Safer Road Infrastructure and Speed Control

UN Transport Legal Instruments
A tool for better Road Safety Management

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Contents

1. Introduction
2. Objectives
3. Speed Management Measures
4. PPPs in Traffic Enforcement
5. Safeguards, checks and balances
6. Transparency and Integrity
7. Conclusion
Introduction
Why is speed so important?


"It is estimated that speeding contributes to as many as one third of all crashes resulting in death, and is the most important contributory factor to road deaths and serious injuries.” (ETSC 2008)
Introduction

Do you remember high school physics?

\[ E_k = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 \]

In which the kinetic energy of an object is equal to half the mass multiplied by the squared speed of that object.
Introduction

Key issues speed management

- Reduce the average speed across all road types in the network
- Focus on urban areas which have a high percentage of vulnerable road users (max 50 km/h)
- Special focus on residential areas where motorised vehicles should be seen as ‘guests’ (max 30 km/h)
- Speed management and road safety important contributors to higher quality of life and urban sustainability (noise, emissions, barrier effects)
Speed management measures

- Building or changing roads with traffic calming measures
- Matching the speed limit to the function of road
- Informing speed limits by signage
- Enforcing speed limits
- Publicity to increase the awareness on the dangers of speeding
- Promoting in-vehicle speed limiting technologies
Traffic calming: Optical illusion markings
Traffic calming:
Humps and plateaus
Traffic calming:
Roundabouts
Traffic calming: Gateway treatments

Welcome to a new speed regime.
Traffic calming: 
Road narrowing
Matching speed to road function:
Speed changes due to function
Road layout tells speed regime
Information:
Signage
Creating awareness by publicity
Campaigns
In-vehicle technologies
Intelligent Speed Adaptation

GPS satellites pass road speed limits to car directly.
On-board camera scans for signs, and reads the limit.
On-board computer warns driver and slows the car to match the speed limit information received.
Speed enforcement

Introduction

- Rising motorisation: maintaining enforcement levels
- Limits to manual police enforcement
- Speed management requires 24/7/365 approach
- Use valuable police resources for ‘non-automatable’ tasks
- Authorities & NGOs aware of need automated enforcement
- Automated enforcement benefits ‘fine leakage’
- Implementation is challenge for many governments
Preconditions

- Political, administrative & public commitment
- Proper legal and regulatory framework
- Firm choice for owner or driver liability
- Procedures to ease burden on the judiciary
- Strict & enforceable fine collection conditions
- Accurate vehicle and drivers license database
- License plate issuance, presence and quality
- Sufficient fine levels
- Suitable Publicity infrastructure
Two enforcement models

- Government buys enforcement and back office equipment and manages and executes ticket issuance and fine collection process.

- Government sets PPP criteria and leaves enforcement operation up to a private party with violation confirmation by the police.
In most countries traffic enforcement cameras and other equipment are purchased, owned, and operated by government organizations. The past two decades have seen a wide-ranging wave of privatizations and introduction of public private partnerships (PPP) in formerly government-owned or controlled activities, including traffic enforcement. Implementing this concept requires a set of principles and good practices presented in this IRF policy statement.
PPP - Public party

- Easy on constrained budgets
- No or minimal investment, alternative use of capital
- Better on police resource allocation
- Improves enforcement integrity
- Violator pays for road safety
- Safer roads and intersections
- Better quality of life for its residents (noise, pollution, barrier effects)
PPP – Private party

- Main investor
- Operation funded with collected fines
- Discussions with private parties on hardware, software and operational scope of project, public – private cut
- Define late, non-payment, legal and court procedures
- Privacy and private party staff authorisations
- Road safety objectives and camera rotation
PPPs in Traffic Enforcement

IRF’s Guiding Project Principles

- Transparency
- Integrity
Key preparations, issues & actions

- Political and administrative commitment
- Government authority, police and private parties
- Administrative scope: municipal, regional, national
- Study and identification of high-risk spots and road
- Recent location based casualty, injury and crash statistics
Key preparations, issues & actions

- Road safety study with action plan
- Actions: infra changes, campaigns, signage, etc.
- Enforcement cameras option for other speeding issues
- Define the public-private partitions and tasks in the process
- Confirm compliance with preconditions
Safeguards, checks and balances

- Ultimate control and approval of violations only by police or authorised official
Safeguards, checks and balances

- Independent type approval and regular verification of accuracy and overall performance
Safeguards, checks and balances

- Surplus fine revenue to be reinvested into road safety projects
Safeguards, checks and balances:

- Longer term contract with capped revenue
- Maintain lower financial incentive to continue to issue tickets beyond cap
Transparency and Integrity

- Transparency and integrity defining elements of PPP success
- Early stage publicity about enforcement PPP plans
- Objective: road safety, saving lives, QoL, never revenue driven
- Inform public about safeguards, private party caps, surplus fine allocation, etc. to create and maintain support
Transparency and Integrity

- Internet access to review e.g. photo, video, violation data, approvals
- Integrity: type approval, annual verification, authorising officer code
- Inform: why, where and results of enforcement
- No effective enforcement without publicity
Conclusions

- Reducing average vehicle speed has huge road safety benefits
- Infrastructure adaptations
- Matching speed to road function
- Raise awareness for speed and enforcement through publicity
- Manual and automated enforcement
- Consider IRF PPP enforcement model
- Speed reduction strongly benefits Quality of Life
Thank you for your attention

Please refer to the IRF ‘Statement of Policy’, White Paper 16-02 and IRF Webinars on Public Private Partnerships in Traffic Enforcement and corruption on the IRF website:

[www.irfnews.global](http://www.irfnews.global)

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