

# TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT INITIATIVE IN PARKLAND COUNTY

MARCH 2021



# PILOT TRAFFIC DIVISION INITIATIVE



- Enforcement Services is seeking Council approval to proceed with a Pilot Traffic Division Initiative
- Through an announcement from the Province in the Fall of 2020, Community Peace Officers have been granted additional authorities to conduct traffic enforcement on one and two digit highways
- This initiative is intended to promote safety on our roadways, increase the visibility of uniformed Officers for our residents and the public, and in doing so, act as a deterrent to crime



# PILOT TRAFFIC DIVISION INITIATIVE

- At present, Parkland County Enforcement Officers manage Gravel Hauling and Commercial Vehicle infractions on County roadways. Once a vehicle transitions to a one or two digit highway, however, our Officers lose authority to deal with the matter
- This Pilot Project would allow us to more effectively manage Gravel Hauling and Commercial Vehicle Infractions on all roadways within the geographic boundaries of the County.



# PILOT TRAFFIC DIVISION INITIATIVE

- RCMP commonly request the assistance of Parkland County Enforcement Services when there is a report of a traffic concern on non-primary roadways.
- The majority of the traffic enforcement for this initiative would be occurring on the one and two digit Highways.
- This would allow us to expand our enforcement activities to the more primary and arterial routes that are frequented by the criminal elements. Traffic enforcement would double as high visibility patrols.
- Important information about potential criminal matters could then be passed on to the RCMP



# TRAFFIC SAFETY STATISTICS

According to Alberta Transportation's "Announcement to Stakeholders" referencing 2018 statistics:

- There were 142,695 collisions reported in 2018, which included 246 fatal collisions, 12,852 non-fatal injury collisions, and 129,498 property damage only collisions
- The most collision prone time period is the afternoon rush hour
- Fatal collisions occurred most frequently in rural areas, whereas injury and property damage collisions occurred more frequently in urban areas
- 82.9% of total collisions involved one or more drivers identified as committing a driver error
- In 2018, 22.8% of total fatal collisions involved drivers travelling at a speed too great for the given conditions. Overall, 5.2% of total collisions in 2018 involved unsafe speed



# IMPACT TO ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS

- Enforcement Services has 13 operational Community Peace Officers
- There are currently 4 shift rotations with at least 3 Officers per shift
- Adjustments to operations are required to focus on resident priorities
- 3 Officers are being re-assigned to focus on Traffic Enforcement, which includes commercial vehicle and gravel hauling activities
- While Enforcement Services will continue to respond to all public complaints, the direct impact of the above changes may be a delay in response times, as these matters (including Bylaw infractions) would be managed exclusively by the remaining Officers



# REVISED DEPARTMENT COMPOSITION

1 Director

1 Operations Supervisor

1 Prosecution Supervisor

## **3 Dedicated Traffic Enforcement Officers**

1 Dedicated Crime Prevention Officer

1 Dedicated Planning and Development Officer

8 General Duty Officers

1 Shelter Coordinator / Court Liaison

4 Shelter Keepers (1 FTE, 1 PTE and 2 Casual)



# PILOT PROJECT REPORTING

- Upon approval to proceed, Enforcement Services will commence a Pilot Traffic Initiative.
- The program will be reviewed after one year, at which point Council will be provided with a status report, including:
  - The impact of enforcement on gravel hauling (i.e., increase or decrease in number of infractions reported);
  - The impact of enforcement on commercial vehicle infractions (i.e., increase or decrease in occurrences);
  - The number and types of traffic enforcement violations issued;
  - Any impacts to normal operations; and
  - Collaboration with RCMP.





## IN CONCLUSION

Enforcement Services strongly recommends the commencement of a Pilot Traffic Initiative, as described herein

With Council's support for this motion, Enforcement Services will initiate the change in focus with immediate effect



# QUESTIONS?