

SCHOOL BUS PHOTO VIOLATION MONITORING PROGRAM

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is the legal basis for this school bus photo violation monitoring program?

In August 2019, Governor Cuomo signed legislation authorizing Nassau County (the “County”) to adopt a local law to establish a demonstration program imposing owner liability where the operator of the vehicle is shown by a school bus photo violation monitoring system to fail to stop for a school bus displaying a red visual signal and stop-arm. The Nassau County Legislature passed a local law on September 23, 2019, Title 86 of the Miscellaneous Laws of Nassau County, establishing a demonstration program entitled the “School Bus Photo Violation Monitoring Program” (the “Program”).

2. What does this Legislation authorize?

Under the state and local legislation, the County is authorized to enter into agreements with school districts in Nassau County who wish to participate in the Program.

3. How does Nassau County plan to start this program?

Nassau County Office of Shared Services will reach out to all Nassau County school districts to identify which districts are interested in this initiative to place cameras on school buses.

To institute the Program, the County intends to solicit proposals from school bus photo violation monitoring system operators pursuant to an RFP process and award a contract for the installation, maintenance, operation and use of school bus camera systems, for the proper handling and custody of such recorded images, and for the forwarding of such images and data to the County. The Nassau County Traffic and Parking Violations Agency will issue and process the infraction notices, as well as administer collection of fines and penalties.

4. Will this program cost the school district anything?

No, the total cost of installing, maintaining and using the school bus camera system will be covered entirely by the County. At any time, any participating school district may terminate its participation in the Program.

5. What is the purpose of the Nassau County School Bus Camera Monitoring Survey?

It will assist us to understand the potential scope of the Program, by allowing us to assemble information regarding each district’s bus fleet and help us prepare an informative bid solicitation for the bus cameras.

6. What will the school district have to do once a vendor is selected?

The County will procure a vendor that will install and maintain the photo violation monitoring systems. Once the camera operator has been selected and has entered into a contract with the County, we will enter into an inter-municipal agreement (IMA) with the districts that choose to opt in. School district participation is voluntary and any agreement to participate in a local government's program must be approved by a resolution of the participating school district. The County will cover the total cost to the school district for the installation, maintenance, and use of school bus photo violation monitoring systems. Districts and the County are authorized to withdraw from or terminate their agreement, upon 20 days' notice to the other signatories.

7. What happens if the district does not own its school bus fleet?

For school districts that do not own and operate their bus fleet, it will be the responsibility of the school district to facilitate the terms of the IMA with their bus vendor.

8. How will the school district be kept informed of this program?

A link on Nassau County's website has been established for the School Bus Safety Program and will be updated regularly as well as a dedicated email address, SchoolBusSafety@nassaucountyny.gov, to receive and respond to school districts inquiries.

9. Will there be a warning period?

For the purpose of informing and educating the owners of motor vehicles about the demonstration program, during the first 30-day period of implementation, the County shall issue a written warning instead of a notice of liability to owners of motor vehicles who would otherwise be issued a notice of liability for illegally passing a school bus .

10. Will the County be doing a public awareness campaign?

The County will have a multimedia public awareness campaign, including public service announcements, across various social media platforms.