

HAMILTON POLICE SERVICES BOARD

- INFORMATION -

DATE: 2018 March 22

REPORT TO: Chair and Members
Hamilton Police Services Board

FROM: Eric Girt
Chief of Police

SUBJECT: *Year-End Report: Traffic Statistics - 2017*
PSB 18-025

BACKGROUND:

The Hamilton Police Service has developed a year-long Road Safety Education and Awareness Campaign. The goal is to raise understanding of driver and pedestrian safety rules and gain compliance on the use of vehicle safety equipment. The goal of these programs was to reduce motor vehicle collisions (MVCs) in Hamilton.

The 2017 Traffic Safety Program targeted seasonal issues. In the spring/summer months, the focus was on distracted driving, seat belts, aggressive driving and speeding. In the fall, emphasis was directed again at distracted driving and speeding. In addition, the Hamilton Police Service joined the provincial Seat Belt Campaign. During the holiday season, R.I.D.E. lanes were emphasized.

This report is a statistical presentation of the Service's traffic efforts.

Seven-Year Motor Vehicle Collision Chart

Motor Vehicle Collisions	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total MVCs	9,437	8,800	8,714	9,513	9,719	9,732	10,124
Property Damage	1,659	1,600	1,316	1,608	1,515	1,341	1,452
Personal Injury	1,688	1,448	1,364	1,513	1,587	1,670	1,361
Citizen Reports	6,090	5,752	6,034	6,392	6,617	6,721	7,311
Fatal Collisions	20	18	14	17	16	14	16
Resulting Deaths	21	20	15	19	17	15	16
Total PONs	61,439	69,197	67,522	65,921	56,556	54,402	49,372

Motor Vehicle Collisions

In 2017, 10,124 MVCs were reported. This figure is up from 9,732 in 2016 (4.03% increase), up from 9,719 in 2015 (4.17% increase), and up from 9,513 in 2014 (6.42% increase).

The reported MVC data is obtained by compilation of the three (3) reporting methods that are available to the community. They can report property damage collisions by attending the Collision Reporting Centres (CRCs) during business hours, by having an Officer attend the scene of a property damage collision, and by having an Officer attend the scene of a personal injury collision.

Fatalities

In 2017, there were 16 fatal MVCs, resulting in 16 deaths, which is a 14.29% increase over 2016. Of the 16 fatal collisions, seven (7) involved multiple vehicles, four (4) involved a motor vehicle and a pedestrian, four (4) involved a single motor vehicle, and one (1) involved a single motorcycle. In five (5) of the 16 collisions, alcohol was a factor, and in five (5) of the 16 collisions, speed was a factor.

Total Traffic Related Provincial Offence Notices in 2017 - Comparison to 2016

In 2017, 49,372 Provincial Offence Notices (PONs) were issued. This represents a decrease of 9.25% over 2016's total of 54,402.

The PON statistic is a combined total of all PONs given out at the Divisional level.

Hazardous Moving Violations

Hazardous Moving Violations (red light infractions, stop sign infractions, speeding, careless driving offences, distracted driving, etc.), decreased 11.32% over 2016. In 2017, 34,964 violations were issued in comparison to 39,424 in 2016.

Non-Hazardous Violations

Non-Hazardous Violations (seat belt violations, fail to surrender permits, validation tag offences, etc.), decreased 3.81% over 2016. In 2017, 14,408 violations were issued, in comparison to 14,978 in 2016.

Alcohol-Related Driving Offences

In 2017, there were 673 Alcohol-Related Driving Offences, which represent a decrease of 1.61% over 2016. In 2016, there were 684 Alcohol-Related Driving Offences.

There were 160 Motor vehicle collisions that involved alcohol in 2017 as compared to 121 in 2016, an increase of 32.23%.

Type of Charges	2017	2016	% Change
Impaired	279	273	+2.19%
Over 80 mg	322	338	-4.73%
Impaired Cause Bodily Harm	2	2	0.00%
Impaired by Drugs	16	22	-27.27%
Impaired Cause Death	0	1	-100.00%
Refuse Breath	43	36	+19.44%
Over 80 Cause Death	0	1	-100.00%
Over 80 Cause Bodily Harm	3	0	+300.00%
Refuse Blood	1	0	+100.00%
Refuse Alcohol Screening Device	7	11	-36.36%
Total Alcohol-Related Driving Offences	673	684	-1.61%
<i>Blood Samples Taken</i>	1	0	+100.00%

Five-Year Trend: Alcohol-Related Charges

Type of Charges	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Impaired	279	273	300	350	353
Over 80 mg	322	338	377	447	419
Impaired Cause Bodily Harm	2	2	5	2	0
Impaired by Drugs	16	22	24	18	4
Impaired Cause Death	0	1	1	1	1
Refuse Breath	43	36	50	60	39
Over 80 Cause Death	0	1	1	0	0
Over 80 Cause Bodily Harm	3	0	3	0	0
Refuse Blood	1	0	1	0	0
Refuse Alcohol Screening Device	7	11	16	18	12
Total Alcohol-Related Driving Offences	673	684	778	896	828
<i>Blood Samples Taken</i>	1	0	4	3	3

R.I.D.E. Program

R.I.D.E. is a year-long educational and enforcement program for the Hamilton Police Service. The Service also participates in the Provincial Policing Community's annual R.I.D.E. focus that starts in December.

The Provincial Government provides annual funding to support the R.I.D.E. Program. In 2017/2018, the Service received \$44,113.00 and, as of the date of this report, most of the monies have been exhausted. This funding is used to enhance day-to-day R.I.D.E. Programs, by employing off-duty Officers to focus on R.I.D.E., during special events and the holiday season. This report is a statistical presentation of the Service's R.I.D.E. Program.

R.I.D.E. 2017 Statistical Information

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
R.I.D.E. Stops	182,228	224,503	245,760	240,344	238,45	228,315	167,766
R.I.D.E. Tests	156	219	337	391	376	438	445

In 2017, there were a total of 182,228 vehicles stopped by the R.I.D.E Program. This represents a decrease of 18.83%, below 2016. This is the sixth highest number of vehicles stopped in R.I.D.E. lanes ever recorded by the Hamilton Police Service.

R.I.D.E. will again be a focus of the 2018 Traffic Management Plan.

	2017 Yearly Total	2016 Yearly Total	% Difference
Stopped	182,228	224,503	-18.83%
Pass	107	162	-33.95%
Warn	29	39	-25.64%
Fail	20	18	+11.11%
Impaired	8	4	+100.00%
Over 80 mg	24	22	+9.09%
Refuse Alcohol Screening Device	0	0	0.00%
Refuse Breath	0	0	0.00%
Other Criminal Code Offences	21	18	+16.67%
Roadside Demand	156	219	-28.77%
Alcohol Warn Range Suspension	29	39	-25.64%

Expressway & Parkway Safety Initiative

In 2015, the Support Services Branch of the Hamilton Police Service developed a "P.O.P." Project (Problem Oriented Policing), to combat Aggressive Driving issues that were occurring on the Red Hill Valley Expressway and the Lincoln M. Alexander Parkway.

This P.O.P. project was originally in operation from December 14, 2015 to December 31, 2016 and focused on Enforcement of the *Highway Traffic Act* of Ontario as it pertains to the operation of vehicles on these roadways.

This project utilized all uniform members of the Support Services Division, and engaged them in directed enforcement and R.I.D.E. lane checks to educate and modify driving behavior as it pertained to Aggressive Driving. During this period the listed officers focused all or most of their proactive initiatives exclusively on the RHVP and the Lincoln Alexander Parkway.

It should be noted that this project, the "Parkway Safety" POP Project received the 2017 Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police Traffic Safety Initiative of the Year Award for 2016.

Notwithstanding the conclusion of this P.O.P. project, enforcement initiatives on both of these roadways continue on a routine basis by officers from Divisional Patrol (Division 20 & Division 30) and the Support Services Division. The Hamilton Police Service continues to work closely with the Hamilton Strategic Road Safety Committee to further advance road safety through Education, Engineering and Enforcement.

Expressway & Parkway Enforcement Initiatives – December 14, 2015 to January 5, 2018

TOTALS	
PONs Issued	8,547
Warnings Issued	142
Part III Summons Issued	158
Number of R.I.D.E. Stops	21,049
Number of R.I.D.E. Set Up	388
Officers Used in R.I.D.E. Set Up	688
Officer Hours Dedicated to Enforcement Operation	5,173.55

TOP OFFENCES BY TYPE		
Violation	No. of PONs Issued	No. of Summons Issued
Speeding	7,856*	
Distracted Driving	60	
Seat Belt	53	
Suspended Driving		61
Drive Motor Vehicle – No Licence	38	
Have Radar Warning Device	14	
Unsafe Lane Change	10	
Stunt Driving		35
Totals	8,031	96

*91.9% of all PONs issued were for Speeding

The chart below is a comparison of Motor Vehicle Collisions by collision type that occurred on the RHVP and Lincoln Alexander Parkway, and the percentage difference between the years, 2016 and 2017.

Comparison of Motor Vehicle Collisions on the “LINC” & “Red-Hill” Parkways

Type of Collision	Year	
	2017	2016
Fatal Collisions	3	0
Personal Injury Collisions	73	83
Property Damage Collisions	87	78
Collisions Reported to the Collision Reporting Centre	183	161
Total Collisions	346	322

The Hamilton Police Service continues to work in partnership with our stakeholders to focus on changing driver behaviour in order to improve traffic and public safety. Participating as members of the Hamilton Strategic Road Safety Committee includes the development of a progressive Traffic Safety Strategy, with a citywide focus on traffic initiatives where traffic and road safety becomes a shared responsibility between the police, city traffic, public health and our community partners.

Speeding, aggressive driving, distracted driving and impaired driving continue to be the most significant concern for the Hamilton Police Service relative to road safety. Selective enforcement, coupled with education and awareness programs assist in targeting at-risk behaviours with the goal of decreasing both property damage collisions and personal injury collisions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Girt', written over a horizontal line.

Eric Girt

Chief of Police

EG/M. Schulenberg

cc: Jamie Anderson, Acting Deputy Chief – Field Support

Marty Schulenberg, Acting Superintendent - Support Services