

# Fort Dodge Police Department

AUTOMATED TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM
2024 ANNUAL REPORT

# **History**

In May 2011, the Fort Dodge City Council passed Ordinance No. 2138 (now part of the Fort Dodge Municipal Code, Chapter 10.60), authorizing the Fort Dodge Police Department to implement automated traffic enforcement (ATE) to improve public safety. This decision was made after considering the following:

## **Background:**

- Limited Resources: The Police Department had limited resources for monitoring driving behavior. Enforcement efforts were primarily conducted through patrol officers, accident investigations, and directed operations using RADAR and Laser for speed enforcement. Additional funds from the Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau (GTSB) provided limited overtime staffing, but these efforts often pulled officers away from other essential duties.
- Need for a Solution: To enhance public safety and improve resource allocation, the department sought a cost-neutral or budget-positive solution. The solution identified was an Automated Enforcement System (AES), which included stationary red-light cameras for intersection monitoring and mobile speed enforcement units for deployment throughout various neighborhoods, business areas, and commercial zones.

### **Initial Partnership:**

• Following the passage of the ordinance, the Fort Dodge Police Department partnered with **Red Speed of Lombard, Illinois,** from May 2011 to January 2023. The program utilized 1-2 mobile speed enforcement vehicles deployed at predetermined locations. No fixed cameras or red-light cameras were used in the program.

# **Current System:**

- New Partnership: In January 2023, the City entered into a contract with Sensys Gatso USA Inc. of Beverly, Massachusetts, to continue automated traffic enforcement within the city.
- Current Setup: The program currently uses **two mobile speed enforcement vehicles** equipped with radar and camera systems to capture speed violations. No fixed speed cameras or red-light cameras are utilized in Fort Dodge.
- **Deployment and Requests:** The locations for the mobile units are determined by the program captain and supplemented by community requests. Since **January 1, 2020**, the department has received **110 requests** from residents for mobile speed camera deployment due to speed complaints in residential neighborhoods.

#### **Post House File 2681:**

On July 1, 2024, the Fort Dodge Police Department submitted an application to the Iowa Department of Transportation for mobile speed enforcement within the city limits, in compliance with Iowa Law 321P.2 (2024 Iowa Acts, House File 268). The police department requested 19 locations, and on September 30, 2024, received approval for the following mobile sites:

- 1. 1300 Block N 22nd Street (NB)
- 2. 1300 Block N 22nd Street (SB)
- 3. 1300 Block S 22nd Street (NB)
- 4. 1300 Block S 22nd Street (SB)
- 5. 1400 Block 20th Avenue N (WB)
- 6. 1800 Block 6th Avenue N (EB)
- 7. 2600 Block N 15th Street (NB)
- 8. 2600 Block N 15th Street (SB)
- 9. 300 Block S 21st Street (NB)
- 10. 400 Block N 9th Street (NB)
- 11. 400 Block N 9th Street (SB)
- 12. 900 Block S 17th Street (NB)
- 13. 900 Block S 17th Street (SB)
- 14. 1800 Block N 32nd Street (NB)
- 15. 1800 Block N 32nd Street (SB)
- 16. 1200 Block N 29th Street (NB)
- 17. 1200 Block N 29th Street (SB)
- 18. 1000 Block Avenue C (WB)
- 19. 2900 Block 10th Avenue N (WB)

None of these locations were used after May 17, 2024, so no statistical data is currently available. These sites will be active Automated Traffic Enforcement (ATE) locations in 2025.

In compliance with **Iowa Law 321P.5**, the **City of Fort Dodge** installed appropriate signage at all entrances to the city on public roads. This task was completed on **December 6**, **2024**. No Automated Traffic Enforcement (ATE) was used until **February 2025**, fulfilling the required **30-day grace period** before enforcement began.

#### **Enforcement Period:**

January 1, 2024 – May 17, 2024

During this time, the **Automated Traffic Enforcement** vehicles issued a total of **1,511** citations.

## **2024 Enforcement Statistics**

In 2024, the Fort Dodge Police Department utilized two mobile enforcement systems, FDM01 and FDM02, for traffic monitoring. These systems were integrated into Ford vehicles and deployed based on citizen requests or at the discretion of the Fort Dodge Police Department.

# Citation & Accident Count by Deployment Location

<b>Deployment Location</b>	<b>Citation Count</b>	Accident Count
1000 Block Ave C	6	0
1100 Block South 32 <sup>nd</sup> Street	2	0
1200 Block North 7th Street	52	0
1200 Block North 29th Street	37	0
1300 Block South 22 <sup>nd</sup> Street	45	5
1400 Block 20 <sup>th</sup> Ave North	131	4
1600 Block Williams Drive	43	0
1800 Block North 32 <sup>nd</sup> Street	160	0
2000 Block 12 <sup>th</sup> Ave South	31	0
2700 Block North 15 <sup>th</sup> Street	74	0
2800 Block 8 <sup>th</sup> Ave South	16	0
300 Block South 21st Street	62	2
3500 Block 5 <sup>th</sup> Ave South	1	6
400 Block North 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street	107	1
400 Block North 9th Street	167	2
400 Block North 32 <sup>nd</sup> Street	1	2
900 Block 1st Ave South	15	0
900 Block 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ave NW	4	0
900 Block North 4th Street	0	0
Kenyon Road Bridge	557	4

<sup>\*</sup>The information in the table above reflects enforcement in both ascending and descending directions.

#### Citations by System:

FDM01: 495 citationsFDM02: 1016 citationsTotal: 1511 citation

# **2024 Motor Vehicle Accident Statistics**

In **2024**, the **Fort Dodge Police Department** recorded a total of **729 traffic accidents** citywide. Below is a breakdown of these incidents by category:

## **Breakdown of Traffic Accidents:**

• Animal-related: 21

• Fatalities: 1

Hit and Run: 153Personal Injury: 55Property Damage: 488

• Unknown: 11