

Since 2001, Edmontonians have regularly identified speeding and careless driving as the top concern in the Citizen Satisfaction Survey conducted on behalf of the Edmonton Police Service. The most recent survey conducted in 2014 reemphasized the importance Edmontonians place on speeding and careless driving, ranking it first over other categories such as break and enters, and gang activity. In an effort to address this concern, the Edmonton Police Service has joined with the City of Edmonton's Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) to carry out programs designed to make the streets of Edmonton safer for motorists, pedestrians and cyclists. In 2015, Edmonton recorded 32 deaths, 3,805 injuries and 25,517 total collisions. In a 2010 study prepared for the Capital Region Intersection Safety Partnership, (CRISP) the costs associated with collisions in the capital region exceed \$1 billion dollars every year in direct costs and at least that much in indirect costs.

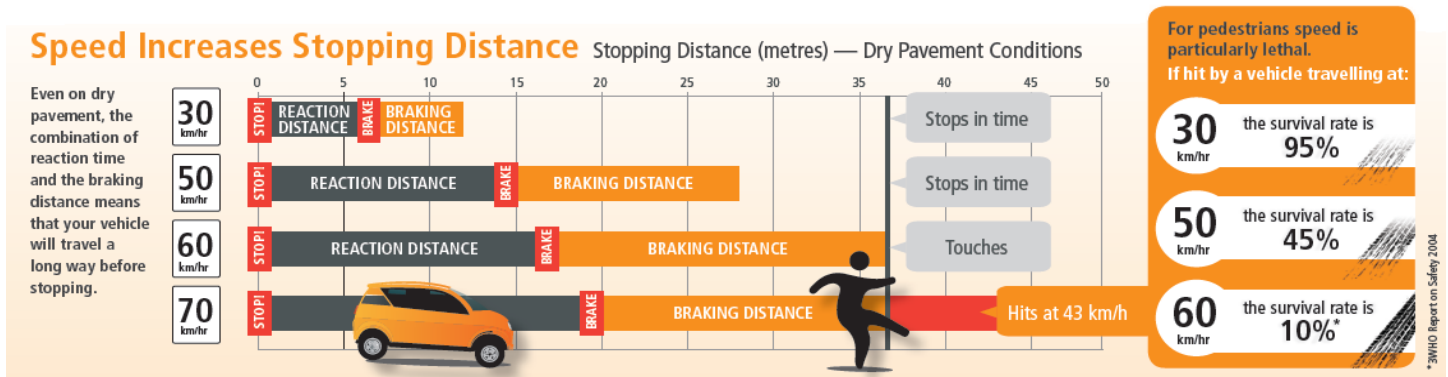
<http://drivetolive.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Collision Cost Study Final Report Feb 2010.pdf>

Speed contributes to the severity of a collision impact. For car occupants in a crash with an **impact speed of 80km/h**, the **likelihood of death is 20 times greater** than if the impact was at **30 km/h**. The City of Edmonton believes that no one should be killed or seriously injured in a traffic collision and has adopted Vision Zero as the long-term goal of zero fatalities and zero major injuries on our roads.

http://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/VisionZero_EdmontonRoadSafetyStrategy_2016-2020.pdf

A staggering **50% of serious brain injuries** in Alberta are due to speed-related crashes. *"Speeding increases the severity of collisions. It's unacceptable that half of all serious brain injuries are due to speed-related collisions. Everyone needs to slow down and drive for the road conditions to reduce this tragic statistic."*

Wayne Drysdale, Minister of Transportation, Government of Alberta April 2, 2015



The enforcement of traffic laws in Edmonton is a cooperative project between the Edmonton Police Service who are responsible for manned enforcement initiatives and the Office of Traffic Safety who administer the automated traffic enforcement strategies including the Mobile Enforcement Program and the Intersection Safety Camera Program.

Automated Enforcement FAQ:

- What is the goal of the Automated Enforcement Program?**
 Through the strategic deployment of Mobile Enforcement the OTS aspires to make Edmonton's streets safer by reducing the occurrences of speeding, which will in turn reduce the number and severity of collisions. Canadian studies estimate that speed is a factor in **25% of fatal vehicle collisions**. Research has shown a clear correlation between speed and collision frequency. The risk of being involved in a collision doubles for speed 5 km/h over the speed limit on a 60 km/h zone. The risk is four times higher for 10 km/h and **10 times higher** for 15 km/h over the speed limit. For each 1.6 km/hr reduction in average speed, collision frequency is reduced by five per cent.
- What type of equipment is being utilized in the Mobile Photo Enforcement program?**
 The City of Edmonton currently uses the Jenoptik MultaRadar CD photo radar system and the DragonEye (Dragoncam) photo lidar (laser) system.
- How does photo radar work?**
 Radar works on the Doppler Shift Principle. Put simply, a radio wave with a known frequency is emitted from the transmitter/receiver. When the wave strikes a vehicle moving away from the unit it returns to the receiver and the difference between this lower frequency wave and original wavelength is calculated into a speed. If the speed is above the designated violation speed a photo is taken of the vehicle's licence plate. This violation is confirmed manually by the operator in the photo enforcement vehicle.
- How does photo LIDAR (laser) work?**
 Photo LIDAR emits rapid pulses of infrared light to vehicles moving away from the unit and measures the amount of time it takes for each pulse to bounce back. The differences in time over distance are calculated into a speed. If the speed is above the designated violation speed a photo is taken of the vehicle's licence plate. This violation is confirmed manually by the operator in the photo enforcement vehicle.

- **How do we know the units are accurate?**

Units are certified by the manufacturer and re-certified every 3 years. Daily testing prescribed by the manufacturer are completed at the beginning and end of each shift to ensure the unit's accuracy.

- **How will I be notified of an Automated Enforcement speed violation?**

The images capturing the violation will be reviewed and verified and a violation notice will be mailed to the registered owner of the licence plate.

- **How are Automated Enforcement sites selected?**

The Government of Alberta has legislated guidelines for the operation of automated enforcement programs (link below). Criteria for site selection include areas where:

- Conventional speed enforcement methods are deemed too risky for citizens or police such as high-speed multi-lane roadways,
- Data indicates motorists are ignoring or breaking traffic laws on an ongoing basis,
- Data indicates a greater frequency of property damage, injury or fatal collisions,
- Data indicates a high volume of pedestrian traffic including areas near educational facilities and playground zones.

Automated Enforcement will also be utilized in construction zones and on roadways identified by members of the public as problem speeding locations.

[https://www.solgps.alberta.ca/programs_and_services/public_security/peace_officers/Publications/Automated%20Traffic%20Enforcement%20Technology%20Guidelines%20\(Sept%202014\).pdf](https://www.solgps.alberta.ca/programs_and_services/public_security/peace_officers/Publications/Automated%20Traffic%20Enforcement%20Technology%20Guidelines%20(Sept%202014).pdf)

- **How can I find where Automated Enforcement Sites are located?**

A map with the locations of all automated sites and the speed limits of roadways in the City of Edmonton can be viewed at http://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/Automated_Enforcement_Location_Map.pdf

- **Who operates the Automated Enforcement units and what are their qualifications?**

The City of Edmonton contracts the Corps of Commissionaires to operate the Automated Enforcement units. Each operator has successfully completed a recognized training program and has been designated as a Peace Officer as legislated by the Province of Alberta (details in link). Peace Officers are protected by Section 129 of the Criminal Code of Canada which states that:

Everyone who: (a) resists or willfully obstructs a ...peace officer in the execution of his duty is guilty of (d) an indictable offence and is liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or (e) an offence punishable on summary conviction.

- **Can Automated Enforcement vehicles park illegally and idle for extended periods of time?**

Yes. Section 64 (2) of the Use of Highway, Rules of the Road Regulations authorizes a Peace Officer to park in contravention of Provincial Acts and Municipal Bylaws. These vehicles are kept running to provide an uninterrupted power source for the speed monitoring equipment, vehicle electronics and monitoring systems as well as climate controls.

- **What are my options if I receive a Automated Enforcement violation ticket?**

- You may view the original image online with your PIN# located on your offence notice: <http://automatedphotoenforcement.edmonton.ca/>

The link below outlines the details of the 3 options which are noted on your violation notice. They include:

- Voluntary in-person payment of the fine at a Registry Office or Provincial Court. By mail. On-line.
- Appear before a Justice at the address on your ticket to plead guilty or not guilty.
- Plead not guilty by mailing in the notice as per the instructions on the ticket.

For detailed instructions: http://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/traffic_safety/photo-radar.aspx

- **How can I arrange for Photo Enforcement in my neighbourhood?**

If you have a concern about speeding in your neighbourhood you can call 311 or send an email to <mailto:speeding@edmonton.ca> Additional information can be found at http://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/traffic_safety/safe-speed-vans.aspx

- **Where can I find more information on Photo Enforcement?**

There are a number of websites available with photo enforcement information:

<http://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/traffic-safety.aspx>
http://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/traffic_safety/photo-radar-faq.aspx

- **If I have further questions is there someone I can contact?**

Supervisor - Mobile Enforcement Program (780-496-2622)