



Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo 2019 Automated Traffic Enforcement Annual Report

Introduction

Fort McMurray is located 430 kilometers northeast of Edmonton, within the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo. The Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo has a population of over 100,000 people which is policed by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. They respond to calls for service and ensure law compliance at the Federal, Provincial and Municipal levels. The municipality also has a Municipal Enforcement Department (Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo Bylaw Services) Municipal Bylaw Enforcement officers respond to calls, ensure Municipal Bylaw and specific Provincial Statute issues are dealt with and manage the Automated Traffic Enforcement program.

Highways

There are two primary highways running through Fort McMurray, Highway 63 and Sapræ Creek Trail, formerly Highway 69. Both are heavily used by daily commuters who travel back and forth to oil sands sites and other local businesses. Other roadways located in residential, commercial and industrial zones also require focused traffic enforcement as they include school zones, parks and playground zones. Local highways and roadways have traditionally experienced a very heavy volume of vehicles, a high number of traffic collisions and traffic complaints. The concern remains that without significant planning, collaboration and enforcement by the RCMP and Municipal Bylaw Enforcement, the ability to maintain a safe community becomes lessened. Therefore, the RCMP and their partners continue to focus traffic enforcement on these main roadways. One tool that has and will significantly assist with traditional enforcement efforts is Automated Traffic Enforcement technology and Intersection Safety Devices. These options will assist in keeping the roads safe within the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo by adding an additional enforcement measure.

Automated traffic enforcement technology will only be implemented in areas of Wood Buffalo that are aligned with the principles of Automated Traffic Enforcement Technology. These principles include enforcement in high-risk areas, high-frequency, high collision, high pedestrian and vehicle volume locations. High-risk locations can be described as locations where the safety of citizens or police officers would be at risk through conventional enforcement methods. High-frequency locations are those where data indicates motorists are violating traffic laws on an ongoing basis. High-collision locations are those where data indicates a greater frequency of property damage, injury, or fatal collisions. High-pedestrian volume locations are those where data indicates a high volume of pedestrian traffic.

In this plan, Automated Traffic Enforcement Technology will be implemented on Highway 63, which is both a high-risk area where conventional enforcement would be a risk to police or Municipal Law Enforcement officers as well as the public.

Highways 63 and Sapræe Creek Trail have traditionally been high-collision areas. In 2018, there were 145 collisions on Highway 63 and 48 of them were in the city limits. In 2019 there were 212 collisions on Highway 63 with 109 in the city limits. On Sapræe Creek Trail there were 21 collisions in 2015, 2 in 2016, 12 in 2017, 1 in 2018 and 9 in 2019. With the highway expansions the collisions have decreased from previous years.

City Zones

Local residential and business areas within the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo have seen the implementation of Automated Traffic Enforcement Technology. Statistics for the residential, commercial and industrial areas of Fort McMurray are broken down into three zones:

- UA1: Downtown;
- UA2: Thickwood and Timberlea;
- UA3: Abasand, Beacon Hill, Mackenzie Park, Grayling Terrace, Gregoire and Waterways.

When compiling statistics for each zone it has become evident that each zone suffers from high traffic volume along with a high number of traffic violations and collisions.

Zone	2018			2019		
	UA1	UA2	UA3	UA1	UA2	UA3
Fatal Collision	0	0	0	0	1	0
Injury Collision	35	74	21	39	62	22
Property Damage	333	641	149	291	609	193

When compiling the numbers for each zone it is apparent that each zone meets the parameters justifying the use of Automated Traffic Enforcement Technology. Many of the major routes in the residential and business zones are high-collision locations. There is greater frequency of property damage and injury collisions in these areas mainly due to the large volume of vehicle and pedestrian traffic. Many of the routes listed below are locations where a large number of traffic collisions take place. For every one of the locations where Automated Enforcement Technology is operated, Municipal Bylaw Enforcement has collected data for violation stats for the past two years. This data has

been analyzed and the locations listed below display the number of violation numbers and deployments for the past two years.

Locations	2018		2019	
	Vehicles Monitored	Offences	Vehicles Monitored	Offences
Hwy 63 and Hospital SB	77608	446	19736	157
Hwy 63 and Hospital NB	48504	181	13313	54
Hwy 63 and King SB	69141	498	10806	110
Hwy 63 and King NB	33275	207	11786	124
Hwy 63 and Beacon Hill SB	51900	288	6457	44
Hwy 63 and Beacon Hill NB	22591	57	2403	3
Hwy 63 at Centennial Camp SB	29168	152	7276	46
Hwy 63 and Visitor Bureau NB	42149	354	19865	114
Confed Way and Brett SB	354	2	N/A	N/A
Confed Way and Eglert NB	853	7	N/A	N/A
Confed Way and Eglert SB	185	2	N/A	N/A
Tk Blvd and Dickens WB	464	6	N/A	N/A
Confed and Eagle Ridge EB	2145	15	N/A	N/A
Gregoire Dr. NB	27598	334	5362	62
Gregoire Dr. SB	1375	12	N/A	N/A
MacKenzie Blvd. SB	1090	25	586	7
MacKenzie Blvd. NB	2047	32	1022	19
MacAlpine Cr.	869	16	1793	24
Franklin Ave. SB	1041	8	695	5
Franklin Ave. NB	864	8	1367	8
Silin Forest Rd.	323	8	N/A	N/A
MacDonald Dr. NB	2338	45	6252	104
MacDonald Dr. SB	2090	39	4436	44
Eymundson Rd.	108	3	N/A	N/A
Signal Rd.	6727	114	11286	153
Brett Dr.	602	28	1885	39
Thicket Dr.	1116	12	92	2
Real Martin Dr.	1439	21	3093	34
Millennium Dr.	2235	33	5019	70
Parsons Creek Dr.	646	12	743	10
Limestone Link	4769	53	2432	19
Loutit Rd.	2284	21	6259	38
Clearwater Dr.	1746	30	2540	26
Dominion Dr.	4793	92	2378	16
Heritage Dr.	4444	98	6016	58
Callen Dr.	1250	34	670	9
Beacon Hill School	1910	52	2129	57
Dr. Clark School	5969	334	8266	636
Dickensfield School	2244	65	2363	81
Father Beauregard School	783	31	870	33
Father Turcotte School	8913	279	9654	320
Greely Road School	1198	32	1243	27
St. Gabriel School	806	48	1030	56
Thickwood Heights School	2085	148	1361	95

Locations	2018		2019	
	Vehicles Monitored	Offences	Vehicles Monitored	Offences
Timberlea School	1363	65	3411	63
Westview School	5386	287	8620	310
Sister Mary Phillips School	2157	83	2477	62
St. Anne's School	389	29	491	15
Westwood School	3443	223	4093	207
Walter & Gladys School	2218	77	2352	79
St. Kateri School	1624	96	1431	69
Christina Gordon School	3749	255	3589	173
Ecole Boreal School	383	22	636	33

Intersections

Collisions at intersections are the leading cause of death, injury, and disability for road users in Alberta. For this reason, the RCMP and Municipal Bylaw Enforcement want to increase public safety through enforcement of traffic regulations and speed limits. The intersections where Intersection Safety Devices have been installed are all high-collision locations. All these intersections are high-pedestrian volume and high traffic volume locations. These major intersections are high-frequency locations where motorists are violating traffic laws on an ongoing basis. Intersection Safety Devices have been installed at the specified intersections in order to reduce driver's speeds as they approach intersections, enforce red light infractions, and reduce the number of collisions and fatalities. The following intersections have been identified as high collision and violation intersections and therefore Intersection Safety Devices are in use:

	ISD Location	Collisions		Offences	
		2018	2019	2018	2019
Site 1	Thickwood Blvd at Silin Forrest Road	1	0	1698	2004
Site 2	Thickwood Blvd at Woodland Drive	2	5	2031	2334
Site 3	Franklin Ave at Tamarack Village	1	3	946	277
Sites 4 & 5	Franklin Ave at Hospital Street (NB & SB)	6	14	790	263
Site 6	Thickwood Blvd at Real Martin Drive	0	4	754	555
Site 7	Confederation Way at Paquette Drive	17	19	1319	755
Site 8	Thickwood Blvd at Cornwall Drive	2	1	742	427

After compiling the data for the present Intersection Safety Device locations, it is recommended that all Intersection Safety Devices be retained.



Community Education

The Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo provides weekly updates about the automated enforcement program with the locations of all intersection safety devices as well as the specific locations that will be enforced that week on our website, through social media posts and radio. We are currently developing an interactive map which will be released to the public as soon as it becomes available.

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