

Annual collisions up, despite downward trend

Vision Zero goal means we must work together to save lives

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Despite a 50 per cent drop in injury collisions in the last decade, Edmonton's *2015 Motor Vehicle Collisions Report* shows the number of incidents rose from 2,912 in 2014 to 3,033 in 2015. There were 32 fatalities, nine more than in 2014.

"We have half as many injury collisions as we did in 2006, but every injury and fatality has devastating effects," said Gerry Shimko, Executive Director of the Office of Traffic Safety. "We must continue to work together to make our roads safer."

The City analyzes collision data to identify traffic safety issues such as high-speed locations and high-collision intersections. Countermeasures are put in place, such as enhanced speed and road side driver message boards. Other measures include the use of video-based technology, which was used this spring to identify safety issues and develop strategies for 13 school zones.

Collision data is also used to improve road designs, road rehabilitation projects, and traffic signal changes and additions. Several Edmonton intersections have improved as a result, including the southbound right turn at 63 Ave and 99 Street. Between 2008 and 2012 there were 44 collisions at this approach. Since the improvement in 2013, there have been nine.

"Our goal is Vision Zero: zero traffic fatalities and major injuries on Edmonton roads. Some people say that goal is not realistic until I ask them what would be the acceptable number for their family. The answer is always zero," Shimko said. "Everyone has a part in reaching our goal."

The [2015 Motor Vehicle Collisions Report](#) is available on edmonton.ca.

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