Measuring the Effectiveness of Red Light Cameras in Reducing Traffic Crashes and Red Light Violations

Michael Link

Many drivers often run red lights, placing themselves and other members of the motoring public at risk for crashes, injury and unfortunately death. A primary countermeasure for red light running is police traffic enforcement. In recent years, red light cameras have increasingly been used to supplement police efforts to enforce against noncompliance with traffic signals. The intent of camera enforcement is to modify driver behavior through deterrence and punishment of the violators. The fundamental objective of this research was to review and evaluate the available evidence to include documented research studies in the international literature regarding the effectiveness of cameras to reduce red light violations and crashes. Information was obtained through a survey instrument that was administered to a diverse citizen group within the Lakeland community.