



# The Algonquin Citizen

News from the Village of Algonquin

October 2008 Special Edition

## Red Light Camera Enforcement Set to Begin

In an effort to reduce collisions and make Village streets safer, Algonquin will begin its new red light camera enforcement program in late October. The program is seen by Village officials as an important step to improve the safety and flow of local traffic. However, the Village will give drivers who live, work, or travel through Algonquin a 30-day grace period before actual citations are issued. "Photo enforcement has a greater deterrent effect if drivers are aware it's out there," said Sergeant Wade Merritt. "It is important to us that all Algonquin drivers know we're using photo enforcement and that they have time to learn about this new safety program." After the thirty day grace period, actual citations will be sent to violators, who will then be responsible for paying the \$100 fine listed on the citation.

The following are some frequently asked questions you may have about red light camera enforcement:

### What is a red light violation?

A red light violation occurs when a motorist enters an intersection after the traffic signal has turned red. It is good driving practice (and the law) to not enter an intersection unless you will be able to exit it before the light turns red. Motorists already in the intersection when the signal changes to red, when waiting to turn for example, are not considered red light violators.

### Where are red light cameras located?

Cameras will be installed at three intersections based on crash statistics compiled by the Algonquin Police Department. Each intersection will be clearly marked with signs. Red light camera locations are subject to change based on the most recent crash statistics. The first intersections in the Village that will be equipped with red light camera systems are:

- Randall Road and Algonquin Road
- Randall Road and Bunker Hill Drive
- Algonquin Road and Main Street

### Why would I receive a Notice of Violation?

Based upon images captured by the automated system, your vehicle was determined to have committed a red light violation. By law, as the owner of the vehicle, the Notice of Violation is mailed to you, regardless of who was driving the vehicle.

### How do I contest the violation?

You have the right to contest the imposition of the civil penalty by requesting, in writing, an administrative adjudication hearing by the due date. You must request an administrative adjudication hearing by signing the form on the back of the Notice of Violation and mailing it so that it is received by the due date on the Notice. You will be notified in writing of the date and time of the hearing, which will be held at Algonquin Village Hall. If you are found liable after the administrative adjudication hearing or you request a hearing



# More Information...

but fail to appear, you will be liable for the amount of the penalty. If you are found liable for the civil penalty after an administrative adjudication hearing, you shall pay the civil penalty, plus any applicable court costs, immediately upon determination of liability. You may also contest a violation by mail by following the directions on the back of the Notice of Violation.



## **Will my insurance rates be affected?**

No, this is a civil infraction and is not reported to any insurance agencies.

## **Who administers the red light camera enforcement program?**

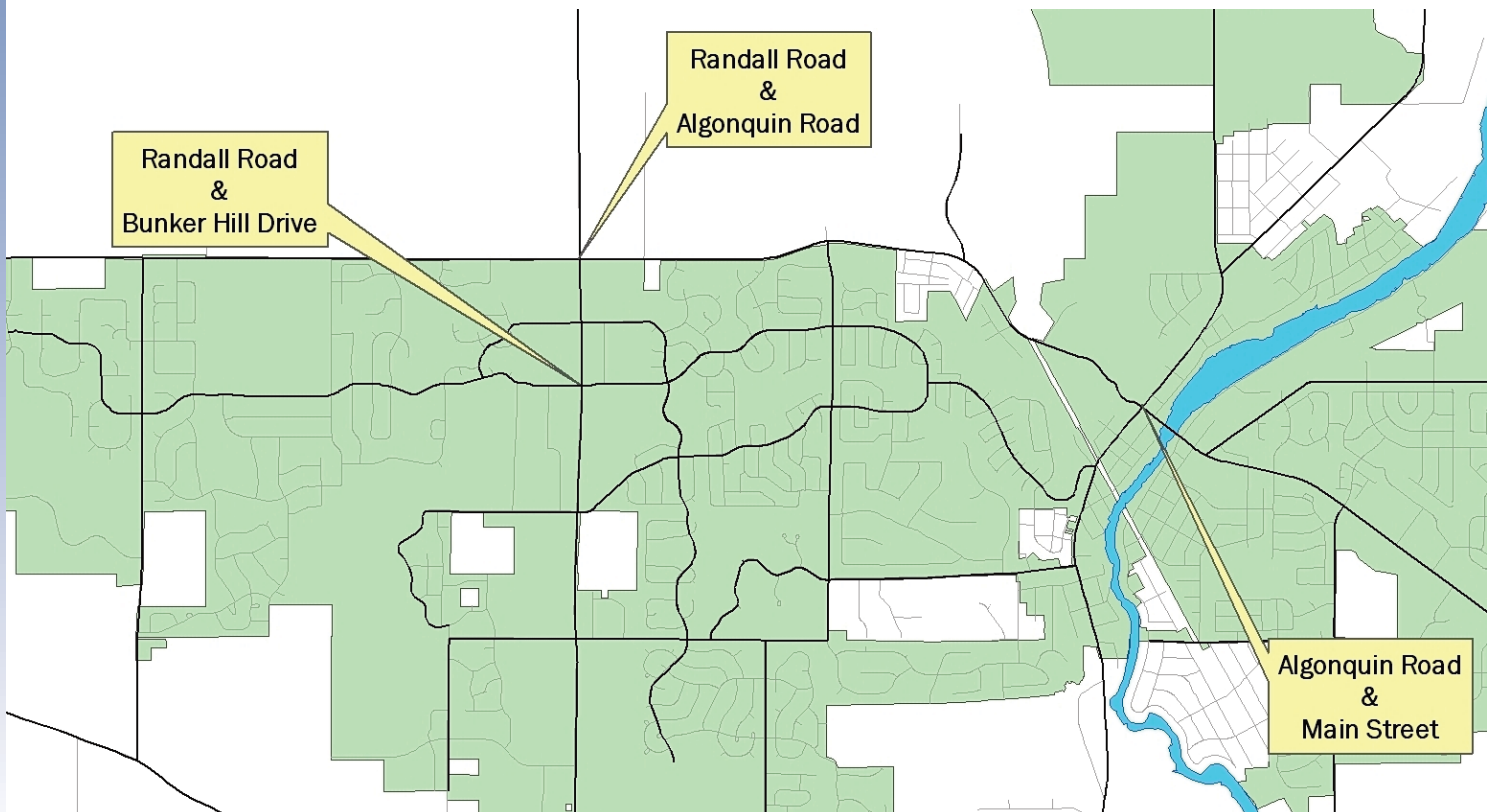
Algonquin's red light camera enforcement program will be administered by ACS State & Local Solutions, Inc., who is currently contracted to provide similar successful programs throughout the nation.

## **Is this only a program to generate revenue?**

This is a safety program. Automated safety systems have been shown to reduce red light violations and intersection crashes. Numerous studies throughout the United States and worldwide, as well as the experience of many other cities, indicate significant decreases in red light running violations and collisions after cameras were installed. Often times, a spill-over effect results from automated enforcement. For example, other intersections not monitored by automated enforcement also see a decrease in violations and accidents because of the presence of enforcement in other areas of the community. Any additional revenue generated after the costs of implementing the program have been offset will be applied to public safety measures.

For further information on this program, please contact Traffic Sergeant Wade Merritt at 847-658-2720.

## **Red Light Camera Locations:**



Visit us at [www.algonquin.org](http://www.algonquin.org)