



CITY COUNCIL REPORT

SUBJECT:
Photo Red-Light Program Update

MEETING DATE:
June 18, 2007

TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Kevin Kotsur, Chief of Police (623)333-7201
THROUGH: Charlie McClendon, City Manager

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a statistical summary of the photo red light enforcement program after completing a one year trial period. This report provides data compiled from the two busiest intersections in the City of Avondale where photo red-light enforcement has been installed along with recommendations for Council consideration.

BACKGROUND:

On September 19th, 2005 Mayor and Council approved the recommendation to install photo red-light cameras at the two most accident prone intersections in Avondale; Dysart Road & McDowell Road and Dysart Road & Van Buren Street. The purpose of the photo red-light enforcement program was to reduce the number of red-light related traffic collisions thus improving traffic safety. ATS was selected as the contract vendor for the city and a one year trial period went into effect March 29, 2006. As part of the trial period it was determined that the Police Department would present quarterly reports to Council on the amount of citations issued and the impact on traffic accidents at these intersections and provide recommendations at the end of the trial period to continue, expand or end the program.

DISCUSSION:

The evaluation of the photo red light enforcement program is based on the number and types of motor vehicle collisions and the number and types of red light violations reported between May 1, 2006 and April 30, 2007. Beginning in March 2006 ATS began issuing warnings for red light running violations. At the end of April 2006 the warning period ended and citations were issued to violators beginning May 1, 2006.

Statistical Review of Collision Types

- Six (46%) of the collisions at Dysart Rd & McDowell Rd were reported in the fourth quarter of the trial period.
- Thirteen (93%) of the collisions reported at Dysart Rd & McDowell Rd during the trial period were Non-Injury collisions.
- Only one injury collision was reported at the intersection of Dysart Rd & McDowell Rd. during the year period.
- Nine (45%) of the collisions reported at Dysart Rd & Van Buren St were Non-Injury collisions. The remaining eleven (55%) collisions involved Injuries.
- See the below table for quarterly details during the trial period, totals, and averages.

Intersection	Type	May-Jul	Aug-Oct	Nov-Jan	Feb-Apr	Trial Period Totals	Average Per Quarter	Average Per Month
Dysart Rd & McDowell Rd	No Injury	2	4	1	6	13	3.3	1.1
Dysart Rd & McDowell Rd	Injury	1	0	0	0	1	0.3	0.1
<i>Dysart Rd & McDowell Rd Total</i>		<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>3.5</i>	<i>1.2</i>
Dysart Rd & Van	No Injury	2	2	2	3	9	2.3	0.8

Buren St	Injury	3	4	1	3	11	2.8	0.9
<i>Dysart Rd & Van Buren St Total</i>		<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>6</i>	20	<i>5.0</i>	<i>1.7</i>

Statistical Review of Violation Types

- Both intersections showed decreases in the total number of violations between the first quarter and the second quarter of the trial period.
- The violations reported from Dysart Rd & McDowell Rd have increased from 190 during the second quarter to 608 during the fourth quarter whereas the violations from Dysart Rd & Van Buren Street have decreased from 599 to 332 during the same period.
- Right Hand Turn violations accounted for 1153 (49%) of the violations at Dysart Rd & McDowell Rd and 1447 (54%) of the violations at Dysart Rd & Van Buren St.
- See the below table for quarterly reports.

Intersection	Type	May-Jul	Aug-Oct	Nov-Jan	Feb-Apr	Trial Period Totals	Average Per Quarter	Average Per Month
Dysart Rd & McDowell Rd	Left Hand Turn	43	27	112	136	318	79.5	26.5
	Straight	240	82	238	317	877	219.3	73.1
	Right Hand Turn	774	81	143	155	1,153	288.3	96.1
<i>Dysart Rd & McDowell Rd Total</i>		<i>1,057</i>	<i>190</i>	<i>493</i>	<i>608</i>	2,348	<i>587.0</i>	<i>195.7</i>
Dysart Rd & Van Buren St	Left Hand Turn	94	91	128	76	389	97.3	32.4
	Straight	325	212	186	137	860	215.0	71.7
	Right Hand Turn	919	296	113	119	1,447	361.8	120.6
<i>Dysart Rd & Van Buren St Total</i>		<i>1,338</i>	<i>599</i>	<i>427</i>	<i>332</i>	2,696	<i>674.0</i>	<i>224.7</i>

Other Highlights

- There have been no formalized complaints received regarding the use of photo red light cameras.
- Over 1300 violations were cleared as a result of the driver attending a defensive driving class.
- The Police Traffic Programs Coordinator spends an average of two hours per day processing photo red light violations.
- City Court personnel spend an average of 6 hours per day processing photo red light citations.

RECOMENDATION:

Staff recommends that photo-enforcement be continued at the intersections of Dysart Road & Van Buren Street and Dysart Road & McDowell Road.

ATTACHMENTS:

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No Attachments Available