

ORDINANCE NO. ____

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 26-032

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LAKELAND, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 98 "TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES", ARTICLE III, ENTITLED "RED LIGHT INFRACTIONS" OF THE CITY CODE; AUTHORIZING THE ADDITIONAL PLACEMENT, INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF TRAFFIC INFRACTION DETECTION SYSTEMS FOR ENFORCEMENT OF RED LIGHT VIOLATIONS IN SPECIFIED INTERSECTIONS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE CITY OF LAKELAND THAT CONSTITUTE A HEIGHTENED SAFETY RISK WARRANTING ADDITIONAL ENFORCEMENT MEASURES; MAKING FINDINGS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, on July 1, 2024, Chapter 2024-223 of the Laws of Florida went into effect amending Florida Statute § 316.0083, the "Mark Wandall Traffic Safety Program", authorizing counties and municipalities to enforce red light violations through the use of traffic infraction detectors, by requiring enactment of an ordinance to place or install traffic infraction detectors where no such traffic infraction detectors currently exist; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lakeland currently utilizes traffic infraction detectors consistent with state law in order to detect, process and enforce red light violations in accordance with the Florida Uniform Traffic Control Law to reduce the frequency of red light running which continues to be a safety hazard that impacts every citizen and traveler in the City of Lakeland; and

WHEREAS, after July 1, 2025, the placement or installation of traffic infraction detectors, as defined by Florida Statute § 316.003, in locations where they do not currently exist now requires the City of Lakeland to enact an ordinance authorizing any such new traffic infraction detectors based on a determination that the

intersection at which a traffic infraction detector is to be placed or installed constitutes a heightened safety risk that warrants additional enforcement measures; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Lakeland finds that the running of red lights presents a real hazard on roadways to the traveling public; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Lakeland seeks to deter drivers from running red lights by installing additional red light cameras within the jurisdictional limits of the City of Lakeland; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with and pursuant to the provisions of Florida Statute § 316.0083(4)(a)1., the City Commission of the City of Lakeland has considered relevant traffic data and other evidence supporting the installation and operation of each traffic infraction detector in the new locations specified herein and has determined that each location where a traffic infraction detector is to be placed or installed constitutes a heightened safety risk that warrants additional enforcement measures; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Lakeland finds that motor vehicles running red lights create a detrimental hazard that threatens the health, safety and welfare of the traveling public in the City of Lakeland and that enforcement of the applicable Florida Uniform Traffic Control Law through the use of traffic infraction detectors may reduce instances of traffic accidents and related fatalities on roadways within the jurisdiction of the City of Lakeland; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Lakeland finds it to be in the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of the traveling public in the City of Lakeland

to use additional traffic infraction detectors to detect and enforce red light violations pursuant to state law and this Chapter.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF
THE CITY OF LAKE LAND, FLORIDA:**

SECTION 1. Recitals Adopted. The foregoing findings are true and correct and are made a part hereof and incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 2. Additional Installation of Traffic Infraction Detectors Pursuant to State Law. The City of Lakeland seeks to install and utilize additional Traffic Infraction Detectors for enforcement of red light violations within its jurisdiction in accordance with the provisions set forth in State law, including Florida Statute § 316.0083, Chapter 2024-223, Laws of Florida, and this Chapter.

SECTION 3. Amendment of City Code. City of Lakeland Code of Ordinances Chapter 98 - "Traffic and Vehicles", Article III is hereby amended to and shall include the following Sections:

Article III. – RED LIGHT INFRACTIONS

Sec. 98-92. – Traffic Infraction Detectors for enforcement of red light violations.

Intent. The City seeks to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of persons traveling on roadways in the City of Lakeland. The City seeks to enforce red light violations by authorizing the installation, implementation, and operation of Traffic Infraction Detectors at intersections that constitute a heightened safety risk warranting additional enforcement measures pursuant to Florida Statute § 316.0083(4)(a)1., in accordance with Chapter 2024-223, Laws of Florida, as such may be amended from time to time. The use of such Traffic Infraction Detectors pursuant to this Section provides a supplemental means of enforcing unlawful red light violations and shall not prohibit a Law Enforcement Officer from issuing a uniform traffic citation for a traffic violation in accordance with Florida Statute Chapter 316.

Sec. 98-93. – Use of Traffic Infraction Detectors.

Consistent with and pursuant to Florida Statute Chapter 316 and Chapter 2024-223, Laws of Florida, as may be amended, the City Commission hereby authorizes the placement or installation of Traffic Enforcement Detectors to enforce red light violations within the jurisdictional limits of the City consistent with

the placement and installation specifications established by the Florida Department of Transportation, as such may be amended from time to time, to enforce unlawful speed violations, as set forth in Florida Statute § 316.1895 and § 316.183.

Sec. 98-94. – Designation of Intersections for Traffic Infraction Detectors.

Having considered traffic data and evidence at a public hearing supporting the installation and operation of Traffic Infraction Detectors at specified intersections within the jurisdiction of the City of Lakeland, the City Commission determines that the following Traffic Infraction Detectors to be placed or installed constitute a heightened safety risk that warrant additional enforcement measures pursuant to Florida Statute § 316.0083(4)(a)1.:

<u>Intersection Location</u>	<u>Direction</u>
<u>Bartow Road / U.S. 98 at N. Crystal Lake Dr.</u>	<u>Northbound</u>
<u>Bartow Road / U.S. 98 at N. Crystal Lake Dr.</u>	<u>Southbound</u>
<u>Cleveland Heights Blvd. at E. Edgewood Dr.</u>	<u>Northbound</u>
<u>Cleveland Heights Blvd. at E. Edgewood Dr.</u>	<u>Southbound</u>
<u>Daughtery Road / Walt Loop Road at Socrum Loop Road</u>	<u>Westbound</u>
Florida Ave. at George Jenkins Blvd.	Northbound
Florida Ave. at George Jenkins Blvd.	Southbound
<u>Florida Ave. at Memorial Blvd.</u>	<u>Northbound</u>
<u>George Jenkins Blvd. at Kathleen Road</u>	<u>Westbound</u>

<u>Harden Blvd. at W. Beacon Road</u>	<u>Northbound</u>
<u>Harden Blvd. at N. Parkway Frontage Road</u>	<u>Southbound</u>
<u>Kathleen Road at Fourteenth St.</u>	<u>Northbound</u>
<u>Kathleen Road at Fourteenth St.</u>	<u>Southbound</u>
Massachusetts Ave. at E. Parker Street	Northbound
Massachusetts Ave. at E. Parker Street	Southbound
<u>Memorial Blvd. at Brunnell Parkway</u>	<u>Westbound</u>
<u>Memorial Blvd. at N. Florida Ave.</u>	<u>Westbound</u>
<u>Memorial Blvd. at Martin L. King Jr. Ave. / N. Dakota Ave.</u>	<u>Westbound</u>
<u>Memorial Blvd. at N. Massachusetts Ave.</u>	<u>Eastbound</u>
<u>Memorial Blvd. at N. Massachusetts Ave.</u>	<u>Westbound</u>
<u>Parker St. at N. Florida Ave.</u>	<u>Southbound</u>
<u>Socrum Loop Road at E. Daughtery Road/Walt Loop Road</u>	<u>Northbound</u>
<u>Socrum Loop Road at E. Daughtery Road/Walt Loop Road</u>	<u>Southbound</u>

CODING: Words underlined are additions

<u>Socrum Loop Road at Old Combee Road</u>	<u>Northbound</u>
<u>Socrum Loop Road at Old Combee Road</u>	<u>Southbound</u>
<u>US 98 at Griffin Road</u>	<u>Northbound</u>
<u>US 98 at Griffin Road</u>	<u>Southbound</u>

The above specified list of Intersection Locations may be amended from time to time to provide for the deletion or addition of Traffic Infraction Detectors upon adoption of an ordinance by the City Commission.

SECTION 4. Severability. If any word, sentence, clause, phrase, or provision of this Ordinance, for any reason, is held to be unconstitutional, void, or invalid, the validity of the remainder of this Ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 5. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

PASSED AND CERTIFIED AS TO PASSAGE this 5th day of October, A.D. 2026.

**CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF
LAKELAND, FLORIDA**

By: _____
SARA ROBERTS McCARLEY
MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
KELLY S. KOOS, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CORRECTNESS: _____
PALMER C. DAVIS
CITY ATTORNEY

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