



# Automated Traffic Enforcement

2022 Annual Report

3/13/2023  
Lethbridge Police Service  
Sergeant Daniel Lomness

## **Background**

The City of Lethbridge Automated Traffic Enforcement (ATE) Program is operated by the Lethbridge Police Service (LPS) on behalf of the City of Lethbridge. LPS also provides operational and processing services for the Town of Taber six days per month.

## **Equipment**

The Lethbridge Police Service currently deploys two mobile ATE radar units attached to motor vehicles, one photo radar unit contained within a box which is transported by the vehicle and two intersection safety devices.

Photo radar units capture speeds of vehicles travelling along a roadway. Intersection safety devices capture speeds of vehicles within intersections as well as vehicles travelling through intersections while facing a red light.

The photo radar cameras are operated by an operator on site and the intersection safety devices are permanently mounted and all violation information is obtained remotely by the coordinators.

## **Site Locations**

Site locations are selected within the criteria set out by the Province of Alberta. Currently there are 69 approved site locations, six of which are intersection safety device locations. In 2022 four of the intersection safety locations were not utilized due to infrastructure issues and equipment reliability.

## **Staffing**

Staffing has been a challenge in 2022 due to lack of operators. For most of 2022 there were less than five operators, two coordinators and one supervisor. The operators are trained in the operation of photo radar units. They transport the photo radar equipment to approved locations and complete photo radar activities.

The coordinators are trained in the operation of photo radar units as well as intersection safety devices. The coordinators process all violation tickets, problem-solve equipment issues and address day-to-day operational issues. The Traffic Response Unit Sergeant supervises the entire program.

In 2022 the total amount of operator deployment hours was 6,496.

**Process**

After photo enforcement violations are obtained by operators, they are submitted to the coordinators. Intersection safety device violations are downloaded remotely by the coordinators. The coordinators review all violations and submit suitable violations for mailing to registered owners of offending vehicles.

**Revenue**

Revenue collected from violation tickets is shared between the Province of Alberta and the City of Lethbridge. A portion of the City of Lethbridge’s revenue is budgeted for and used solely for operational expenses of the ATE Program. The Lethbridge Police Service manages the ATE budget. The remaining portion is deposited into the City of Lethbridge Municipal Revenue Stabilization Reserve which is managed by the City of Lethbridge.

**Statistics**

The statistics below demonstrate a comparison of photo radar, intersection safety device (red/speed) and conventional enforcement violations issued over a period of three years within the City of Lethbridge.

<b>Enforcement</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Photo Radar	32,502	35,190	25,070
ISD - Red	233	242	334
ISD - Speed	5,637	6,538	6,269
Conventional	11,082	7,937	4,623
<b>Total Enforcement</b>	<b>49,454</b>	<b>49,907</b>	<b>36,296</b>

The statistics below demonstrate a comparison of collisions within the City of Lethbridge over a period of three years. The data includes fatal, injury and property damage collisions.

<b>Collisions</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Fatal Collisions	2	3	1
Injury Collisions	376	474	490
Property Damage Collisions	1,928	1,908	2,001
<b>Total Collisions</b>	<b>2,306</b>	<b>2,385</b>	<b>2,492</b>

In addition to operating the ATE Program, the Lethbridge Police Service also provides conventional enforcement initiatives where police officers investigate traffic violations and charge either the driver or owner of offending vehicles. In 2022, overall enforcement was lower than previous years, possibly due to the pandemic and staffing issues.

Collision data within the City of Lethbridge increased slightly from 2021 showing 16 more injury collisions, however two less fatalities. There was also an increase in property damage collisions compared to 2021.

### **Commitment to Traffic Safety**

Although the Automated Traffic Enforcement program provides the bulk of speed and red light enforcement, the Lethbridge Police Service also provides targeted conventional enforcement with a dedicated Traffic Response Unit in addition to four patrol teams who dedicate a portion of their time to conventional enforcement.

In conclusion, the Lethbridge Police Service has demonstrated a long-standing commitment to traffic safety through education, engineering, enforcement, engagement and evaluation. This commitment is outlined within our Traffic Safety Plan and it will continue to be our commitment to the citizens of Lethbridge.