

RULES
OF
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
CHAPTER 672-20
PERMITTING AUTOMATED TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT SAFETY DEVICES
IN SCHOOL ZONES
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672-20-.01 Purpose of Rules.

- (1) School zones are unique to Georgia's roadway system due to the reoccurring reduction of the designated speed limit. This reduction in vehicular speed provides two primary functions: (1) it affords the driver with more time to recognize and react to pedestrians in the travel way; and (2) it offers schoolchildren additional time to anticipate vehicular movement in order to safely avoid crashes. The goal of the placement and use of Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Devices is to increase safety throughout Georgia's School Zones.
- (2) Prior to the placement of an Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device within a School Zone, each school or if a public school the school system housing the school within whose School Zone such Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device is to be placed shall first apply for and secure a permit from the Department for the use of such Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device.
- (3) These rules establish the process for obtaining, reviewing or cancelling a permit for an Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device and how need for such a permit shall be determined by the Department.

Authority: O.C.G.A. § 40-14-18

672-20-.02 Definitions.

The following words when used in Chapter 672-20 shall have the following meaning unless the context thereof indicates another meaning:

- (a) "AASHTO Roadside Design Guide" means the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials Roadside Design Guide, current edition.
- (b) "Applicant" means any school or if a public school the school system housing the school that requests a permit for the placement and use of an Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 40-14-18.
- (c) "Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device" means a speed detection device that:
 - (A) Is capable of producing photographically recorded still or video images, or both, of the rear of a motor vehicle or of the rear of a motor vehicle being towed by another vehicle, including an image of such vehicle's rear license plate;
 - (B) Is capable of monitoring the speed of a vehicle as photographically recorded pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this paragraph; and
 - (C) Indicates on each photographically recorded still or video image produced the date, time, location, and speed of a photographically recorded vehicle traveling at a speed above the posted speed limit within a marked school zone.
- (d) "Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device Permit Form" is a Department form which may change from time to time, is available on the Department's website and is to be used to apply for a permit for an Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device.
- (e) "Clear Zone" means the unobstructed, traversable area provided beyond the edge of the through traveled way for the recovery of errant vehicles. The Clear Zone includes

shoulders, bike lanes, and auxiliary lanes, except those auxiliary lanes that function like through lanes.

- (f) “Department” means the Georgia Department of Transportation.
- (g) “List of Roads” means a list of the roadways, segment lengths, and speed limits found within the jurisdiction of a local municipality or entity in which law enforcement is permitted to use speed detection devices.
- (h) “Master State Order” means a county specific document approved by the Commissioners of both the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Transportation that lists all state routes and their designated speed limits and all school zones located on state routes within a specific county.
- (i) “MUTCD” means the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, current edition.
- (j) “Off System” means a route that is not owned or maintained by the Department but by a local government.
- (k) “On System” means a route that is owned and maintained by the Department (typically denoted by “GA” prior to the designated route number).
- (l) “Recorded images” means still or video images recorded by an Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device.
- (m) “School Zone” means the area within 1,000 feet of the boundary of any public or private elementary or secondary school.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 40-14-18; 40-14-1.1

672-20-.03 Permit Requirements.

- (1) The Applicant must complete the Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device Permit Form and submit it to the Department. The Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device Permit Form shall include sufficient information and documentation for the Department to determine the need for such permit. Such Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device Permit Form shall include at a minimum:
 - (a) Location of the Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device;
 - (b) Specific Model number or identification information of the Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device;
 - (c) Traffic data indicating the number and speed of vehicles traveling in the area of the proposed Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device;
 - (d) List of all schools within the subject School Zone;
 - (e) Proof that the Applicant has obtained all required permissions, permits and property rights necessary for the installation, maintenance and operation of the desired Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device which may include but are not limited to other permits from the Department;
 - (f) Any additional information deemed necessary by the Department to determine need for the Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device at the specific location; and
 - (g) Written correspondence from the appropriate local law enforcement agency approving the Applicant’s request for an Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device.
- (2) The Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device Permit Form for must be signed by the school system’s superintendent or designee when submitted by a public school system.

- (3) The Department is authorized to establish additional guidelines to assist it in determining need for an Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device.
- (4) The Department may request additional information or documentation to supplement the Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device Permit Form.
- (5) The Applicant must comply with any Department guidelines regarding the Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device Permit.

Authority: O.C.G.A. § 40-14-18

672-20-.04 Review by the Department and Determination of Need.

- (1) The Department will review and either approve or deny a completed application for an Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device Permit.
- (2) The decision of whether to approve or deny an application for an Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device Permit will be at the discretion of the State Traffic Engineer.
- (3) An Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device Permit Form will only be considered for those areas where a School Zone is already named on the Master State Order or List of Roads.
- (4) Placement of an Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device may be required to be outside the Clear Zone as specified by the AASHTO Roadside Design Guide as determined by the Department.
- (5) If a request is made for an Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device Permit along a Department designated On-System Route, the Applicant will review and reassess the limits and established speed limits of the location in question by conducting an Engineering and Traffic Investigation pursuant to Department policy.

Authority: O.C.G.A. § 40-14-18

672-20.05 Permit Holder Requirements.

In addition to those requirements set forth in the Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device Permit, the permit holder:

- (a) Must maintain and make available to the Department upon the request all calibration tests and performance logs as required in O.C.G.A. § 40-14-5 for a period of three (3) years.
- (b) Is responsible for the operation of the Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device as long as the device is in place and is responsible for maintaining the device in good working order during the term of the Permit. All maintenance work on said device within the Department's right-of-way must be coordinated with the Department's appropriate District Traffic Engineer. All Contractor work times shall be in accordance with the appropriate District Traffic Engineer's directive.
- (c) The Applicant must ensure the maintenance of all School Zone Signage as defined in the MUTCD, including but not limited to School Zone Flashers.

- (d) The permitted Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device shall otherwise be operated in accordance with all other laws and regulations.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 40-14-18; § 40-4-5

672-20-.06 Changes to and Cancellation of the Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device Permit.

- (1) The Department may require a change in the location of the proposed Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device either temporarily or permanently in response to active or proposed construction projects, including but not limited to Department projects, within the area, all costs of which will be borne by the permittee.
- (2) The Department may review at any time a Permit for an Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device and require the permittee to submit information and documentation that shows proper operation and maintenance of the Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device.
- (3) The Department reserves the right to cancel any Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device Permit for the following reasons:
 - (a) The subject school relocates;
 - (b) The subject School Zone is changed or removed;
 - (c) The Georgia Department of Public Safety revokes the local government's permit to use speed detection devices;
 - (d) The permit issued by the Georgia Department of Public Safety for the use of speed detection devices expires and is not renewed;
 - (e) The permittee does not maintain an Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device in proper working order in accordance with Rule 672-20.05(b);
 - (f) The permittee fails to meet or follow any requirements of the Permit or any other Department rules, policies or guidelines; or
 - (g) Any other reason that the Department determines requires cancellation of the Permit.

Authority: O.C.G.A. § 40-14-18