

## On the Banks of the Allegheny

## CITY OF WARREN 318 WEST THIRD AVENUE WARREN, PA 16365-2388

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June 3, 2014

Honorable Scott Hutchinson Senate Box 203021 Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Senator Hutchinson:

At a Special Meeting held on June 2, 2014, Warren City Council discussed the matter of RADAR use by municipal police. The motion was made, and approved, to state Council's endorsement of the concept of the use of RADAR by municipal police departments.

The Pennsylvania State Police and municipal police are equally charged with enforcement of the Pennsylvania Motor Vehicle Code; however, municipal police are not currently afforded the opportunity to utilize the same speed-timing devices as the State Police. Many opponents of RADAR assert that local departments wish to use such enforcement as a means of revenue enhancement. However, as the City's Chief of Police noted, the monies retained by the City as the result of a speed limit violation currently amount to \$12.50 per ticket which is hardly worth the time spent in writing and processing the citation. The value of RADAR enforcement lies in the preservation of public safety and not in lining the City's coffers.

As you may be aware, Senator, a local volunteer group is working diligently on a project known as "Walkable Warren" to promote healthy living through walking and cycling in the City and surrounding areas. To this end, they are working to connect existing bike/walk paths and recreation areas via routes traversing the City with the ultimate goal being to draw pedestrians and cyclists to the core downtown area and, thereby, encourage healthy activity and promote the City's business community. The use of RADAR for enforcement of speed limits would greatly enhance the safety of pedestrians and cyclists as well as other motorists.

Without specifically endorsing Senate Bill No. 1340, Warren City Council wishes to state its support of the concept of the use of RADAR by municipal police. The City will monitor the progress of this legislation and will take appropriate action as warranted.

On behalf of Warren City Council, thank you for your consideration of the City's request for your support of the use of RADAR by municipal police which will enhance the safety of our, and your, constituents.

Sincerely,

Nancy K. Freenock

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City Manager

cc: Warren City Council