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Team Kentucky Boosts Safety With Automated Speed Enforcement Devices in Work Zones

First cameras will be installed in the coming weeks

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Sept. 26, 2025) – To further increase safety in work zones for Kentucky drivers and construction crews, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) will begin installing automated speed enforcement devices in active highway work zones today and through the next few weeks.

Among the first places to receive cameras will be a U.S. 25 work zone in Fayette County and an I-75 work zone near Corbin. The devices will not be active at first, giving drivers time to adjust to the presence of the new technology before enforcement begins in October.

"Every Kentuckian deserves to make it home safely," said KYTC Secretary Jim Gray. "We're hopeful this initiative will inspire drivers to be more aware of their speeds in every work zone to avoid preventable crashes and save lives."

House Bill 664, known as the Jared Lee Helton Act, authorizes automated speed enforcement in active work zones. Passed by the legislature and signed into law by Gov. Andy Beshear earlier this year, the act is named in honor of a Kentucky highway worker who lost his life in a work zone crash. Bill sponsor Rep. John Blanton welcomed the rollout, stressing the importance of saving lives.

"We've lost too many Kentuckians in work zone crashes, including Jared, whose memory this law honors," said Rep. Blanton. "Installing these speed enforcement cameras is a necessary step to protect not only the men and women working on our roads, but all Kentucky families traveling through these work zones every day."

"Every day, our crews head into work zones knowing they're exposed to real risks from speeding traffic," said Chad LaRue, executive director of the Kentucky Association of Highway

Contractors. "This effort is a great step to ensure our contractors and crews have safe working conditions, just like anyone else."

Upcoming installation locations

Throughout the fall, the Cabinet expects to add speed enforcement devices in these work zones across the state:

- Martin County KY 3 (MP 7.314 to 13.735) at Inez
- Fayette County U.S. 25 (MP 7.805 to 9.672) and KY 418 (MP 0.000 to 1.870),
 Richmond/Athensboro Road at Lexington
- Shelby County I-64 (MP 27.880 to 38.300) near Shelbyville
- Laurel/Whitley Counties I-75 (MP 23.200 to 28.900) near Corbin

Additional locations may be added this year. Work zones with automated enforcement will feature clear warning signs and flashing lights so drivers know when they are approaching an area where cameras are active. Tickets will only be issued in person by law enforcement officers based on detector data, and fines can be up to \$500 when workers are present. The Kentucky State Police will oversee enforcement at the initial locations for the remainder of the year.

"This is about saving lives, not writing tickets," said KSP Major Eric Walker. "By slowing down and staying alert, drivers can protect themselves, their families, and the workers improving our roads. These cameras give us another tool to stop dangerous driving before it costs lives."

For more information about the automated speed enforcement program, visit kyhighwaysafety.com/wzs.

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Editors Note: Pictures and video from August press event featuring audio and photos can be found <u>here.</u>



