

# Town of Taber

## Automated Traffic Enforcement

### 2022 Annual Report



Inspector Dave Gyepesi  
Taber Police Service

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Since the program's inception in February 2011, Automated Traffic Enforcement (ATE) 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 1805 in 2022.

## 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) - DATA

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

<b>Year</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Number of Vehicles Monitored	63246	57037	36831
Number of Contraventions – Speeding	6065	3300	1950
Number of Notices - Speeding	5107	2940	1805
Officer Issued Tickets	1228	1580	1469
Number of Collisions	86	141	148
Number of Fatality Collisions	0	0	0
Number of Injury Collisions	13	13	13

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. Priorities and focus change from month to month. Taber Police Service officers continue to be diligent in investigating collisions, enforcing the Traffic Safety Act and other traffic related statutes.

## ATE LOCATIONS

Locations are selected within the criteria set out by the Province of Alberta which include:

- 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 for 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 Pedestian Traffic
285	43 Ave 51 Blk	30 Kms	Playground Zone-High Pedestian Traffic
267	47 St 5300 - 5700 Blks	30 Kms	Playground Zone-High Pedestian Traffic
283	52 St 4200 - 4400 Blks	30 Kms	Playground Zone-High Pedestian Traffic
284	54 St 4000 - 4300 Blks	30 Kms	Playground Zone-High Pedestian Traffic
269	50 St 5400 - 5600 Blks	30 Kms	Playground Zone-High Pedestian Traffic
270	54 Ave 5200 - 5600 Blks	30 Kms	Playground Zone-High Pedestian Traffic
271	54 St 5200 5600 Blks	30 Kms	Playground Zone-High Pedestian Traffic
272	56 Ave 5000 - 5500 Blks	30 Kms	Playground Zone-High Pedestian Traffic
268	60 Ave 4700 - 4800 Blks	30 Kms	Playground Zone-High Pedestian Traffic
	<b>Other Zones</b>		
274	Hwy 3 5000 - 6300 Blks	60 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	60 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.

The City of Lethbridge performs photo enforcement for the Town of Taber. In 2022 the total amount of operator deployment of photo speed enforcement was **574 hours**.

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.

## RESULTS

There have been no fatal collisions on Highway 3 in the Town of Taber since the implementation of Automated Traffic Enforcement in 2011. The total number of Automatic Traffic Enforcement tickets has decreased since the inception of ATE technology has been introduced even though the total days of use has increased from 5 days per month to 6 days per month.

## HOW IS ATE FINE 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.

### 2022 ATE Fine Collection and Distribution

- Total Collected           \$ 260029.00   -100%
- Provincial Portion       \$ 143015.00   - 55%
- Contractor Portion     \$ 37905.00    - \$21 dollars per notice
- Town of Taber Portion \$ 81044.00

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, the ATE investment is only a small portion of the total 4.9 million dollar Taber Police Service budget.