

From: John Crompton
To: Millerhild@aol.com
Date: 8/19/2009 11:08:24 AM
Subject: Re: Traffic Cameras

Dorothy,

Thanks for all you have done over the years for Keep Brazos Beautiful. You have been an inspiration for many and played such a major role in the formative years of that organization. As I look around the community(guided by my wife's eyes in some cases!) the evidence of their work is impressive.

The red light camera issue has become an emotional matter. The evidence is clear. It has cut the number of red light runners in half in the year or so in which it has been in operation. For that reason, I will continue to be a strong supporter of the program. As an aside, I was hit by a red light runner on the Rock Prairie overpass in Jan 2008 and my car was written off. That reinforced to me the importance of this program as a safety measure.

Your suggestion of count down on the lights is something we are incorporating on the pedestrian part of new lights, We are looking at the pros and cons of putting them on the lights themselves. However, this can really only be done on new light systems because the cost of retrofitting is not feasible.

Thanks for making contact on this issue.

Best wishes

John Crompton

>>> 08/18/09 8:01 PM >>>

John Crompton, I am and have always been a driver who obeys traffic laws and expects others to obey the laws as well. When I first heard of the cameras that take photos of cars where drivers have run red lights, I cheered because these drivers are endangering lives of others. I have since found, however, that these cameras provide a problem to those of us who are law abiding and would never consider running a red light. I have not heard my opinion in any of what I have read in reports by the media. I have noticed that speed limits on our major streets (Texas Avenue as one example) mean that we must cautiously slow down as we approach intersections because speed limits allowed do not give time to stop easily as the light changes quickly from yellow to red.

I'm not just sure where I have seen an electronic installation that gives a lighted countdown of the number of seconds left on the yellow light. I may have seen this somewhere in our community or in another town to which I have traveled. I am suggesting that the current red light cameras make even those of us who are careful drivers into nervous drivers. And we certainly don't need "nervous nellies" on our streets. We need drivers who are secure in knowing that they are driving safely. Please investigate the possibility of adding count-down electric signals for yellow lights so that we will have ample warning and therefore not be caught with a traffic violation which could easily have been avoided.

I'm not sure that I have described my suggestion very well, but I will be happy to discuss it with you if you would like more information.

Thanks so much for the good job you are doing on our City Council. I'm one of the

founders of Keep Brazos Beautiful and appreciate your fine suggestions about City Planning. I have lived in College Station for many years, but have recently moved to Carriage Inn on Boonville Road in Bryan. Of course I still love the entire B/CS Community and want us to continue to be a model area.

Sincerely,
Dorothy S. Miller
774-7056
