

When facing an important decision, consider incorporating the collective wisdom of others, based on the four requirements discussed, into your tactical or strategic decision making. It could give you the advantage you need to be a more successful, individual, decision maker.

**Free by Fax:** I've developed a short white-paper that will give you the action plans you need to implement these four qualities into your personal or professional life. To receive it, fax your letterhead with your name and the word "Decision" to (440) 919-6555 or e-mail the same info to [Decision@KobyFleck.com](mailto:Decision@KobyFleck.com).

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## New Law Allows Cities to Use Red-light Cameras

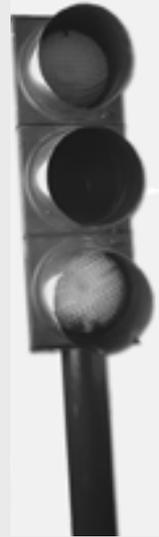
Following several years of study, the 2005 Washington State Legislature authorized the use of automated traffic safety cameras. RCW 46.43 took effect on July 24, 2005. In 2000, the Washington State Legislature directed the Washington State Traffic Safety Commission to select, monitor, and evaluate automated enforcement sites within Washington State and set out guidelines. The program was extended and expanded in 2001. The purpose of the pilot project was to reduce the number of deaths and serious injuries resulting from traffic crashes. Lakewood was the first city in Washington to participate in the pilot project.

After reviewing the results of the pilot project in Lakewood, the legislature decided to expand the availability of intersection cameras to other jurisdictions. Under the legislation, city and county legislative bodies would have the option to photograph the license plates, but not the faces, of drivers who fail to stop at red lights.

Signs along the roadway leading to the intersection warn drivers that the cameras are in use. A police officer must also review each photo before the ticket is issued and vehicle owners will have the opportunity to challenge a citation.

The new law makes this technology more attractive to cities than it was a few years ago. Lakewood officials liked the technology, but they said it cost more than it generated for the city. The city had to send a portion of the ticket revenue to the state, and a portion to the vendor they contracted with to supply and operate the equipment. The city helped push for the new law. The new law has tickets generated by machine and they are treated like parking tickets. This means cities are not required to send part of the ticket revenue to the state. Treating machine-generated

*According to the Washington State Department of Transportation, from 2001 to 2003, 9,807 drivers were injured or killed in collisions in which a vehicle ran a red light. Three out of five red light collisions occurred on local city streets.*



tickets like parking tickets also means the infractions are not moving violations and do not go on a driver's record.

The law also includes strict limits on where cities can use automated traffic enforcement equipment. The devices may be used only to ticket drivers who run a red light at an intersection of two arterials, speed in a school zone, or violate the rules of a railroad crossing.