committee
Oakland, California


Re: Informational Report From The Oakland Police Department on Red Light
Camera Enforcement, Public Safety Committee Agenda, Item No. 7

Dear Chairperson Kernighan and Members of the Committee:

This report is provided in connection with the informational report from the Police Department on Red Light Camera Enforcement listed as Item No. 7 on the September 27, 2011, Public Safety Committee Agenda. The Department's report indicates that City Attorney services are needed to represent the City in hearings before the Traffic Commissioner in which drivers challenge Red Light tickets for the success of the program. City Attorney representation at Red Light ticket hearings was not discussed or considered a requirement for the success of the program when it was initiated, and the City Attorney has not previously provided these services to the Department.

The City Attorney's Office will meet with the City Administrator and Chief Batts to discuss the fiscal impacts of providing the services and to establish priorities with respect to this program and other legal work. Due to staff attorney reductions, the City Attorney's Office does not have attorney staff to assign to this work at this time. The services requested would involve obtaining authorization from the District Attorney's Office to handle these challenges, frequent court appearances and pre-hearing witness and pleading preparations for each hearing. The Department has estimated the work at 20 hours per week but has not provided any details as to the actual number of hearings per week or number of city staff involved in the proceedings.

Very truly yours,


Barbara J. Parker
City Attorney

cc: Deanna Santana
Rocio Fierro
Chief Batts

ITEM 7
Public Safety Committee
September 27, 2011