



City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.

**INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT KAPLAN, COUNCILMEMBER
FORTUNATO BAS, COUNCILMEMBER KALB, COUNCILMEMBER THAO**

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO ENACT
LEGISLATION THAT WOULD GIVE MUNICIPALITIES THE
FLEXIBILITY TO ADOPT MORE EFFECTIVE METHODS FOR
SPEEDING ENFORCEMENT**

WHEREAS, on January 17, 2002, Meisha Ellese Singleton was killed at approximately 3:22pm, on the 1800 block of 98th Avenue, near Elmhurst United Middle School, when a car speeding south on 98th Avenue, near Cherry Street, passed another car that had yielded to allow her to cross the street. Ms. Singleton was a 42-year old mother of seven children; and

WHEREAS, in the City of Oakland there have been numerous accidents due to speeding, failure to yield at traffic signs and traffic lights, causing numerous fatalities, including, but not limited to serious injuries and property damage; and

WHEREAS, in the 2018, the U. S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reported, 8,596 (16.7%) of Driver and motorcycle operators involved in fatal crashes, due to “driving too fast for conditions or in excess of posted speed limits or racing; and

WHEREAS, Oakland's road safety is deteriorating as too many motorists exceed limits on residential streets, the use automated enforcement using traffic cameras and civilian personnel traffic enforcement can decrease these negative impacts, fatalities and improve traffic and roadway safety; and

WHEREAS, when speed enforcement is performed by police officers it is a well-documented fact that implicit and explicit racial bias can play a detrimental role in making traffic stops inherently unjust; and

WHEREAS, research on traffic stops has shown that Blacks have twice the odds of being stopped and four times the odds of being searched than whites and Latinx drivers.¹;and

WHEREAS, in a city that is 77.89 square miles, it is impossible for the Oakland Police Department to provide effective speed enforcement in way that would prevent deaths and injuries while creating greater safety in Oakland streets; and

WHEREAS, Alternative Traffic Enforcement, such as civilian personnel from parking enforcement, which is under the jurisdiction of the Department of Transportation, or automated cameras, would create more efficient enforcement of speeding violations; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley has passed legislation for the use of civilian personnel to enforce traffic violations which will be implemented in late 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety reports traffic cameras are in place in 23 states; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council requests that the California Legislature enact legislation that would give municipalities the flexibility to adopt more effective methods for speeding enforcement; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Council directs that this issue be added to our State Legislative lobbying agenda, and that our state lobbyist is directed to work on the matter.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - FORTUNATO BAS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, REID, TAYLOR,
THAO, AND PRESIDENT KAPLAN

NOES –

ABSENT –

ABSTENTION –

ATTEST: _____

ASHA REED
Acting City Clerk and Clerk of the
Council of the City of Oakland, California

2979695v3

¹¹ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2018/07/17/what-data-on-20-million-traffic-stops-can-tell-us-about-driving-while-black/>