



**TRANSPORTATION
ALTERNATIVES**

April 2016

Dear New York State Legislators,

We write to urge you to support legislation that will allow every schoolchild in New York City the life-saving protection of speed safety cameras.

For children in New York City, motor vehicles are the number one cause of injury-related death. Speeding kills more New Yorkers than drunk drivers and drivers on cell phones combined. In recognition of this tragic trend, you and your colleagues first authorized speed safety cameras for 20 school zones as a demonstration program in 2013. Because of the success of that demonstration, in 2014 you expanded that program to 140 school zones in New York City.

The existing program has been overwhelmingly effective: **Speeding incidents dropped 60% in locations where speed safety cameras have been installed!**

It is clear that every child in New York City deserves the protection of this potent deterrent. **Yet today, more than 93% of New York City schools are not protected by speed safety cameras** -- that leaves more than 1 million K-12 students at risk. Additionally, speed safety cameras are currently allowed to operate for only 12 hours a day -- that means cameras are restricted from operating at the times when 85% of fatalities and serious injuries occur.

We are losing the lives of children we could be protecting. Please support speed safety cameras for every New York City school zone, to protect our children every hour of every day.

The few speed safety cameras already in operation are making major safety gains, preserving police resources and protecting children as they walk to and from school. Drivers are ticketed a flat \$50, and only when they exceed the speed limit by at least 10 mph. The driver does not receive points on their driver's license, and the cameras only monitor the speeding car -- not the age, race or gender of the driver.

This session, for our children, please stand up for speed safety cameras. This effective technology is needed right now at every school, for every child, every hour of the day.

Thank you for standing up for our kids, and the families that walk in New York.

Sincerely,

Families for Safe Streets
Transportation Alternatives