




Hamilton

INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Chair and Members Public Works Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	August 11, 2021
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	City of Hamilton Annual Collision Report – 2020 Statistics and Trends (PW21047) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
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COUNCIL DIRECTION

The Public Works Committee approved the Hamilton Strategic Road Safety Program and Vision Zero Action Plan for 2019-2025 on February 4, 2019, through Report PW19015. As part of the report, a component of the program is the development of an Annual Collision Report. This report serves as an update on the City's 2020 Annual Collision Statistics and Trends.

INFORMATION

On March 17, 2020, the Government of Ontario declared a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic and ordered gradual closures of businesses and facilities. As a result, the City of Hamilton experienced and continues to experience the impacts to the transportation network including reductions in vehicular traffic volumes. Through the months of April to December in 2020 there was approximately a 50 percent average reduction in vehicular traffic volumes during the morning and afternoon rush hour.

The 2020 Provincial collision statistics have not yet been released, however the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have reported that in 2020 there were fewer traffic collisions overall, but a marked increase in fatalities across the Province. The OPP believes that

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

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the increase in fatalities is attributable to carless and dangerous driving (speeding) of which the pandemic-related transportation network impacts contributed to. The true implications of the pandemic on collisions, traffic volumes and traffic patterns are not fully understood at this time.

The City of Hamilton 2020 Annual Collision Report is the fourth edition and provides a high-level review of collisions occurring on roadways over a five-year span (2016-2020). It is attached to Report PW21047 as Appendix 'A'. Information and statistics being presented should be viewed using a COVID-19 pandemic lens.

The report is divided into two sections with appendices as follows:

- Section 1 – Five Year Collision Trends (2016-2020); and
- Section 2 – Lincoln M. Alexander Parkway (LINC) and Red Hill Valley Parkway (RHVP) Five Year Collision Trends (2016-2020)

The following is a list of notable statistics and trends for 2016-2020:

- 1 collision occurs every 59 minutes;
- 1 person injured every 4 hours;
- 1 fatality every 28 days;
- 1 collision involved a pedestrian every 1.5 days; and
- 1 collision involved a cyclist every 2.25 days.

City-Wide Statistics and Trends

Year	Injury Collisions	Fatal Collisions	Property Damage Collisions	Total Collisions
2016	1936	11	6312	8259
2017	1682	16	7083	8781
2018	1561	11	7761	9333
2019	1469	14	8413	9896
2020	1136	13	5463	6612

There was a 33.2% reduction in total collisions and a 22.5% reduction in injury collisions compared to 2019, however collisions that occurred in 2020 resulted in serious injuries more often.

The percentage of collisions involving injuries versus the total number of collisions increased from 15.0% in 2019 to 17.4% in 2020. During COVID-19, concerns related to speeding and aggressive driving increased across the country and the statistics coincide with this trend.

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The number of pedestrians involved in collisions declined by 21.9% (192 total) when compared to 2019.

The number of cyclist collisions increased from 128 in 2019 to 131 in 2020. The lowest number of cyclist collisions in 10 years was recorded in 2019 and there is a generally decreasing trend starting from 2016. No collisions involving cyclists in 2020 resulted in a fatal incident.

Collisions involving vulnerable road users regularly result in injury as 90.7% of the time pedestrians suffer injury in a collision and 78.7% for cyclists. Most of these vulnerable road user injury collisions occurred at intersections, specifically signalized intersections.

Fatal collisions represent 0.2% of all collisions, a review of the fatal collisions over a five-year period show no statistical patterns:

- 58% occurred mid-block locations;
- 42% occurred at intersections;
- 58% were a result of a single motor vehicle collision;
- 32% involved pedestrians; and
- 25% occurred when a driver lost control of their vehicle, 15% speed related collisions (i.e. following too close, speed too fast for condition, and exceeding speed limit), 14% failed right-of-way.

Collisions on the LINC and RHVP involving injuries have significantly declined over the past several years. The following is a list of relevant statistical information:

- Fatal and injury collisions on the LINC/RHVP declined by 83.3%/60.0% in 2020, compared to a decline of 33.3%/34.2% in 2019 from 2018;
- Total collisions occurring on the RHVP on non-dry road surface conditions declined to 57.3% (2016-2020) vs 63.9% (2015-2019) and it is expected these numbers will continue to decline and align with provincial averages; and
- Collisions on the LINC continue to align with the provincial averages.

The statistics and analysis within the 2020 Annual Collision Report provides the City of Hamilton with information that is used to identify priority roadway safety issues, develop initiatives to improve roadway safety, provide evidence about the effectiveness of safety improvements and undertake targeted education campaigns.

These efforts directly contribute to improving roadway safety and aligns with Vision Zero – zero fatalities or serious injuries on Hamilton roadways. The overall downward trends in injury collisions align with the primary goal of Hamilton’s Vision Zero Program. The City of Hamilton has undertaken and completed several initiatives that are outlined in the Vision Zero Action Plan. The following is a list of those initiatives:

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- Continued development and upgrade to the collision database which improve service, reporting, and eliminating tasks that required excessive extrapolating of data. This resulted in efficiencies that compressed task timelines from approximately 20 weeks to 4 weeks;
 - Collision Counter Measure Program – Video Analytics review of 10 signalized intersections with a focus on vulnerable road users;
 - Neighbourhood Speed Limit Reduction Program completed over 50 neighbourhoods in Phase 1, on-going implementation of Phase 2 and planning for Phase 3 is expected to begin in the fall of 2021;
 - Development of the Hamilton Police Services, Traffic Safety Unit, which is a new unit of 20 members who are specifically focused on roadways safety and enforcement of traffic violations;
 - Automated Speed Enforcement Pilot project began in October and staff will be reporting in September with an update and recommendation on the future of the program; and
- Development of the online Vision Zero Dashboard allows staff to report progress on programs but also make collision data and mapping available to the public through the collision data tool: www.hamilton.ca/streets-transportation/driving-traffic/vision-zero-dashboard

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix “A” to Report PW21047 – 2020 Annual Collision Report