

FOSTER CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT



2018 ANNUAL TRAFFIC REPORT



Joseph Pierucci- Chief of Police

**Report prepared by
Traffic Officer Michael Acosta**

Table of Contents

Page 3	Introduction and Summary
Page 4	2018 Traffic Enforcement Events
Page 5	2018 Supported Community Events
Page 6	Moving Citations Statistics
Page 6-7	Collision Statistics
Page 9-10	Abandoned Vehicle Abatement
Page 11	Parking Violation Citation Statistics

Introduction

This document provides an overview of Foster City's traffic statistics for the year of 2018. It also contains information about the Foster City Police Department's involvement in community events, focused enforcement campaigns, regional traffic safety efforts, and efforts to mitigate local traffic congestion along with associated traffic safety concerns.

Summary

In 2018, continuing to improve traffic and pedestrian safety remained as a priority goal of our Department, which was worked on through education, enforcement, and engineering efforts throughout the community. Focused enforcement/education was conducted during evening commute hours in response to the heavy weekday traffic Foster City experiences around S/R 92. This focused enforcement is one example of how our Department addresses traffic safety issues and works to decrease the likelihood of collisions and injuries.

The Foster City Police Department experienced an increase in reported collisions as compared to 2017, with an additional 34 collisions reported in 2018. The number of reported injuries increased by five from 2017, for a 2018 total of 56. Only 4% of the collisions in 2018 involved a bicyclist or pedestrian. The majority of collisions involving a pedestrian or bicyclist involved vehicles traveling at low speeds and occurred in parking lots, adjacent to driveways, or near a crosswalk. The majority of injuries sustained in these collisions were classified as minor in nature.

Foster City experienced one fatality that resulted from a collision involving a motor vehicle and a bicyclist, in which the bicyclist was determined to be at fault. In this case, the bicyclist crossed Foster City Boulevard against a red traffic signal and on the wrong side of the roadway. The bicyclist was struck by a vehicle traveling approximately 40 MPH along Foster City Boulevard. The driver of the vehicle had the green light to proceed and had the right-of-way. The bicyclist was riding a recumbent bicycle, which places a rider much lower to the ground than a standard bicycle and may limit a driver's ability to see the rider.

The Foster City Police Department supported several community events to enhance the safety of participants and attendees. Events such as the Fourth of July celebration and the community bike ride were supported by officers providing pedestrian and vehicle traffic control. Through these efforts, participants and attendees experienced safe and enjoyable events.

We also participated in local and regional traffic safety campaigns. The purpose of the campaigns was to enhance traffic safety by focusing enforcement on distracted drivers, DUI violators, and non-compliance with seatbelt laws. Additionally, the Foster City Police Department participated in a county wide, multijurisdictional traffic safety program. The Foster City Police Department is committed to traffic safety in our community and regionally, which inspires our Department to devote significant resources toward this goal.

The following statistics reference key information pertaining to traffic related activity in 2018:

- There were 229 collisions, an increase of 34 from the 2017 total of 195.
- There were 56 people injured in vehicle collisions, an increase of five from 2017.
- There were eight collisions that resulted from a driver being under the influence of alcohol/drugs—3.5% of all collisions.
- There were four collisions involving bicyclists—1.7% of all collisions.
- There were seven collisions involving pedestrians—3% of all collisions.
- There was one collision related fatality.
- FCPD officers conducted 7,937 traffic enforcement stops, a decrease of 814 as compared to 2017.
- FCPD officers issued citations in approximately 30% (2,409) of the traffic stops and provided warnings in approximately 70% of traffic stops.
- FCPD officers and community service officers issued 1,254 parking citations, an increase of 1,060 as compared to 2017.

2018 Traffic Enforcement Events

Operation Click It or Ticket

In the month of May, the Foster City Police Department joined more than 12,000 other law enforcement agencies in a nationwide effort to enforce seatbelt laws and increase compliance. This campaign is known as “*Operation Click It or Ticket.*”

During *Operation Click It or Ticket*, the Foster City Police Department issued nine citations for the violations of not wearing a seatbelt and for having an unrestrained child in the vehicle. The public was educated on the importance of wearing seatbelts and using child restraint systems. Statistics show the majority of U.S. drivers and passengers wear their seatbelts, so this event serves as an annual reminder for those already in compliance to continue the use of their seatbelts.

According to the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS), the *Click It or Ticket* campaign debuted in California in 2005. Since then, the state’s seatbelt use rate increased from 92.5 percent in 2005 to 96.2 percent in 2017, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Seatbelt Usage Report. California’s compliance rate of 96.2 percent is higher than the national average of 89.7 percent.

Distracted Driving Campaign

April was National Distracted Driver Awareness Month, which is a nationwide initiative aimed at decreasing cell phone related distracted driving. During this safety awareness campaign, the Foster City Police Department focused on identifying drivers who violated the cell phone usage laws. This enforcement effort resulted in the issuance of 14 citations for cell phone usage violations. Many more drivers were educated about the dangers of driving while distracted.

Driver distraction is a significant problem nationwide. According to the NHTSA data for the year 2017, distraction related crashes killed 3,450 people nationwide (9% of all collision related fatalities).

San Mateo County Saturation Traffic Enforcement Program (S.T.E.P.)

Each month in 2018, officers from the Foster City Police Department participated in the San Mateo County Saturation Traffic Enforcement Program, also known as the S.T.E.P. program. The objective of this program is to increase traffic safety awareness in order to reduce traffic related incidents and collisions resulting in injuries throughout San Mateo County. Each month, approximately 20 or more officers conducted concentrated traffic enforcement in two San Mateo County cities throughout one day. Participating officers focused their traffic enforcement efforts on specific traffic safety issues at locations identified through collision data, community complaints, and officers' expert analysis. In the month of February, S.T.E.P. worked in Foster City and addressed traffic safety issues through enforcement and education. Participation in S.T.E.P. will continue in 2019.

Directed Enforcement

In 2018, Foster City police officers regularly monitored major streets, intersections, streets around schools, and other high-traffic areas throughout Foster City. A priority for the Foster City Police Department was traffic safety around the schools during pick-up and drop-off times. Officers conducted focused enforcement patrols around the schools during times of high vehicle and pedestrian traffic.

The Foster City Police Department also conducted focused traffic enforcement/education during evening commute hours in the areas of S/R 92 at Metro Center Boulevard and Chess Drive. The objective of the Department's day-to-day proactive patrol activity was to enhance traffic safety by educating citizens and enforcing common violations of traffic laws that are known to be common causes of vehicle collisions.

2018 Supported Community Events

4th of July / Opening Day of Soccer

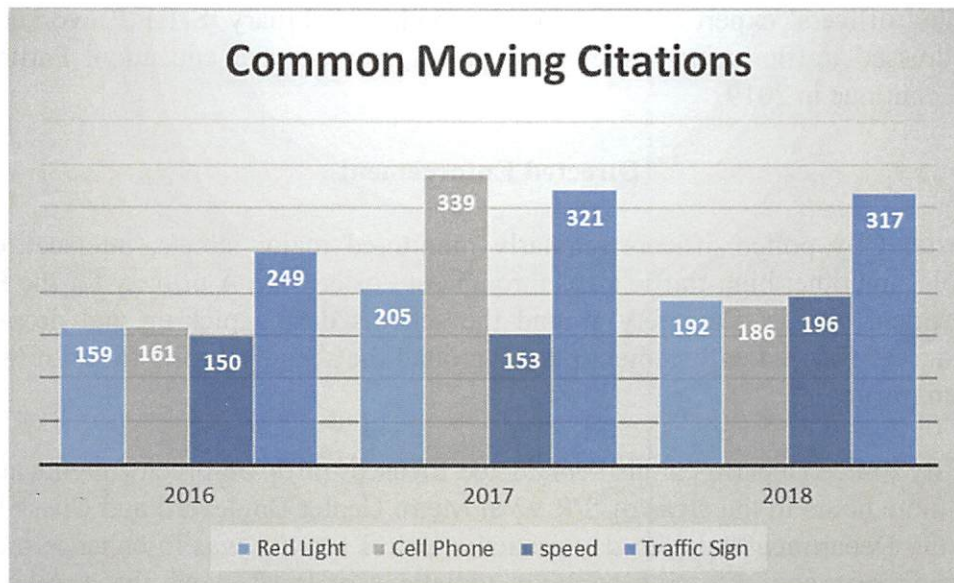
On July 4th, Foster City hosted a fireworks show in celebration of Independence Day. The event brought thousands of vehicles and pedestrians into our city. The Foster City Police Department utilized police officers, reserve police officers, community service officers, and officers from outside agencies to maintain a safe flow of traffic in and out of the city, which assisted in the Department receiving no calls for service involving a collision on this date.

On September 8th, officers from the Foster City Police Department assisted the American Youth Soccer Organization with traffic control during the opening day of the soccer season. Three officers, a community service officer, and a reserve officer assisted at the event by conducting pedestrian and vehicular traffic control to enhance safety.

The Foster City Police Department wholeheartedly supported these community events and other smaller events to enhance safety and to maintain Foster City’s reputation of being a great place to live, work, and play.

Moving Citations

Officers conducted 7,937 traffic enforcement stops in 2018, and issued 2,409 citations for traffic law violations and traffic related crimes. Citations were issued in 30% of the traffic enforcement stops, while warnings were issued for the remaining 70%. The graph below depicts the most common violations that were cited for.



Collision Statistics

There were 229 reported traffic collisions in 2018, an increase of 34 collisions as compared to the 2017 total. There were 156 collisions that occurred on public roadways and 73 collisions that occurred on private property. As a result of these collisions, 56 people reported being injured (includes complaints of pain). This was an increase of five when compared to the 2017 total. Of the 56 people who reported they were injured, one sustained injuries classified as major (this was the one fatality of a bicyclist). The most common Primary Collision Factor (PCF) for 2018 was unsafe turning movements, which was a factor in 48 of our 229 collisions. Unsafe backing was the PCF in 45 collisions and unsafe speed was the PCF in 41 collisions.

2017 – 2018 COMPARISON CHART

*Refer to legend below

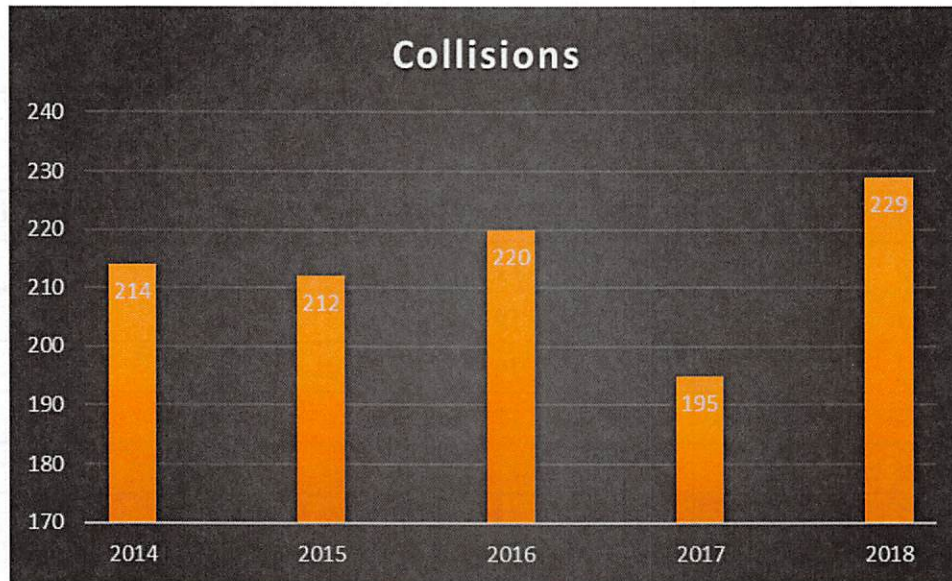
MOTOR VEHICLE COLLISIONS										
LAST YEAR (2017)						THIS YEAR (2018)				
	SWITRS REPORT ABLE	PRVT PROP	PERSONS INJURED	FATAL	TOTAL	SWITRS REPORT ABLE	PRVT PROP	PERSONS INJURED	FATAL	TOTAL
JAN	14	12	5	0	26	18	8	4	0	26
FEB	14	4	5	0	18	11	10	7	0	21
MAR	13	8	5	0	21	11	3	7	1	14
APR	5	6	2	0	11	13	4	4	0	17
MAY	14	5	7	0	19	13	7	3	0	20
JUNE	13	7	6	0	20	12	5	6	0	17
JULY	10	7	3	0	17	14	5	4	0	19
AUG	11	2	5	0	13	8	10	6	0	18
SEPT	11	3	9	0	14	16	4	3	0	20
OCT	8	0	2	0	8	16	8	6	0	24
NOV	9	5	0	0	14	13	6	3	0	19
DEC	10	4	2	0	14	11	3	3	0	14
TOTAL	132	63	51	0	195	156	73	56	1	229

***Comparison Chart Legend:**

REPORT TO STATE:	All reported collisions that occurred on a public roadway.
PRVT PROP:	All reported collisions that occurred on private property.
PERSONS INJURED:	The number of collision related injuries.
FATAL:	The number of collision related fatalities.

Five-Year Comparison

When comparing 2018 collision related statistics to 2014 statistics, 2018 brought an increase of 20 SWITRS reportable collisions, an increase of five private property collisions, an increase of one collision related fatality, an increase of five collision related injuries, and an increase of 15 total collisions.



Collisions Involving Bicyclists

Four collisions involving a vehicle and a bicyclist occurred in 2018. Three bicyclists sustained minor injuries or complained of pain that resulted from low speed, low impact collisions. These collisions occurred as a vehicle exited a driveway at slow speed or as a vehicle proceeded forward after slowing or stopping prior to driving through a crosswalk.

One collision involving a vehicle and a bicycle resulted in a fatality. In this case, the bicyclist crossed Foster City Boulevard against a red traffic signal and on the wrong side of the roadway. The bicyclist was struck by a vehicle traveling approximately 40 MPH along Foster City Boulevard. The driver had a green light to proceed as well as the right-of-way. The bicyclist was riding a recumbent bicycle, which places a rider much lower to the ground than a standard bicycle and may limit a driver's ability to see the rider.

The rate of occurrence for vehicle collisions involving a bicyclist was *one for every three months*.

Collisions Involving Pedestrians

There were seven collisions involving a vehicle and a pedestrian, which resulted in no major injuries. In two of the collisions, a pedestrian was struck while crossing in a marked crosswalk. One of the pedestrians suffered minor injuries and was treated at the scene. The other pedestrian suffered minor injuries at the scene, but was transported to a hospital due to his age. The remaining five collisions occurred on private property at low speeds, and were considered to be minor collisions with no substantial injuries reported.

The rate of occurrence for vehicle collisions involving pedestrians was *less than one per month*.

Collisions Related To Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol/Drugs

In 2018, eight collisions occurred involving drivers who were determined to be under the influence of alcohol/drugs. Of the eight collisions, only one person reported injuries as the result of the collision. There were no fatalities resulting from collisions related to violations of driving under the influence (DUI) of alcohol/drugs.

Collisions Involving Fatalities

Foster City experienced one fatal collision involving a vehicle and a bicyclist in 2018. This incident occurred on 3/23/2018, when the rider of a recumbent bicycle crossed Foster City Boulevard against a red traffic signal and on the wrong side of the roadway. As the bicyclist and the vehicle travelled through the intersection, the bicyclist was struck by the vehicle, which was traveling approximately 40 MPH along Foster City Boulevard. The driver of the vehicle had a green traffic signal as well as the right-of-way to proceed through the intersection. A full investigation of this collision revealed the bicyclist was at fault.

Abandoned Vehicle Abatement

Through officers' self-initiated activity and in response to calls for service, the Foster City Police Department monitors vehicles that are parked for periods of more than 72 hours, in accordance with the Foster City Municipal Code. For vehicles not moved for more than 72 hours, a parking citation may be issued, accompanied by a notice to move the vehicle. If the vehicle remains parked for an additional 72 hours or more, the vehicle may be towed in accordance with California state law.

In 2018, 478 vehicles were monitored for 72 hour observation and 168 citations were issued for being parked for more than 72 hours. This was an increase of 50 citations from the previous year. The Foster City Police Department had 13 vehicles towed through the enforcement of this municipal code, which was four fewer towed vehicles as compared to 2017.

Abandoned Vehicles Statistics Chart

72-Hour Observation / 11-24 Statistics

Month	Vehicles	Observations Made	Citations	Towed	% Cited	% Towed After Cite
January	17	47	3	0	17.65%	0
February	25	30	3	1	12.00%	33.33%
March	16	64	5	3	31.25%	60%
April	18	47	2	1	11.11%	50%
May	31	69	10	1	32.26%	10%
June	38	83	8	0	21.05%	0
July	34	82	8	1	23.53%	12.5%
August	44	69	10	0	22.73%	0
September	76	161	33	4	43.42%	12.12%
October	81	259	39	1	48.15%	2.56%
November	56	210	28	1	50%	3.57%
December	42	169	19	0	45.24%	0
2018 Total	478	1290	168	13	35.15%	7.74%
2017 Total	490	1220	118	17	24.08%	14.14%
Difference	-12	+90	+50	-4	+11.07%	-6.4%

Parking Violation Statistics

In 2018, 1,254 parking citations were issued, which was an increase of 196 citations as compared to 2017. The graph below depicts the most common parking violations that were cited for in 2018.

