



File #: IR-26-013, Version: 1

TAMRMS#: B05

INFORMATION REQUEST (IR) - Automotive Noise Issues

Requested by: Councillor Hughes

Date of Request: April 7, 2026

Date Response Due: May 7, 2026

Confidential Response: No

QUESTION

Please provide the number of tickets or other recorded actions taken in response to drag racing or other major automotive noise issues in 2024 and 2025.

Please provide the proactive and reactive actions the RCMP plan to take in 2026 to deter and respond to drag racing issues and what would be required if needed to elevate this issue as a priority.

RESPONSE

In 2024 law enforcement officers (RCMP and Community Peace Officers) issued 1,860 traffic tickets. 277 were for speeding, 3 were for stunting and 3 tickets were issued for violations related to excessive vehicle noise.

In 2025 this significantly increased to a total of 6,474 traffic tickets being issued. 1,247 were for speeding, 11 for stunting and 15 were related to excessive vehicle noise.

The above statistics are over and above the speeding violations issued using photo enforcement technology.

There is no intelligence at this time that there is a street drag racing subculture in St. Albert. Issuing tickets for the specific offence of “racing” is very difficult to prove and capture as it requires clear evidence that the intent of the driver was to race or that there was a bet or wager involved. Having said that and as noted above, tickets were issued related to similar driver behaviour such as stunting, speeding and excessive vehicle noise.

Traffic safety is one of the four Policing Priorities as identified and set by St. Albert’s Policing Committee, and in 2026 the RCMP will continue to focus on enhancing road safety through targeted operations addressing high risk driving behaviours, as well as seasonal issues such as excessive vehicle noise.

Planned activities include:

- Traditional patrols, local team based as well as monthly joint force operations to proactively

- detect fast and loud vehicles,
- Continued efforts in following the Alberta Traffic Safety Calendar where each month targets a specific traffic safety area. April is speed and May is motorcycle month where excessive noise is highlighted,
 - Continued enhanced proactive traffic safety/visibility program where RCMP members are brought in from the surrounding area to focus on local traffic safety targets,
 - Participation in Strathcona County Detachment's Project Tensor, which targets speeding and vehicle equipment violations such as window tint and noise, in an effort to learn if it is viable and valuable to start in St. Albert,
 - Continued participation and engagement with the internal Traffic safety Committee where the RCMP discusses traffic safety partnerships and traffic calming/engineering solutions to trends, and
 - Continued efforts to educate the public through social and traditional media, including the RCMP RAVE alter system.

Should members of Council or residents wish for increased attention in this area, they are encouraged to attend and engage with the St. Albert Policing Committee who have been delegated the responsibility through provincial and municipal legislation to set the local Policing Priorities, represent the interests of the public and council to the RCMP Officer in Charge as well as monitor the implementation of programs to achieve the priorities.

In addition, and in accordance with Council direction during the 2026 budget deliberations, \$300,000 was approved for Administration to conduct a review of policing service models. The scope of the review is planned to include an examination of various policing service delivery models, including potential adjustments to police-to-population ratios and the roles of CPOs and Bylaw Officers in our community. Options exist to increase Community Peace Officer staffing as well as increase their role providing pro-active traffic safety enforcement services. The RFP to engage a consultant is expected to be posted in the coming months, with a final report anticipated in 2027. When reviewing models the consultant will be asked to consider St. Albert's crime rate, crime severity, public satisfaction with policing services, fiscal realities, and both Council's and the community's desired service levels/expectations.

Residents who have concerns about high-risk driving behaviours are encouraged to contact the St Albert RCMP directly at 780-458-7700.

Report Date: May 4, 2026
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