

Photo Radar Location Safety Analysis (A. Knack)

Recommendation

That the December 2, 2020, City Operations report CR_7733, be received for information.

Previous Council/Committee Action

At the October 22/23, 2019, City Council meeting, Councillor A. Knack made the following inquiry:

Council was previously informed that Traffic Safety was working on a visual representation (ex: interactive map) that would allow someone to view the specific safety impacts of photo radar at each location where it is used across the city. From what I understand that work is still ongoing.

Can Administration provide a report on the following:

1. The status of the work and expected completion date.
2. What information will be able to be viewed by the public.
3. If the information will be included on Edmonton's Open Data Portal.

Executive Summary

Transparent and accountable communication helps the public understand how automated enforcement is one of the tools the City uses to achieve Vision Zero goals through safe and livable streets.

This report provides an update on work to measure and share the safety impacts that result from automated enforcement, including considerations related to the recent photo radar review being undertaken by the Government of Alberta.

Report

Status of the work and expected completion date

The City of Edmonton is committed to achieving Vision Zero, the goal of zero traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries, through safe and livable streets in

Edmonton. Research shows that safe speeds reduce both collision frequency and severity and are integral to achieving these outcomes.

The speed that people drive is influenced by many factors, including posted speed limits, street and community design, the presence of enforcement, car culture, and societal beliefs about traffic safety and road ownership. To plan, design, build, maintain and animate the transportation network, Edmonton uses a safe systems approach that includes engineering, education, engagement and enforcement. The safe systems approach recognizes that people involved in collisions are harmed much more significantly than property or vehicles, and people should not be seriously injured or killed because they make mistakes.

Speed is a factor in every collision. In Edmonton, the safe systems approach to encourage people to comply with speed limits (decreasing the severity and frequency of collisions) includes speed surveys, driver feedback signs, community traffic management, playground zones, and automated enforcement. Specifically, automated enforcement is completed across the City, with the locations determined based on specific safety concerns.

What information will be able to be viewed by the public? If the information will be included on Edmonton's Open Data Portal?

The City of Edmonton is committed to a transparent and accountable automated enforcement program. This year, new information will be released through an interactive map to provide context for the safety impacts by location, including:

- Location
- Direction of enforcement
- Speed limit
- Road Type
- Pre-Vision Zero (2013-2015) and Post-Vision Zero (2016-2019) comparison of collision and violation (speed and, in some locations, red light) data

This approach will be applied to all active enforcement locations and made available through Open Data by the end of 2020.

The City shares information about enforcement locations and violations through open data (data.edmonton.ca) as follows:

[Open Data Scheduled Automated Enforcement Zones](#) - A map provides locations where automated enforcement is expected to be operating. The list is updated every Friday for the enforcement locations selected for the following calendar week (Monday through Sunday).

Open Data Automated Enforcement tickets information - A map contains locations, number of tickets issued at various speed ranges in excess of the enforceable speed limit and the number of enforcement hours by month.

Next Steps

Effective December 1, 2019, the Government of Alberta initiated a moratorium on adding new photo radar locations, installing new photo radar equipment, and purchasing or upgrading existing equipment in order to conduct a review with police services and municipalities on the objectives and outcomes of automated enforcement.

Through this review, the Government of Alberta intends to determine the following:

- Restrictions to clarify operations and to further enhance traffic safety outcomes.
- Site selection using data to better focus on traffic safety.
- Enhanced data collection to justify operations and evaluation consistently.
- Enhanced traffic safety plans to directly link photo radar to traffic safety outcomes.

The City of Edmonton has been included in initial discussion to support the Government of Alberta in this review. The results of the review will be used as a part of Administration’s approach to set standards, confirm benchmarks, and measure safety impacts of automated enforcement.

As the Safe Mobility Strategy 2021-2025 is developed and the Government of Alberta conducts its photo radar review, Administration will continue to evolve how Edmontonians receive up-to-date information about speed limits, safe speeds, and automated enforcement. Administration will ensure that the information released also reviews the safety impacts of automated enforcement and the outcomes of the Government of Alberta review.

Corporate Outcomes and Performance Management

Corporate Outcome(s): Edmonton is a safe city			
Outcome(s)	Measure(s)	Result(s)	Target(s)
Edmonton is a safe city	Road Safety Strategy, Fatalities	14 (2019) 19 (2018) 27 (2017) 22 (2016)	Decline to Zero (2032)

	Road Safety Strategy, Serious Injuries	268 (2019) 319 (2018) 341 (2017) 325 (2016)	Decline to Zero (2032)
	Road Safety Strategy, Collision Injuries/1,000 people	3.1 (2019) 3.4 (2018) 3.9 (2017) 3.5 (2016)	3.0 (2020)
	Road Safety Strategy, Collisions at Intersections/1,000 people	13.8 (2019) 13.9 (2018) 14.6 (2017) 14.4 (2016)	13.5 (2020)

Others Reviewing this Report

- M. Persson, Chief Financial Officer and Deputy City Manager, Financial and Corporate Services
- C. Owen, Deputy City Manager, Communications and Engagement
- B. Andriachuk, City Solicitor