

SCHOOL ZONE SPEED PHOTO ENFORCEMENT



The Town of Stratford's state-of-the-art school zone speed enforcement system will help **make** our community safer.

The Town of Stratford is very concerned about traffic safety. Crash rates have continued to increase as more traffic travels through our community.

Traditional traffic enforcement continues to be a challenge due to police staffing levels and other priority demands. Between 2020 and 2022, the number of serious injury crashes doubled (from 12 to 24), while the number of fatal crashes remained the same (2) from 2020 to 2021, before increasing (to 3) in 2022. The increase in overall crashes in Stratford (+23%) from 2021 to 2022 was similar to the increase seen between 2020 and 2021 (+21%). This trend represents a significant increase in overall crashes compared with 2018 to 2020, when the volume of overall crashes decreased significantly (-38%).

Studies across the US reveal speeding can be reduced by over 80% with the implementation of ATSED systems. These demonstrated results will create a safer passageway for students, pedestrians, and drivers.

Our **GOAL** is **ZERO** Injuries, **ZERO** Crashes and **ZERO** Endangered Lives.

Automated Speed Enforcement systems will be installed at the following locations this fall. Each will have a separate 30-day warning period.

- **NB & SB** Huntington Rd @ Bulldog Blvd
- **NB** Nichols Ave @ Kenyon St
- **SB** Nichols Ave @ Barbara Ln
- **NB & SB** Nichols Ave @ Nichols Elementary

How were these school zones selected?

A comprehensive engineering study including crash data, speed surveys, traffic volumes and other data was evaluated. The Town of Stratford selected these school zones based upon the results of this study.

Why is this program being implemented?

The Town of Stratford has compiled significant data on crash history across the Town as well as for the individual locations being proposed for ATSED. The data shows that from 2021 to 2022, there was over a 20 percent increase in crashes town-wide, and significant increases over 2018-2020 data. Between 2020 and 2024, serious injury crashes doubled.

Location #1 was identified as the one of the most dangerous school zones in the Town. During a week-long survey, over 22% of the vehicles monitored in this school zone were speeding more than 10 mph over the posted speed limit.

Is photo enforcement effective?

Yes, studies show that automated photo enforcement reduced dangerous speeding by as much as 88%.

What type of warning will I receive?

A warning notification will be sent to the registered owner of the vehicle to the address listed with the Department of Motor Vehicles during the first 30 days of camera system activation.

What are the enforcement periods?

The school zone speed limit will be enforced 24 hours / 7 days a week - Year round.

Who will receive the violation?

The law holds the registered owner responsible for the violation.

What is the speed threshold for a violation?

Vehicles traveling over 10 mph above the posted school zone speed limit of 25 mph will be photographed and reviewed by the Town of Stratford Police Department.

What is the penalty for speeding?

A violation is a civil penalty of \$50 and does not get reported to the State of Connecticut or your insurance company. Any subsequent violation will have a civil penalty of \$75.

How much will it cost? Can we afford this?

There is no cost to our community for installing, operating, or maintaining the system. All equipment and personnel costs directly related to the program will be funded by violators.

Is this just a way for The Town of Stratford to make money?

Though the Town ultimately does receive some revenue, per State Law, the revenue is limited in the scope in which it is to be used. All funds are to be used towards this program or for other roadway safety initiatives.

Why are we implementing this program?

There is one primary reason for this program, **SAFETY!** Objective research indicates that the school zone speed cameras will make these three intersections safer for the Town of Stratford residents, their families, and for all who drive through the Town.

Can I contest the citation?

Yes, you are able to contest the citation through the Town of Stratford. The notice of violation includes information on the appeal process.

Will I know which school zones are being monitored?

Yes, each school zone will be clearly marked with signage showing the speed limit, enforcement time and the fact that the school zone is photo enforced.



School Zone Speed Camera Locations

- NB & SB** Huntington Rd @ Bulldog Blvd
- NB** Nichols Ave @ Barbara Ln
- SB** Nichols Ave @ Kenyon St
- NB & SB** Nichols Ave @ Nichols Elementary



For more information,
please contact Officer Sharnick
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