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**Our Mission:**  
"To optimize public safety in the City of Calgary"

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## Sections & Units

### Traffic Section

#### Specialized Traffic Enforcement Unit

#### Intersection Safety Camera Program

Intersection Safety Cameras were first introduced in Calgary in March 2001. The Calgary Police Service presently, has 36 Intersection Safety Cameras that will be rotated through 48 intersections by the end of 2005. The Calgary Police Service is the only Police Department in North America with a portable Intersection Safety Camera that can be easily moved to specific locations, based on community concerns, throughout the City of Calgary.



- ▶ [Intersection Safety Camera and photo radar locations](#)

Since implementation of the Intersection Safety Camera Program right-angle collisions have been reduced by 21% at the first 15 Intersection Safety Camera equipped intersections.

The fixed Intersection Safety Cameras photograph only those vehicles that enter the intersection after the light turns red. The cameras are synchronized to the traffic signal so the camera is activated only when the light starts its red phase. This system is designed to minimize photographs being taken when an offence has not occurred. The camera takes two photographs: one just before the vehicle enters the intersection on a red light and a second one as the vehicle proceeds through the intersection. Each set of photographs is later evaluated by an officer to ensure an offence has occurred prior to the issuing of a summons.

In the case of the portable camera, a Specialized Traffic Enforcement Unit operator activates the system as soon as the light turns red.

The portable camera is triggered when a vehicle passes a set of ultrasonic sensors. This system is designed to minimize the number of pictures taken when an offence has not occurred. The camera then takes two pictures - one just before the vehicle enters the intersection and a second one as the vehicle proceeds through the intersection. An officer evaluates the pictures to ensure an offence has occurred before issuing a Notice of Offence.

#### Intersection Safety Camera Simulator



The Intersection Safety Camera Simulator can be booked for public events by contacting the Traffic Section at 403-295-7900



The intent of the Intersection Safety Camera Program is to improve traffic safety and reduce injuries and deaths caused by drivers running red lights.

## Sections & Units

### Traffic Section

#### Specialized Traffic Enforcement Unit

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- ▶ [Intersection Safety Camera Program](#)
- ▶ [Photo Radar Program](#)
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- ▶ [Ticket Control Unit](#)

The fine for running a red light is \$287 whether the vehicle was photographed by a Intersection Safety Camera or stopped by an officer. The registered owner of the vehicle is responsible for the fine and no demerit points are assigned. If an officer issues the ticket to the operator of an offending vehicle, three demerit points are assigned.

To submit a request for the portable camera, contact the Traffic Section at 403-295-7900 or fill out a [request form online](#).

### Intersection Safety Camera FAQs

#### What is the purpose of the Intersection Safety Camera Program?

The intent of the Intersection Safety Camera Program is to improve traffic safety by changing driver behaviours and reducing injuries and deaths caused by drivers running red lights. The Calgary Police Service wants to reduce the number of right angle collisions, which can occur when a driver runs a red light. This type of collision can result in serious injuries and even deaths.

#### Why are there Intersection Safety Camera signs posted at the intersection?

Information from national research indicates that the level of compliance, in stopping for red lights increases dramatically with the installation of Intersection Safety Camera signs.

#### How were the intersections chosen?

The Calgary Police Service, in conjunction with the City of Calgary, Roads chose the intersections based on a detailed analysis of the intersections, including:

- ▶ Number of collisions
- ▶ Types of collisions
- ▶ Injury severity of collisions
- ▶ Traffic volumes
- ▶ Violation rate at the intersection
- ▶ Consideration of future roadway plans
- ▶ Construction schedule for the intersection
- ▶ Posted speed of roadway
- ▶ Strategic geographic coverage
- ▶ Documented Community concerns

#### What other Canadian jurisdictions have Intersection Safety Cameras?

In Alberta, Intersection Safety Cameras are used in Edmonton, the County of Strathcona, and Red Deer. Intersection Safety Cameras are also in use in Vancouver, Regina, Winnipeg, as well as Toronto, Ottawa, and other jurisdictions in Canada.

#### How many collisions involved drivers running red lights?

In 2002, 489 drivers were charged with running a red light causing a collision.

#### What are the demerits and fines?

Demerits are not assessed for a Intersection Safety Camera violation as the charge is issued under the Traffic Safety Act to the registered owner. The fine for running a red light is \$287 regardless of the enforcement technology used; however, three demerit points are issued if a patrol officer stops a motorist. A patrol officer may also ticket drivers running a yellow light.

#### How are the Intersection Safety Cameras activated?



The fixed Intersection Safety Cameras photograph only those vehicles that enter the intersection after the light turns red. The cameras are synchronized to the traffic signal so the camera is activated only when the light starts its red phase. This system is designed to minimize photographs being taken when an offence has not occurred. The camera takes two photographs: one just before the vehicle enters the intersection on a red light and a second one as the vehicle proceeds through the intersection. Each set of photographs is later evaluated by an officer to ensure an offence has occurred prior to the issuing of a summons.

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