



# AUTOMATED TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

2019 Review

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Since the program's inception in February 2011, Automated Traffic Enforcement (ATE) (also known as photo radar) has increased awareness and changed driver behavior.

- The numbers of drivers receiving speeding tickets has dropped since the first full year of ATE operations; from 4105 in 2012 to 3570 in 2019. (ATE program did not run a full year in 2011)

## PURPOSE

The purpose of the ATE program is to facilitate the safe flow of vehicle and pedestrian traffic resulting in safer roadways throughout Taber.

Revenue is generated, but it is not the intent of the program as the funds the Town receives are allocated to enhancing crime prevention and education within the community of Taber, Alberta.

## AUTOMATED TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT (ATE)

ATE compliments but does not replace the need for traditional uniformed traffic enforcement.

• Year	2016	2017	2018
• ATE Tickets	4429	3230	3582
• Officer Issued Tickets	1635	2134	1633
• Average Speed Over Posted Limit	18	18	18

Traffic safety education and traffic enforcement are priorities for the Taber Police Service. The Taber Police Service remains engaged in the Alberta Transportation Selected Traffic Enforcement Program, which is a targeted enforcement, and educational traffic safety initiative whose priority changes from month to month. Taber Police Service officers continue to be diligent in enforcing the Traffic Safety Act and other traffic related statutes, and investigate collisions. The Taber Police Service continues to utilize Automated Vehicle Enforcement, otherwise known as photo radar.

ATE locations are approved by the Taber Police Service using the following guidelines:

- High-risk locations are those where the safety of citizens or police officers would be at risk through conventional enforcement methods.
- High-collision locations where data indicates a greater frequency of property damage, injury or fatal collisions.
- High-pedestrian volume locations where data indicates a high volume of pedestrian traffic.
- All school and playground zones.
- Public Concerns

## DESIGNATED SITE ZONES IN THE TOWN OF TABER

Site No.	Location	Speed Limit	Rational for site (and AET)
	<b>Playground Zones</b>		
282	42 Ave 5200 - 5500 Blks	30 Kms	Playground Zone-High Pedestrian Traffic
285	43 Ave 51 Blk	30 Kms	Playground Zone-High Pedestrian Traffic
267	47 St 5300 - 5700 Blks	30 Kms	Playground Zone-High Pedestrian Traffic
283	52 St 4200 - 4400 Blks	30 Kms	Playground Zone-High Pedestrian Traffic
284	54 St 4000 - 4300 Blks	30 Kms	Playground Zone-High Pedestrian Traffic
269	50 St 5400 - 5600 Blks	30 Kms	Playground Zone-High Pedestrian Traffic
270	54 Ave 5200 - 5600 Blks	30 Kms	Playground Zone-High Pedestrian Traffic
271	54 St 5200 5600 Blks	30 Kms	Playground Zone-High Pedestrian Traffic
272	56 Ave 5000 - 5500 Blks	30 Kms	Playground Zone-High Pedestrian Traffic
268	60 Ave 4700 - 4800 Blks	30 Kms	Playground Zone-High Pedestrian Traffic
	<b>Other Zones</b>		
274	Hwy 3 5000 - 6300 Blks	50 Kms	Unsafe conventional enforcement due to
			four lane high volumes with narrow emergency lanes
			and Public Concerns when crossing highway.
275	Hwy 3 4500 - 4900 Blks	50 Kms	Unsafe conventional enforcement due to
			four lane high volumes with narrow emergency lanes
			and Public Concerns when crossing highway.
276	Hwy 36 N 5400 - 6400 Blks	60Kms	Unsafe conventional enforcement due to
			high traffic flows and narrow emergency lanes.

## The City of Lethbridge is the ATE contractor for the Town of Taber.

Mobile Photo Enforcement Operators are Peace Officers while on-duty.

- The Province of Alberta (Justice and Solicitor General) authorizes the training and appointment of the Operators.
- ATE vehicles are permitted to park on boulevards, shoulders and no parking areas under the authority of the Traffic Safety Act. The Town's preference would be for them not to utilize these areas for parking, but for some locations, this is the safest approach.
- If a citizen has a specific concern with a parking location, they are encouraged to contact the Taber Police Service at (403) 223-8991 so we can assess the situation.

## The Town of Taber deploys ATE technologies.

The City of Lethbridge performs the following photo enforcement for the Town of Taber:

An average of 576 hours per year of photo speed enforcement.

## Results

There have been no fatal collisions on Hi Way 3 in the Town of Taber since the implementation of Automated Traffic Enforcement in 2011.

The total number of Automatic Traffic Enforcement tickets has decrease since the inception of ATE technology has been introduce even though the total days of use has increased from 5 days per month to 6 days per month.

## Fine Revenues

The Town of Taber Collected \$531133.00 in fine revenue from ATE in 2019 of which the Town of Taber received \$234840.00.

## How is ATE revenue distributed?

ATE violations are issued as Provincial Violation Tickets. The Province of Alberta controls what the applicable fines are for each offense as well as the fine distribution formulas for all collected revenue.

### 2019 ATE Fine Collection and Distribution

- |                         |             |        |
|-------------------------|-------------|--------|
| • Total Collected       | \$531133.00 | 100%   |
| • Provincial Portion    | \$221323.00 | 41.67% |
| • Contractor Portion    | \$74970.00  | 14.12% |
| • Town of Taber Portion | \$234840.00 | 44.21% |

Each year, a detailed budget is prepared by the Taber Municipal Police Commission in conjunction with the Taber Police Service and presented to the Taber Town Council along with the annual Taber Police Service plan. The Town of Taber Council approves the yearly budget and allocates funds each year for the operation of The Taber Police Service. The Taber Town Council has directed that the total amount of revenue be applied to offset the costs of policing in the Town of Taber. Keeping in mind that approximately 20 percent of each patrol constable's time is spent on traffic enforcement this ATE investment is only 5% of the total 4.5 million dollar Taber Police Service budget. This equates to a very small direct investment into the Taber Police Service budget.