

April 29, 2015

REF: ATE Information Request

Via Hand Delivery

State Traffic Engineer Tim Crouch  
Iowa Department of Transportation  
Office of Traffic and Safety, Iowa DOT  
800 Lincoln Way  
Ames, Iowa 50010

Dear Tim:

Please find the following information in response to your request for statistical data concerning the City of Sioux City's Automatic Traffic Enforcement Systems (hereinafter "ATE" or "ATEs"). The City is providing this information to you based upon the need for future cooperation between our agencies, and based upon our prior history of cooperation. The City of Sioux City is committed to its continuing efforts to increase the safety of the public and persons involved in construction, reconstruction, and travel along our primary roadways.

Please be advised that the City's response to the Iowa DOT's request for information should not be seen as an indication that the City agrees with the Iowa DOT's attempt to implement rules governing the use of ATEs by Cities within the State of Iowa. The City maintains that the Iowa DOT does not have the authority to issue such rules outside and apart from any lawful rulemaking authority or legislative action. Additionally, the City maintains that the rules do not constitute lawful authority which may govern the City on the placement and operation of the City's ATE's.

Without acknowledging that the request for information or the resulting report is or can be lawfully required of the City by the Iowa DOT, and reserving all rights related thereto, the City of Sioux City respectfully provides the following public records to IDOT. This report will only cover the two approaches approved by the Iowa DOT for continued operation.

The City of Sioux City currently operates; two (2) Iowa DOT approved fixed red light photo enforcement systems on the primary road extensions within the city limits of City of Sioux City.

### **Red Light ATE's**

The red light systems are located at; Gordon Drive and Palmetto for westbound traffic and Gordon Drive and Fairmount for west bound traffic. IDOT preapproved each installation and IDOT approved signage is posted before each approach. All violations are approved by sworn Sioux City Police Officers.

Red Light Violation History:

Intersection:

**Gordon Dr.\  
Palmetto:**      **Gordon Dr.\  
Fairmount:**

Pre-deployment Accident History:

2007:	3	10
2008:	4	9
Date On-Line:	06/26/09	06/26/09
12 HR Survey:	14	14
2009 Violations Issued:	479	458
2009 Daily Violation Avg:	2.53	2.42
Accidents (all causes):	2	3
Accidents (red light running):	0	1
2010 Total Violations Issued:	540	164**
2010 Daily Violation Average:	1.48	.45**
Accidents (all causes):	1	5
Accidents (red light running):	0	1
2011 Total Violations Issued:	407	176**
2011 Daily Violation Average:	1.12	.48**
Accidents (all causes):	1	3
Accidents (red light running):	1	1
2012 Total Violations Issued:	395*	687***
2012 Daily Violation Average:	1.30	1.88
Accidents (all causes):	2	3
Accidents (red light running):	0	0
2013 Total Violations Issued:	259	768
2013 Daily Violation Average:	.71	2.10

Accidents (all causes):	3	1
Accidents (red light running):	0	0
2014 Total Violations Issued:	298	934
2014 Daily Violation Average:	.81	2.55
Accidents (all causes):	3	4
Accidents (red light running):	2	2

**Percentage of Change:**

12 Hour Survey to 2014 Daily Average (24 hours):  
-94.21%                      -81.79%

2009\2010 Daily Average to 2014 Daily Average:  
-67.98%                      +5.37%

Accidents (all causes 2007\2008 to 2014):  
-14.29%                      -57.89%

\*Gordon Drive\Palmetto was closed down for 60 days – average adjusted for limited days  
\*\*Gordon Drive\Fairmount right hand turn lane down all of 2010 and first 9 months of 2011.  
\*\*\*Gordon Drive\Fairmount had several lanes closed for 62 days

**Conclusion:**

This report confirms that deploying ATEs on the primary roadways has increased safety at those locations. Additionally, ATE deployment has also raised overall driver awareness and resulted in improved safety and a reduction in overall traffic violations in locations that are not monitored by ATEs.

Sincerely,

Douglas Young  
Chief of Police