

THE MYTHS OF PHOTO RADAR EXPOSED

Automated traffic enforcement is not safe

Automated traffic enforcement
causes fatalities & severe injuries to
drivers, passengers, cyclists and
pedestrians

How photo radar programs are implemented

Private camera companies:

- use high pressure lobbying tactics and campaigns to secure photo contracts
- Deceive the public using false safety statistics
- Shorten yellow warning phases to increase revenue \$\$\$\$
- Donate to public officials election campaigns and promise lucrative employment to obtain contracts



Red-Light Cameras Fail to reduce Accidents



In 2005 the Washington Post found: the number of crashes at locations with cameras more than doubled. Injury and fatal crashes climbed 81%, Broadside crashes, also known as right-angle or T-bone collisions, rose 30%.

Winnipeg, Manitoba

Audit reveals a 58% increase in collisions and a 113% increase in damage claims at the highest level

Virginia Department of Transportation study shows accidents increased by nearly a third where red light cameras were used.

Grande Prairie, Alberta

Intersections equipped with red light cameras reported an increase in injury collisions by 126%

Red-Light cameras cause fatalities

- 2003 study sponsored by the Ontario government finds increase in accidents and fatal rear-end collisions from red light camera use
- Wales, United Kingdom
70% Increase in Camera Tickets, 20% more Deaths
- More than half of U.S. highway fatalities are related to deficient roadway conditions - a substantially more lethal factor than speeding
- Only 8% of collisions are caused by excessive speeding

Photo enforcement industry withdraws support

The National Campaign to Stop Red Light Running originated in Washington, D.C. The campaign is run by a Washington, D.C., public relations agency that was hired by Lockheed Martin, the nation's biggest operator of traffic surveillance systems at that time. Lockheed set up the entire campaign and used it to secure a major red light camera program contract in Washington, D.C. Subsequently all camera companies offered the campaign financial support.

In 2009, the companies that make up the photo enforcement industry chose to collectively withdraw all funding, due to overwhelming studies that prove there is not a National red-light running crisis.

Italy: Red Light Camera Makers Arrested for Fraud

Red light cameras shut down across Italy in massive fraud scandal involving 109 public officials and contractors.

63 municipal police commanders; 39 mayors and other public officials; and red light camera distributors are under investigations. Documents and automated ticketing machines have been seized from 54 municipalities.

Constitutional Issues

- The effect of photo radar legislation is to create different procedural rights and protections in the prosecution of the same offence of speeding depending solely on the mechanism used to obtain the alleged evidence of the offence.
- Photo radar creates a distinction whereby one class of defendant is subjected to a significantly different array of penalties than another class of defendant.
- It is a principle of fundamental justice under s. 7 and procedural fairness under s. 11(d) of the Charter that persons charged with the same offence must be prosecuted under the same laws and be granted the same procedural rights and protections.

Safety Solutions that work

Education, Engineering & Enforcement

- Expand driver training to include defensive, emergency and winter road driving
- Maintain the graduated licence system for new drivers allowing them to gain confidence and skill through experience
- Speed reader boards allow drivers to effectively *police* themselves, set these up in high traffic school zones
- Identify high collision intersections with signage
- Set speed limits and yellow light intervals for maximum safety and minimum accident rates
- Increase yellow intervals, add all red intervals, if necessary
- efficient road design, adequate lighting, highly visible signage

Conventional Policing

- Apprehend actual offenders without delay
- Change driver behaviour, raise awareness
- Ability to use discretion and issue warnings
- Discourage drunk driving & street racing
- Police presence deters other forms of violent street crime
- RCMP do not use photo radar as they believe it is a breach of their duty

The Public Utilities Board of Manitoba says the number of vehicle accidents in Manitoba is unacceptably high and there is a link between the continuing high level of accidents and injuries and reduced traffic enforcement, Red light cameras and photo radar cannot replace direct traffic law enforcement

Invest in roadway infrastructure

"Safer drivers and safer cars remain vitally important, but safer roadways are critical to saving lives, preventing injuries and reducing costs."



On a Crash Course: The Dangers and Health Costs of Deficient Roadways



A new study finds that crashes involving deficient road conditions cost the United States \$217 billion in 2006. The costs of these crashes exceed the costs of crashes involving impaired driving, speeding, or not buckling up. Deficient road conditions cause ten crashes a minute or worsen their outcomes. They contribute to more than half of all roadway deaths. Large trees, unyielding poles, and bridges are the largest culprits.

Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation (PIRE)

Privacy and Identity Theft

Voters exposed to identity theft - drivers too

Canada's Privacy Commissioner, Jennifer Stoddart

That is because the Canada Revenue Agency gets its data from provincial and territorial driver's licence registries

Canadian voters are at risk of identity theft because of voters lists that go missing and are circulated widely among political parties

Driver's licence information is the number 1 piece of information used by identity thieves and criminal organizations

Privacy Commissioner is concerned over license plate spying and *has not approved use of license plate scanners by the RCMP.*