

# Why Red Light Cameras?

*On an average day, five people will be seriously injured or killed in a traffic-related crash on Chicago's streets.*

Each year, Chicago has approximately 80,000 crashes:

- 20,000 resulting in injuries
- 130 resulting in fatalities



## Vision Zero Chicago

Is the commitment and the plan to eliminate death and serious injuries from traffic crashes on Chicago's streets by 2026. As a *Vision Zero* city, Chicago follows an international movement that incorporates policies, technologies, partnerships, and data-driven practices to make our streets safer. The *Vision Zero Chicago Action Plan* presents a method for targeting resources to improve roadway design, enforce dangerous driving behaviors, and inspire a culture of safety through education and outreach through 2019.

## Three-Year Action Plan Goals

- Reduce death from traffic crashes 20% by 2020.
- Reduce serious injury from traffic crashes 35% by 2020.

*Crashes caused by red light running are more common than any other crash type and more likely to result in serious injury or death.*

A 2013 national study revealed that crashes involving drivers who ran red lights and other traffic controls were the most common type of urban crash (22%) in the US; injuries occurred in 39% of these crashes.

# Red Light Cameras

Red light camera enforcement has been credited with several important benefits, including:

- Minimizing dangerous behaviors
- Reducing fatal crashes
- Improving traffic flow

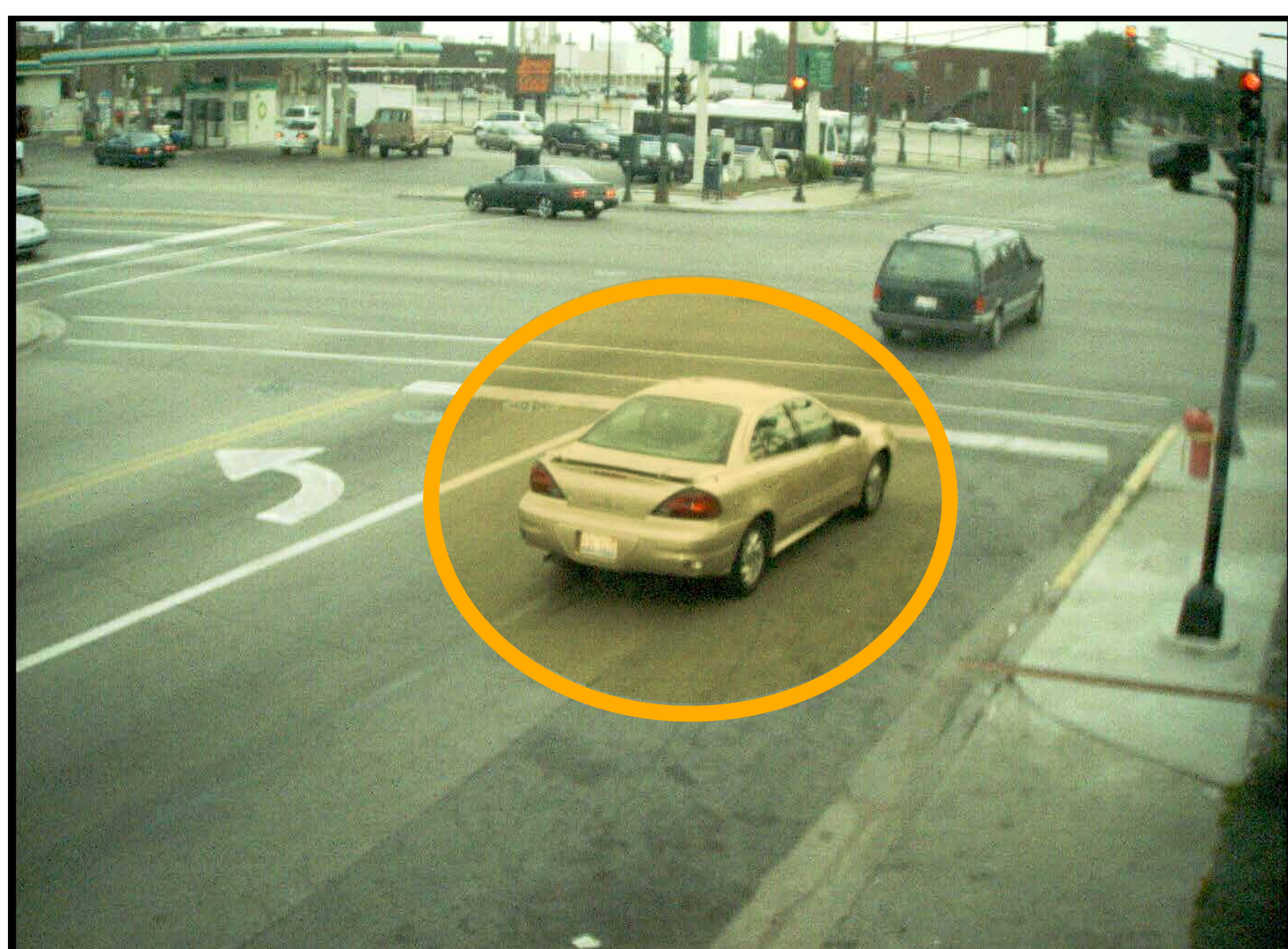
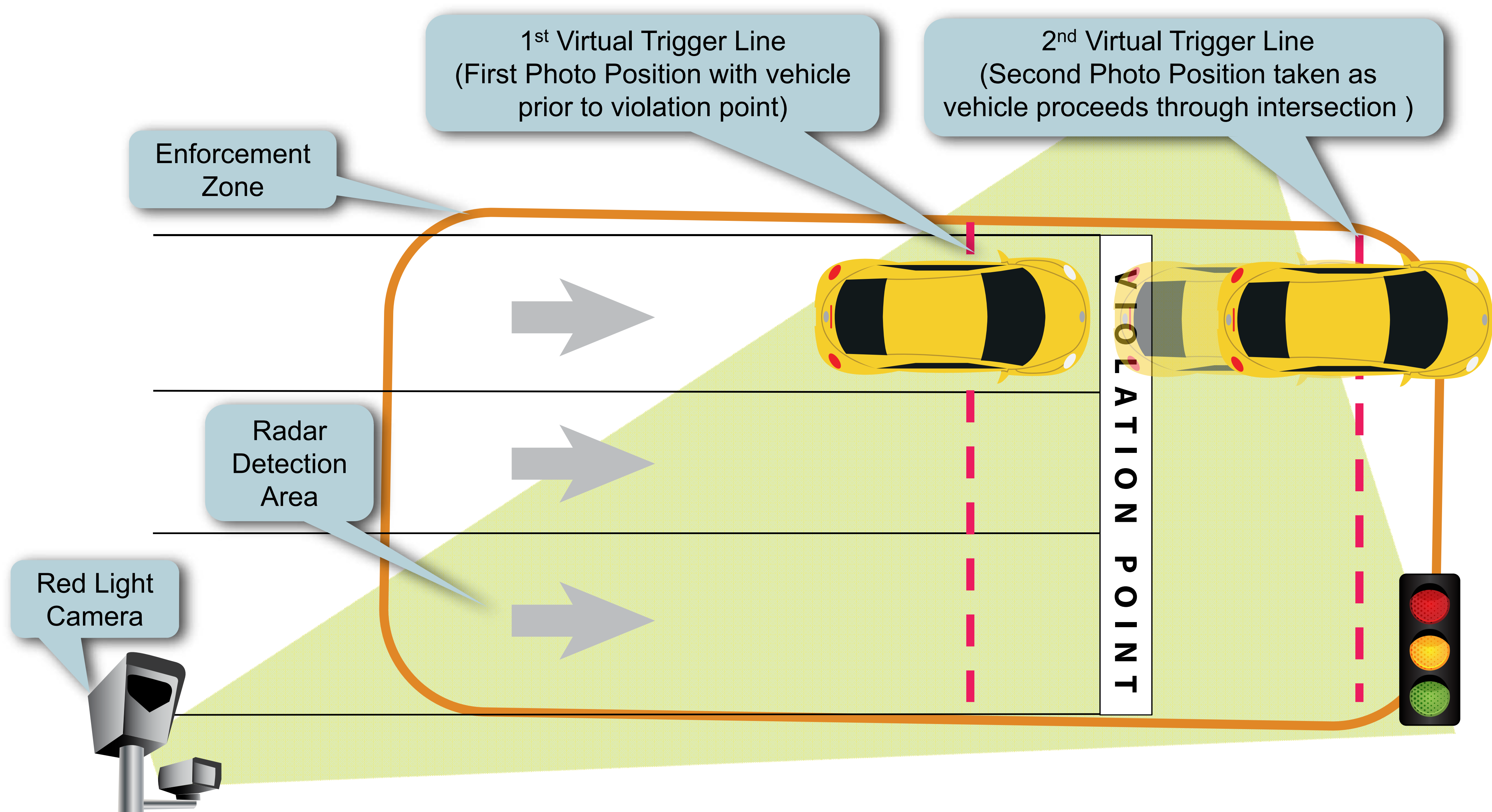
## Impact of Cameras in Chicago

In early 2017, Northwestern University Transportation Center completed a review of Chicago's red light camera system and concluded that the system has led to a **10%** reduction in injury-producing crashes and a **19%** reduction in the most dangerous angle and turning crashes. They also documented a "spillover effect," meaning crashes were reduced at intersections that do not have camera enforcement.

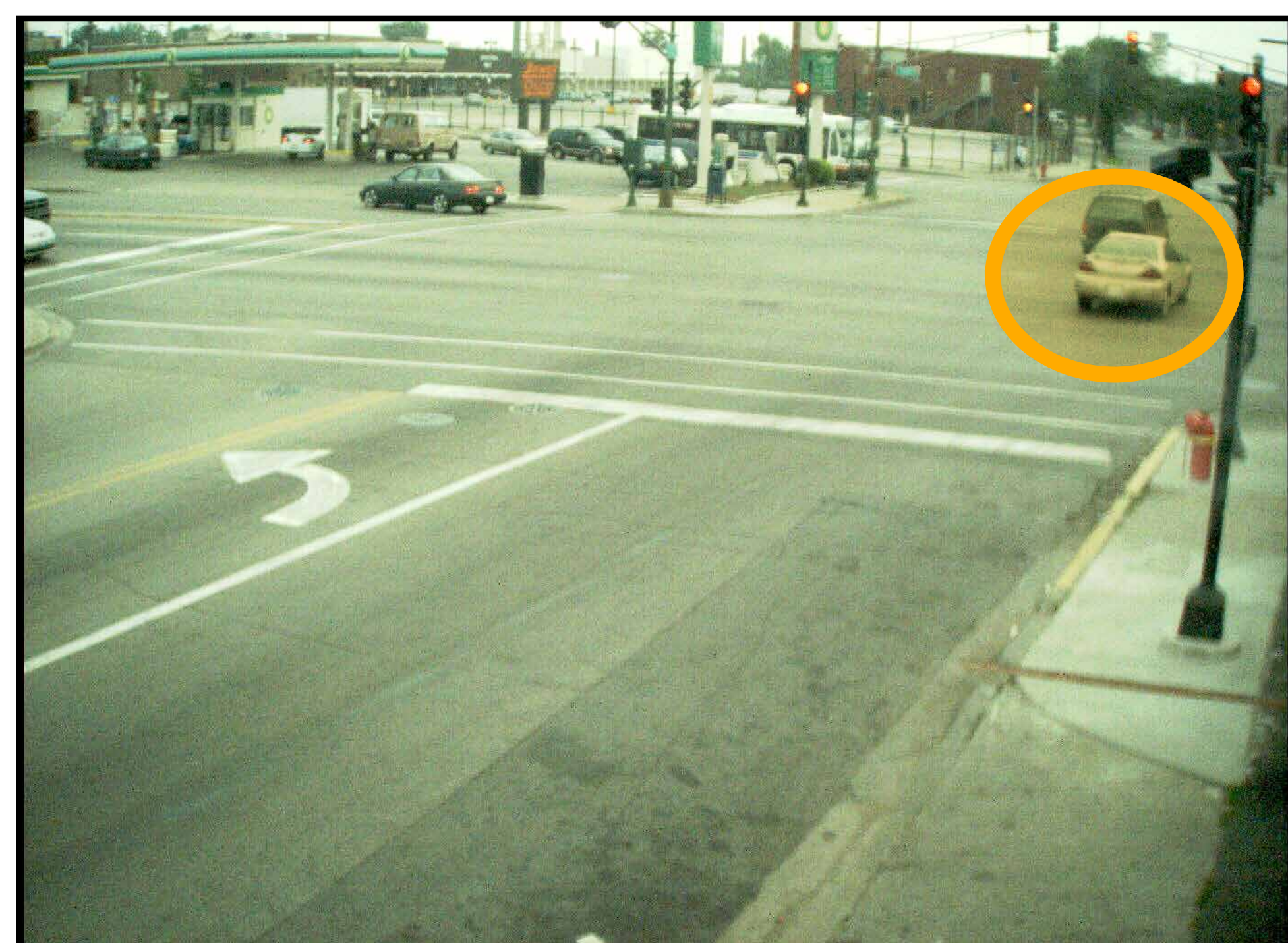


# How the Red Light Camera Program Works: How a Potential Violation Is Captured

- 1** The camera system tracks the status of the traffic light signal and the position and speed of vehicles approaching the intersection.
- 2** If the traffic signal is red and the minimum red time grace period has elapsed prior to the violation point, the system captures the event with:
  - Two digital pictures (see below)
  - A 12-second video



**The signal has changed to red before the vehicle enters the intersection**



**The vehicle continues through the intersection, running the red light**

*\* Starting on March 20, 2017, this time was increased from 0.1 to 0.3 seconds.*

# How the Red Light Camera Program Works: How a Ticket Is Issued

**3**

**Each violation is manually reviewed twice:**

- **First, by the red light camera vendor, Xerox**
- **Second, by the City Department of Finance for official determination**



*Reviewers manually zoom in to the image, crop a photo of the license plate, and record the plate number for violation issuance*

**4**

**If the violation is determined to be valid, a violation notice is mailed to the address to which the license plate is registered. Fines are currently set at \$100.**



**5**

**All red light camera tickets may be contested through the Office of Administrative Hearings.**



# Red Light Cameras Relocation

*Northwestern University team developed a set of criteria to evaluate the safety impact of red light cameras at intersections. The criteria for evaluation are:*

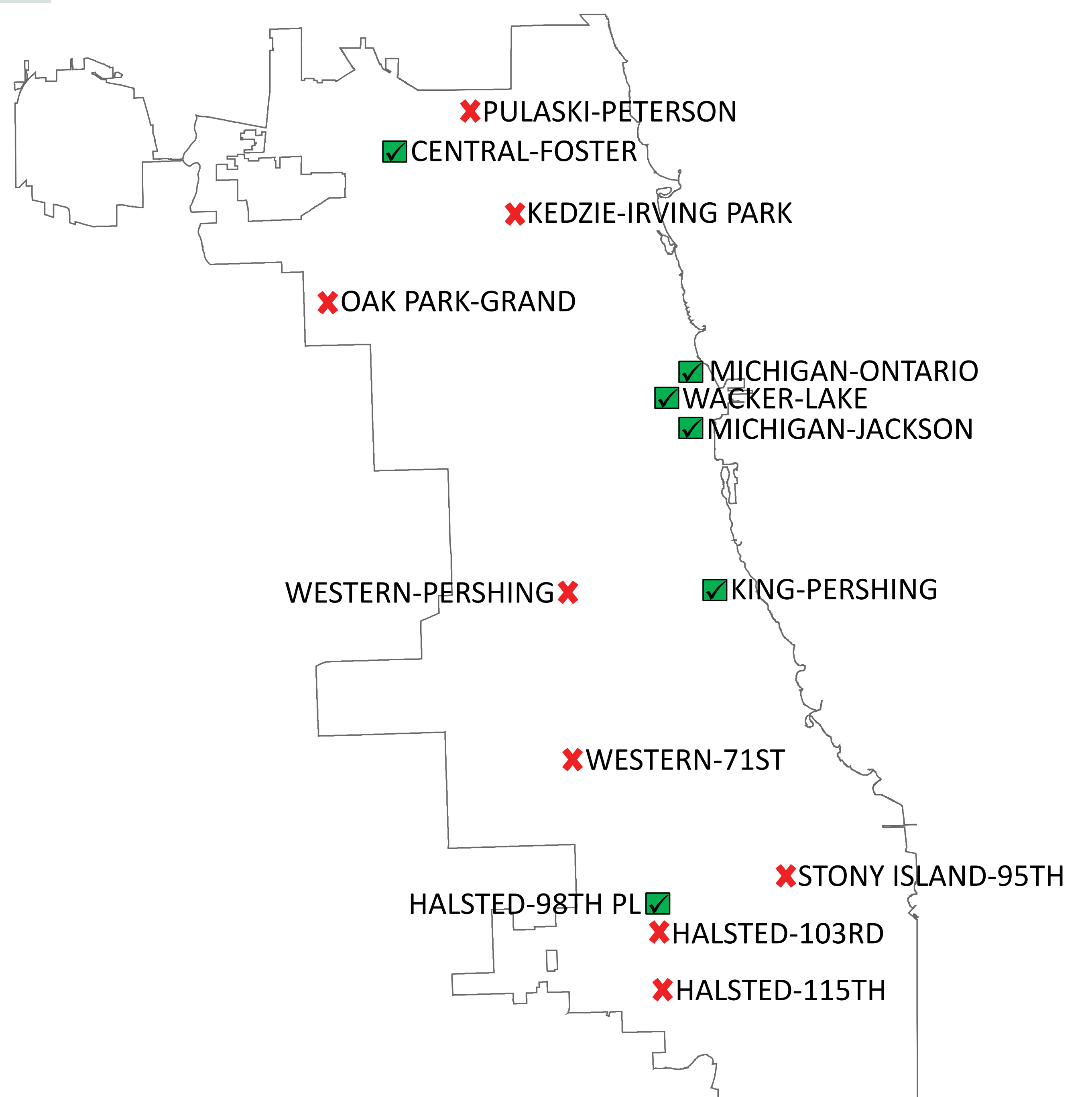
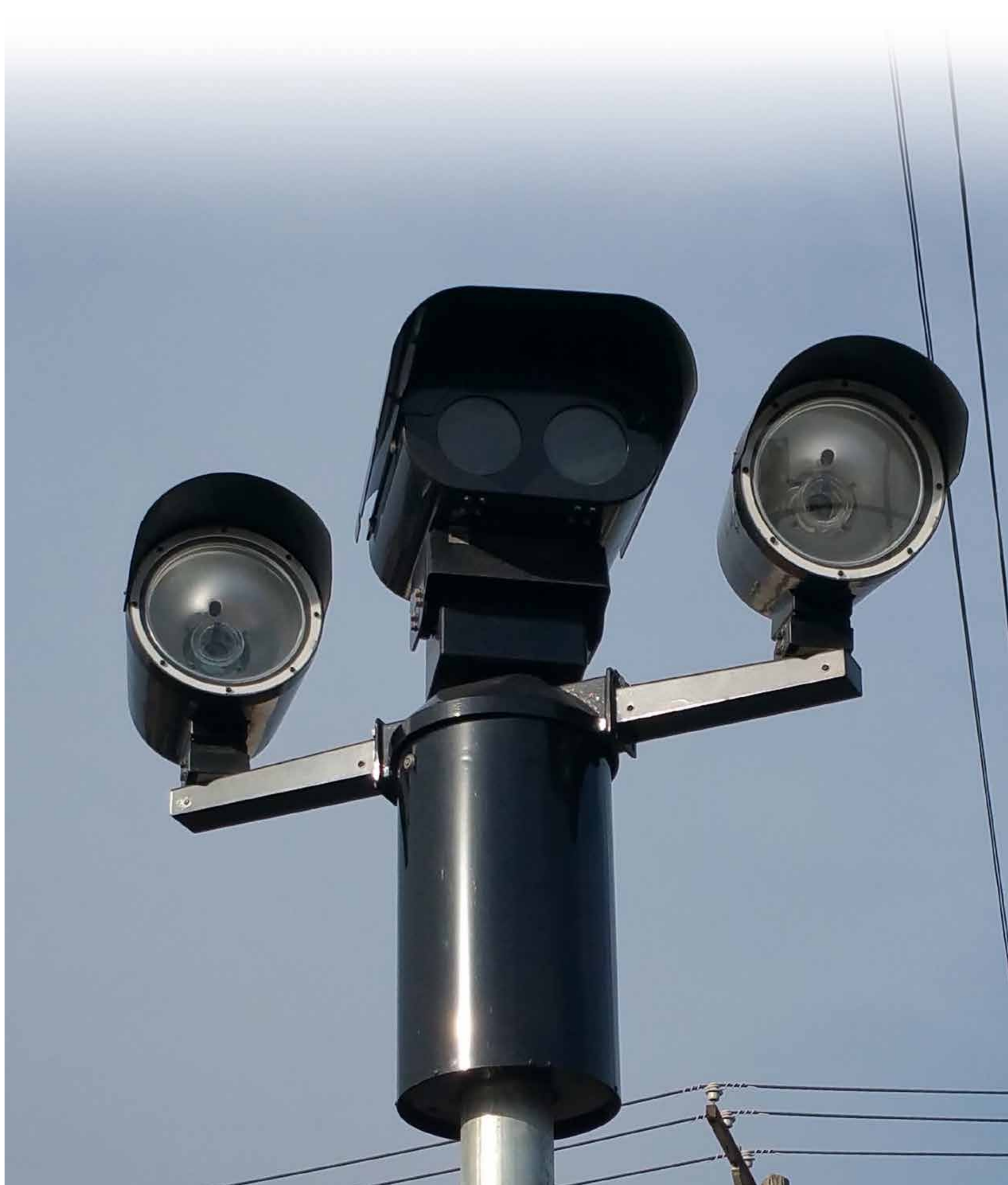
- **Number of Angle, Turning, & Rear End crashes at the intersection**
- **Volume of vehicular traffic**
- **The number of violators**
- **Other characteristics of the intersection.**

## PROPOSED REMOVALS (8)

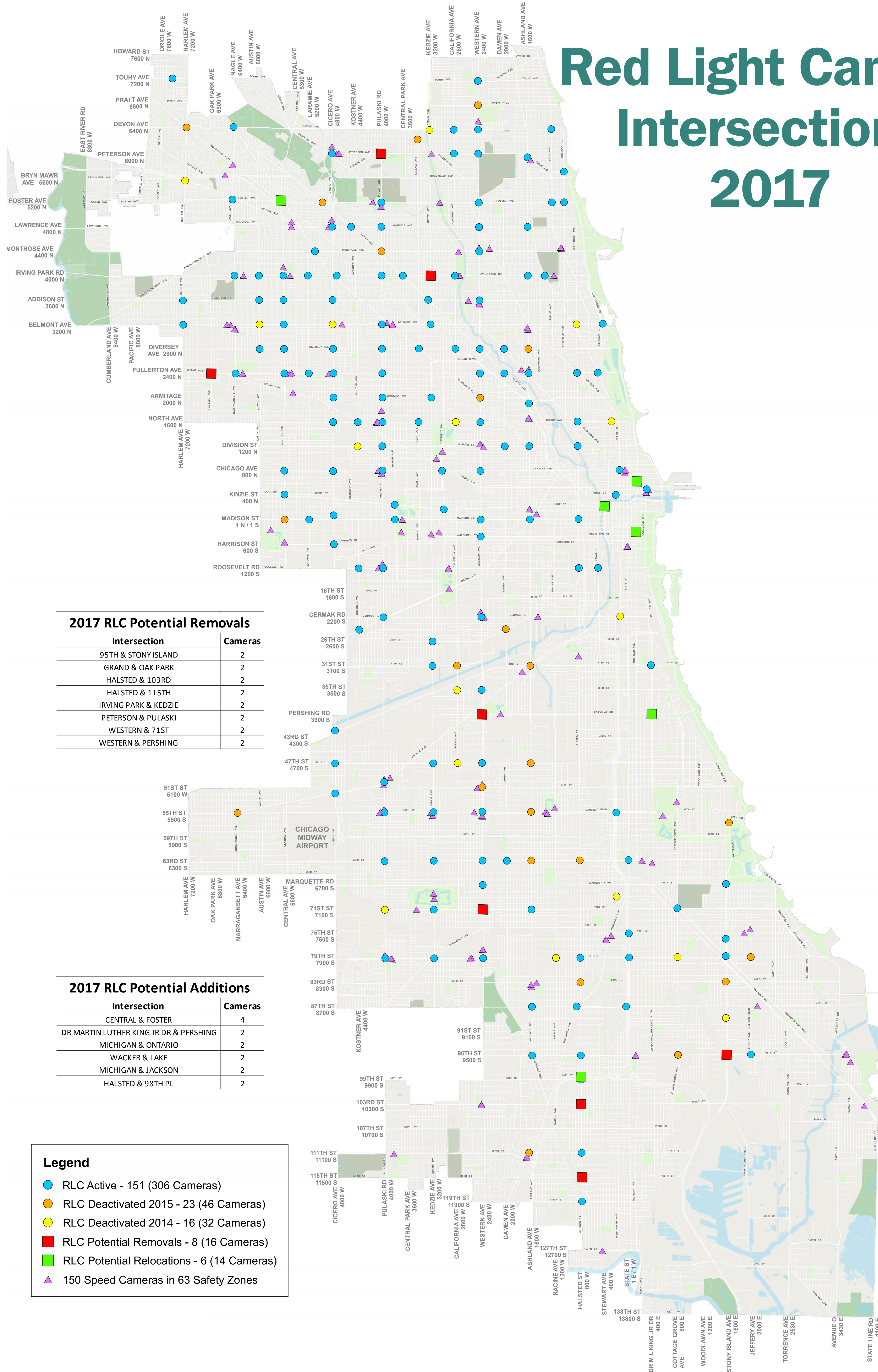
- *The data showed that these intersections registered high numbers of issued violations but no corresponding reduction in crash rates.*
- *Suggesting locations not benefiting from cameras and better placed elsewhere.*

## PROPOSED NEW LOCATIONS (6)

- **Score high on the Northwestern criteria for anticipated safety benefits**
- **Has low or no rear-end injury crashes**



# Red Light Camera Intersections 2017



**2017 RLC Potential Removals**

Intersection	Cameras
95TH & STONY ISLAND	2
GRAND & OAK PARK	2
HALSTED & 103RD	2
HALSTED & 115TH	2
IRVING PARK & KEDZIE	2
PETERSON & PULASKI	2
WESTERN & 71ST	2
WESTERN & PERSHING	2

**2017 RLC Potential Additions**

Intersection	Cameras
CENTRAL & FOSTER	4
DR MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DR & PERSHING	2
MICHIGAN & ONTARIO	2
WACKER & LAKE	2
MICHIGAN & JACKSON	2
HALSTED & 98TH PL	2

**Legend**

- RLC Active - 151 (306 Cameras)
- RLC Deactivated 2015 - 23 (46 Cameras)
- RLC Deactivated 2014 - 16 (32 Cameras)
- RLC Potential Removals - 8 (16 Cameras)
- RLC Potential Relocations - 6 (14 Cameras)
- ▲ 150 Speed Cameras in 63 Safety Zones