

em



**PEDRO E. SEGARRA**  
MAYOR

Testimony by Mayor Pedro E. Segarra & Mark K. McGovern, Chief Executive Officer, Hartford Parking Authority  
City of Hartford  
House Bill 6639

*An Act Concerning the Use of an Automated Number Plate Recognition System*  
April 1, 2013, 10:00 AM in Hearing Room 1E

Co-Chairmen Coleman and Fox, Vice Chairs Doyle and Ritter, Ranking Members Kissel and Rebimbas and Distinguished Members of the Judiciary Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on House Bill 6639, *An Act Concerning the Use of an Automated Number Plate Recognition System*.

On behalf of the City of Hartford and the Hartford Parking Authority, we respectfully request the addition of municipal parking authorities and their agents as entities that are allowed to use automated number plate recognition systems. The clearest amendment to accomplish this result would be to simply add the following language at the end of the first sentence in subsection (b): ", or (4) a municipal parking authority."

Since July of 2012, the Hartford Parking Authority, through its contracted parking operator, has utilized this type of system to enforce parking requirements in accordance with the Hartford Municipal Code. It is currently used to enforce resident parking permit districts, non-metered zones on our commercial districts and most importantly, to identify parking scofflaws, or motorists with five (5) or more unpaid parking citations. With more than \$19 million in unpaid parking citations, an automated number plate recognition system is the best way to identify chronic violators and collect what is due to the city. To date, we have more than doubled our revenue in this program over the previous fiscal year. This allows us to keep the cost of municipal parking, both on-street and in our facilities, as low as possible.

Our automated system is also an important tool that we use to study our parking system. The technology allows us to count cars on specific streets, measure their length of stay and evaluate curbside turnover throughout the course of a day, week or month. The ability to capture and analyze this data is leading to new parking policies and programs that support local businesses, assist residents and help manage traffic flow in the city.

The City and Authority understand and appreciate the importance of protecting personal information. In accordance with State statutes and under an agreement with the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles, we are permitted to match license plates with registration addresses for the purpose of enforcing municipal law and collecting on issued parking citations. License plate information is retained for this purpose only. All license plate data that is collected during the course of a day that is unrelated to a parking citation is automatically purged by our system each and every night.

The City and the Authority are working hard to make parking as convenient, accessible and affordable as possible for residents and visitors to the Capital City. The use of an automated number plate recognition system is an important technological advancement that helps us achieve our goals.

Thank you again for allowing us to submit testimony on this very important issue.

550 Main Street  
Hartford, Connecticut 06103  
Telephone (860) 757-9500  
Facsimile (860) 722-6606

**HARTFORD**  
★ HAS IT