

## COMMON COUNCIL REPORT

M&C No.	2024 -331
Report Date	December 02, 2024
Meeting Date	December 09, 2024
Service Area	Public Works and Transportation Services

Her Worship Mayor Donna Noade Reardon and Members of Common Council

**SUBJECT: Photo Radar and Red Light Camera Use**

### **AUTHORIZATION**

Primary Author	Commissioner/ Dept. Head	Chief Administrative Officer	Committee Chairperson
<b>Tim O'Reilly</b>	<b>Michael Hugenholtz</b>	<b>J. Brent McGovern</b>	<b>Greg Norton</b>

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Public Safety Committee recommends that Common Council requests the Fundy Regional Services Commission, through its Transportation Committee, study the business case for the use of Image Capturing Enforcement as a traffic calming measure with associated fine revenue sharing with the Province of New Brunswick.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Image Capturing Enforcement, including photo radar and red light cameras, is another road safety improvement tool now available to New Brunswick municipalities. The city is requesting the province share traffic fine revenues including from this technology. A revenue sharing model could provide a net benefit to municipalities investing in this technology. To honour the referral request attached to this report, city staff is recommending the regional services commission study the business case for the use of this technology.

### **PREVIOUS RESOLUTIONS**

At its October 28, 2024 meeting Common Council endorsed the following:

“Authorize the Mayor send a letter to Province of New Brunswick requesting that at least 50% of revenues, net of all costs, collected from Motor Vehicle Act fines issued by municipally funded enforcement resources be provided to the municipality from which the fine was issued, including from the adoption of, or amendments to, Image-Capturing Enforcement legislation and associated regulations, for the sole purpose of funding road safety initiatives as detailed in M&C 2024-282.”

At its October November 20, 2024 meeting Public Safety Committee endorsed the recommendation being put before Common Council with this report.

### **REPORT**

City staff recently presented a comprehensive report (M&C 2024-282) to Common Council at its October 28, 2024 meeting outlining the role of enforcement as one of three pillars to improve road safety. Education and Engineering solutions, such as physical traffic calming measures, are the other two pillars.

The report recommended a model used by the City of Edmonton and Province of Alberta be followed in New Brunswick where:

- An Image Capturing Enforcement (ICE) program, including photo radar for speed enforcement and red light cameras for drivers running red lights, that is part of an overall Road Safety Strategy aimed at reducing speeds, reducing collisions, and improving safety generally, and
- A proportion of revenues generated via traffic fines from ICE are returned to municipalities to fund their overall Road Safety program.

During deliberations at the October 28 Council meeting, Council member comments were provided that the Province of New Brunswick may choose not to share revenues with municipalities. Even in the absence of a share of fine revenues, there may still be a business case for municipalities to implement ICE. Freeing limited police officer resources from being used for traffic law enforcement for other community engagement remains a benefit with ICE. Using ICE in lieu of lifecycle investments in physical traffic calming measures such as Speed Cushions is also a net community benefit even absent revenues.

Developing such a business case would require study resources. Investigation of the costs of ICE technology, comparative analysis with the alternative lifecycle costs of traffic calming and opportunity cost of police officer resource use, and the societal benefits of improved road safety outcomes are examples of the study needed as part of this business case.

Given ICE use may be beneficial for not only the City of Saint John, but the broader Fundy Region, is the basis for the referral of this business case to the commission through its Transportation Committee.

### **STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT**

This report aligns well with two of Common Council's priorities:

- **MOVE:** Encouraging lower vehicle speeds contribute to safer travel options by all modes of transportation, and
- **PERFORM:** Ensuring investments in services and infrastructure intended to reduce speeding are decided and measured by good analyzed data and best practices.

***SERVICE AND FINANCIAL OUTCOMES***

A completed business case would compare road safety benefits and avoidance of other resource investments relative to the costs of implementing ICE.

***INPUT FROM OTHER SERVICE AREAS AND STAKEHOLDERS***

N/A

***ATTACHMENTS***

Correspondence referred from Common Council to the City's Public Safety Committee.