



Policy

Traffic Safety Plan

Policy No.:	4197
Department:	Administration
Authority:	Council
Current Approved Date:	2013

Policy Statement:

Lamont County recognizes the need for a Traffic Safety Plan

Purpose:

The Traffic Safety Plan is used to identify traffic safety issues within Lamont County. It will be used to plan Traffic Enforcement and Educational strategies to increase Traffic and Public Safety with in Lamont County

Application of This Policy:

At the present time Lamont County is in the process of initiating the Peace Officer Program. The purpose of the program is to enforce all County Bylaws as well as Provincial Statues including the Traffic Safety Act, authorized by the Peace Officers appointment.

Lamont County has approximately 3000 kilometers of gravel and oil based roads as well as 5 two digit highways and 4 three digit highways including;

- Highway 15
- Highway 16
- Highway29
- Highway 38
- Highway 45
- Highway 645
- Highway 831

- Highway834
- Highway 855

Traffic safety is one of the paramount goals of the Lamont County Peace Officer program. Both education and enforcement will be used to address traffic issues within Lamont County. Commercial Vehicle Enforcement will also be used to increase the safety on the roadways within the jurisdictional area of the Peace Officer. Commercial vehicle Enforcement will help reduce the amount of damage caused to the highways and roadways by large commercial and farm vehicles. Reducing the damage to the highways

Statistics and analysis from neighboring RCMP detachments will be used to identify those aspects of traffic enforcement that fall within the Lamont County Enforcement program and the authority of the Peace Officer appointment. Based on the information provided the Lamont County Peace Officer will identify what educational programs can be delivered to address identified traffic issues.

Lamont County Enforcement Unit will keep statistical records of enforcement and educational efforts used to increase traffic safety and awareness within the jurisdictional area of the Peace Officer's appointment, Including but not limited to; commercial vehicle enforcement, seat belt enforcement, speeding, stop sign violations, intersection violations, etc.

Traffic Collisions

Fort Saskatchewan RCMP	2011	2012	Change
Fatal Collisions	0	0	None
Serious Injury Collisions	1	4	300 % Increase
Injury Collisions	37	78	111 % Increase
Reportable Property Damage	192	240	25 % Increase
Non Reportable Collisions	41	47	15 % Increase
Total	271	369	36 % Increase

Criminal Code Driving Offence

Fort Saskatchewan RCMP	2011	2012	Change
Impaired Offences	332	339	2 % Increase
Dangerous Driving	78	115	47 % Increase
Other Criminal Code Driving	3	20	567 % Increase
Total	413	474	15% Increase

Traffic Offence- Tickets RCMP

Fort Saskatchewan RCMP	2011	2012	Change
Tickets	1266	1611	27 % Increase

Traffic Collisions

The total number of traffic collisions increased by 36 %. The average is 1.01 collisions a day. Serious injury collisions are listed as “major injuries” where the involved party had to be admitted to a hospital for at least an overnight stay. There have been no traffic fatalities in the last two years. Young road users contributed to 2 of the serious injury collisions in 2012 and vulnerable road users (pedestrian, cyclist, motorcyclist, atv and snowmobile) contributed to 1 serious injury collision in 2012.

Traffic Enforcement Priorities

In an effort to reduce the amount of collisions in Fort Saskatchewan, our Strategic Traffic Safety Plan includes four initiatives, intersections, alcohol, distracted driving and speed. Although the percentage increase in serious injury collisions, injury collisions and other criminal code driving offences seem high, the overall numbers are relatively low for the size of the community and traffic volume. By focusing enforcement on the four initiatives, we believe the number of serious injury and injury collisions should be reduced. Alcohol and drug related impaired driving continues to be a Provincial and National priority. These initiatives will remain the same for the coming year.

Officer Contact/ Traffic Enforcement

Traffic tickets issued in 2012 increased by 27% over 2011 from 1266 to 1611 while impaired driving and drug related offenses went up slightly from 332 to 339 or 2%. These do not necessarily reflect the actual violation rate but rather the detection and reporting rate.

The most effective traffic enforcement method for the detection of alcohol and drug related driving offence is through multi-member Checkstops and operations using a Team Service Delivery. This approach has to be balanced with individual officer response to traffic complaints in residential areas where traffic volumes

are traditional lower. We continue to investigate all complaints and validate them through violation rates and general observations over a 2-3 week period. Each complaint is either determined to be unfounded or added to the Hot Spot list for follow-up sustained enforcement. We are service delivery driven and need to balance enforcement time and resources, between targeted behavior enforcement and specific location enforcement.
