

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Traffic Camera Enforcement

Frequently Asked Questions about Traffic Camera Enforcement

Why are you conducting a pilot project and not just implementing the use of traffic camera technology throughout the province?

The use of traffic cameras requires the development of several new internal business processes, as well as the integration of various complex information systems across multiple government entities (e.g., Department of Justice and Public Safety, municipalities, Motor Registration, etc.). This pilot project will help provide the additional information needed to inform the implementation of image capturing enforcement systems throughout the province, in an effort to curtail excessive speeding.

Are other provinces or territories in Canada using traffic camera technology?

Yes. Traffic camera technology is currently in use in many other jurisdictions throughout Canada, as well as in other countries, such as the United Kingdom and the United States.

Have there been any reported positive impacts related to road safety?

Yes, research has shown that public safety is improved. Some jurisdictions have noticed anywhere between 30 and 50 per cent reduction in speed.

Can other municipalities participate in the pilot project?

The pilot project launched on June 1, 2023, and there is no plan to engage other municipalities at this time. The results of this pilot will help to inform the use of speed cameras to curtail excessive speeding in the province.

When can the public expect to see traffic cameras permanently throughout the province?

The legislative authority currently exists to use traffic cameras to supplement law enforcement efforts to reduce speeding through roadways/highways, construction zones, school zones, infractions at traffic control devices, and passing school buses when school bus arms are extended. This pilot project will help provide the additional information needed to inform the implementation of traffic cameras throughout the province, in an effort to curtail excessive speeding.

How do the cameras work?

Traffic enforcement cameras work by automatically detecting a speeding vehicle, and taking a picture of it. During the pilot, the registered owner of a vehicle traveling over the posted speed limit will be issued a Speed Detection Notice by the municipality.

What's the purpose of a 'Speed Detection Notice'?

During the pilot project, speeding violations caught on traffic cameras will not result in a ticket to the registered owner. Speed detection notices will be issued by the municipality to help raise awareness and inform a registered owner when their vehicle was caught speeding.

Where will cameras be placed, and how were those locations determined?

Signs will be posted on the street ahead of the camera to advise drivers of their use. The locations of the cameras were chosen by the municipalities based on their data analysis, speed studies, and the value the camera pilot data will have on traffic calming in the chosen area.

What type of data is collected by the traffic cameras?

The information collected by the traffic cameras include:

- Location, date, and time the image was captured
- Licence plate number
- Direction and speed at which the vehicle was travelling
- Posted speed limit

What is the technology and how is it used?

The traffic cameras being used are solar-powered, sophisticated devices that can capture licence plate images during the day and night, and detect vehicle speeds in multiple lanes at one time, in all weather conditions. The cameras are configured such that only alphanumeric combinations are captured. Facial images will not be captured.

What are the offences and fines to motorists related to these image capturing enforcement systems?

During the pilot, only speed detection notices will be mailed to the registered owner of the offending vehicle. However, when the image capturing enforcement systems are fully implemented, fines will be issued for offences in accordance with the **Highway Traffic Act** (<https://www.assembly.nl.ca/Legislation/sr/statutes/h03.htm>).

What happens when the speeding driver isn't the registered vehicle owner? What can the registered owner do?

The cameras will not capture an image of the driver. As such, the violation must be issued to the registered vehicle owner. While tickets for traffic offences are typically issued to the driver, the **Highway Traffic Act** provides that, when image capturing enforcement is used, the owner of the motor vehicle to which that violation applies may be held responsible for that violation and may incur a penalty arising from that violation.

If the registered owner was not the driver at the time the violation occurred, they may share the speed detection notice with the driver and remind the driver to obey the posted speed limit, as well as all road safety laws.

I sold my vehicle and was not the registered owner when the image was captured. What do I do?

All images of vehicles caught by the speed cameras exceeding the posted speed limit will include the date and time on which the violation was captured. This information, along with the vehicle licence plate, will be used to identify the registered owner at the time of the violation. Speed detection notices will only be issued to the owner registered on file with Motor Registration at the time of the violation.

Will the driver or the registered vehicle owner incur demerit points for violations during the pilot?

Neither the driver nor the registered owner will be issued demerit points for speeding violations caught on a camera during the pilot project. Demerit points will also not be issued when the image capturing enforcement systems are fully implemented.

Who should I contact if I have questions about the traffic cameras being used during pilot, or questions about the Speed Detection Notice I received?

City of Mount Pearl

Superintendent, Municipal Enforcement

btilley@mountpearl.ca

(709) 748-1068

Town of Paradise

Municipal Enforcement Office

meo@paradise.ca

709-782-1362