



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Danny Barton, Chief of Police

Date: June 7, 2019

Reference: TX HB1631 Banning Red Light Cameras

2030: Healthy Neighborhoods

Introduction:

On June 2, 2019, HB 1631 was signed into law by the Governor of Texas. HB 1631 prohibits photographic traffic signal enforcement systems also known as red light cameras. Under this new law, all red light cameras would be banned in the State of Texas unless they have an existing contract. Even with an existing contract, there is a section in HB 1631 which advises you cannot continue an existing contract if you have a section in your contract which authorizes termination of the contract on the basis of adverse state legislation.

Analysis:

The City of Coppel has 3 red light cameras which have been in operation since July of 2007. Our current contract is with the company Redflex. That contract went into effect on May 2017 and was supposed to end on April 30, 2027. In our contract we have a termination clause which authorizes us to terminate the contract on the basis of adverse state legislation. Effective June 1st, the Coppel Police Department has stopped issuing any red light camera citations.

Legal Review:

Agenda Item was reviewed by Robert Hager June 3, 2019.

Fiscal Impact:

The current Safelight Coppel fund will cease receiving any revenue from citations. There is no anticipated costs with terminating the program.

Recommendation:

Based on the wording of HB 1631, our 3 red light cameras are now prohibited. The Police Department recommends immediately providing written notice to Redflex terminating our contract. Upon termination, we recommend dismissing any pending violations and hearings.