



Community District Education Council 26

New York City Department of Education

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Approved and Adopted on September 27, 2018

Calling Upon the New York State Senate to Pass Legislation to Renew and Expand New York City's Speed Safety Camera Program

Whereas, the New York State Assembly, in June 2018, overwhelmingly passed the bill, A7798C, to renew and expand state authorization for New York City's school-based speed enforcement camera program, which has operated since 2014;

Whereas, at least 48 children have been killed in traffic crashes in New York City since 2014, and motor vehicles remain a leading cause of injury-related death for school children,

Whereas, more than 5,000 New Yorkers of all ages have been killed in traffic crashes since 2001 and more than 200 are injured daily - representing a public health crisis;

Whereas, speeding motor vehicle drivers is a leading cause of traffic fatalities in New York City;

Whereas, the average pedestrian is at a 10% risk of being killed when struck by a car going 20 mph, that risk increases to nearly 90% when struck at 40 mph (15 mph over the standard speed limit), and to nearly 100% when struck at 50 mph and above;

Whereas, New York City's speed enforcement program, which operated from 2014 through August 2018, reduced speeding violations by more than 60% and fatalities by 55% at the average school speed camera location;

Whereas, traffic fatalities nationwide increased nationwide in recent years but decreased since 2014 to historic lows in New York City, including speed related fatalities;

Whereas, New York City's speed safety cameras, as per state law, have all been operating next to schools at 140 school locations throughout New York City;

Whereas, the New York State Senate, during the January-to-June session in 2018, failed to vote on legislation to renew and expand authorization for New York City's speed safety camera program, despite the legislation (S6046C) had more cosponsors than necessary to pass the bill and now has 35 Senate cosponsors;

Whereas, state authorization for New York City to operate 120 of those speed safety cameras expired July 25, 2018 and the authorization for the remaining 20 cameras will expire on August 31, 2018;

Whereas, in conclusion, we recognize that 1) traffic injuries and fatalities represent a public health crisis that affects the lives of our schoolchildren, families and communities, 2) speeding is a leading cause of those traffic fatalities, 3) New York City's school-based speed camera locations have reduced speeding violations, reduced injuries and significantly reduced fatalities, 4) more than 1 million students will return to school in New York City in September 2018, and 5) our elected state officials have a responsibility to help protect our school children and communities with proven safety measures like speed safety cameras;

Therefore be it resolved that, Community Education Council District 26 strongly supports Senate bill S6046C to renew and expand New York City's school-based speed camera program, and urgently calls upon the New York State Senate to reconvene without delay to pass, and for the Governor to sign, this legislation.