

# **FOSTER CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT**



## **2019 ANNUAL TRAFFIC REPORT**



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## Introduction

This document provides an overview of Foster City's traffic statistics for the year of 2019. 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.

## Summary

In 2019, traffic collisions in Foster City increased from 2018, with an additional 2 collisions being reported. The number of reported injuries decreased slightly from 2018 with a total of 51 (down from 56 in 2018). Foster City did not have any fatalities resulting from collisions. Approximately 6% of the collisions involved a bicyclist or pedestrian. In the majority of collisions that involved a pedestrian or bicyclist, the involved vehicles traveled at low speeds. Additionally, these types of collisions occurred in parking lots, adjacent to driveways, or near a crosswalk. Consequently, the majority of injuries sustained in these types of collisions were classified as minor in nature.

In 2019, 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 and education were conducted to mitigate traffic congestion during evening commute times resulting from heavy traffic on local highways. The Foster City Police Department supported several community events to enhance the safety of participants and attendees. Officers providing pedestrian and vehicle traffic control supported events such as the Fourth of July celebration, First Day of the school year, AYSO Opening Day, and the community bike ride. Through these efforts, participants and attendees experienced safe and enjoyable events.

In 2019, the Foster City Police Department 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 seat belt 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, so the Department devotes significant resources toward this goal.

### **The 2019 traffic report includes the following noteworthy statistics:**

- There were 231 collisions, an increase of 2 from the 2018 total of 229.
- There were 51 people injured in vehicle collisions, a decrease of 5 from 2018.
- There were 4 collisions that resulted from a driver being under the influence of alcohol/drugs—1.6% of all collisions.
- There were 11 collisions involving bicyclists—4.6% of all collisions.
- There were 4 collisions involving pedestrians—1.6% of all collisions.
- FCPD officers conducted 6,369 traffic enforcement stops, a decrease of 1,568 stops over the 2018 total.
- FCPD officers issued citations (2,013) in approximately 32% of the stops, while warnings were given in 68% of stops.
- FCPD issued 986 parking citations, a decrease from the 2018 total of 1449.

## **2019 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 three citations for the violation of not wearing a seatbelt and children being unrestrained. The public was educated on the importance of wearing seat belts and using child restraint systems. Statistics have shown the majority of 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 seat belt use rate increased from 92.5 percent in 2005 to 97.1 percent in 2014 according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Seat Belt Usage Report. California’s compliance rate of 97.1 percent is higher than the national average of 87 percent. Seat belts help to save thousands of lives across America each year. Statistics indicate that motorists are 75% less likely to be killed in a rollover crash if they use a seatbelt.

### **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 11 citations for cell phone usage violations. Many more drivers were educated about the dangers of driving distracted.

Driver distraction is a significant and growing problem nationwide. According to the NHTSA data for the year 2014, distraction-affected crashes killed 3,179 people nationwide (10% of all fatalities).

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

Each month in 2019, 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 was 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 from around the county conducted concentrated traffic enforcement in two San Mateo County cities for the day. They would work in one city for four hours in the morning and then move to a second city for an additional four hours in the afternoon. Participating officers focused their traffic enforcement efforts to address specific traffic safety issues at locations identified by collision data, community complaints, or officer’s

expert analysis. During the month of February 2019, S.T.E.P. focused their efforts within Foster City to enhance traffic safety. Participation in S.T.E.P. will continue in 2020.

### **Directed Enforcement within Foster City**

In 2019, 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 traffic. The Foster City Police Department also conducted focused traffic enforcement to mitigate congestion during the evening commute in the areas of the on-ramps to Highway 92, from Metro Center Boulevard and Chess Drive. Foster City introduced the Traffic Relief Pilot Program, which prevented the left turn lanes of eastbound E. Hillsdale Boulevard at Edgewater Boulevard and Shell Boulevard to turn between the hours of 1600-1900 (Monday-Friday). The success of the program will continue in 2020. 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 cause vehicle collisions.

### **2019 Supported Community Events**

#### **4<sup>th</sup> of July / Opening Day of Soccer**

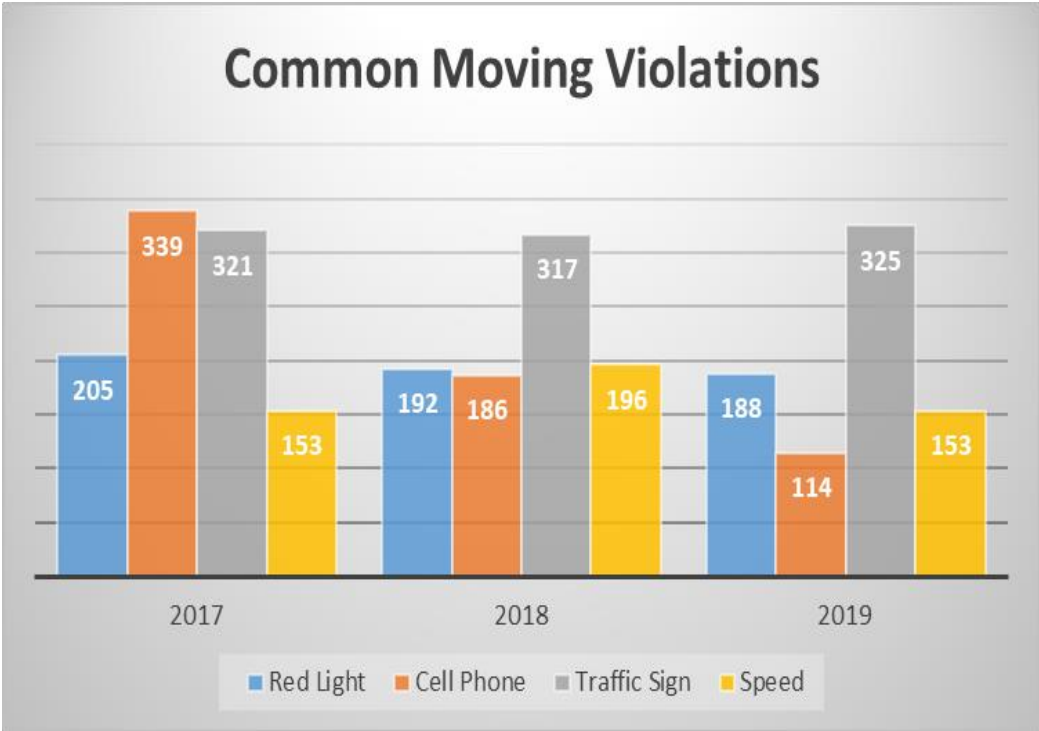
On July 4<sup>th</sup>, Foster City hosted a fireworks show in celebration of Independence Day. The event brought thousands of vehicles and pedestrians into our city. The Foster City Police Department utilized police officers, reserve police officers, community service officers, and officers from outside 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. The Emergency Operations Center was utilized as a command post for all operations during this event.

On September 7<sup>th</sup>, officers from the Foster City Police Department assisted the American Youth Soccer Organization for the opening day of the soccer season. Four officers 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. The Foster City Police Department is fully committed to enhancing safety at community events to keep Foster City a great place to live, work, and play.

**Moving Citations**

In 2019, officers conducted 6,369 traffic enforcement related stops. Officers issued a total of 2,013 traffic law violation/traffic related criminal citations. Citations were issued for 32% of the traffic enforcement stops, while warnings were given for the remaining 68% of the traffic enforcement stops. The graph below depicts the most common violations cited.



## Collision Statistics

In 2019, there were 231 reported traffic collisions, an increase of 2 collisions from the 2018 total. 145 collisions occurred on public roadways and 86 collisions occurred on private property. In 2019, a total of 51 people reported being injured (includes complaints of pain) as a result of vehicle collisions. This was an decrease of 5 people from the 2018 total. Of the 51 people who reported they were injured, there were no major injuries. The main Primary Collision Factor (PCF) for 2019 was unsafe turning movements, which were responsible for 63 of our 236 collisions.

### 2018 – 2019 COMPARISON CHART

\*Refer to legend below

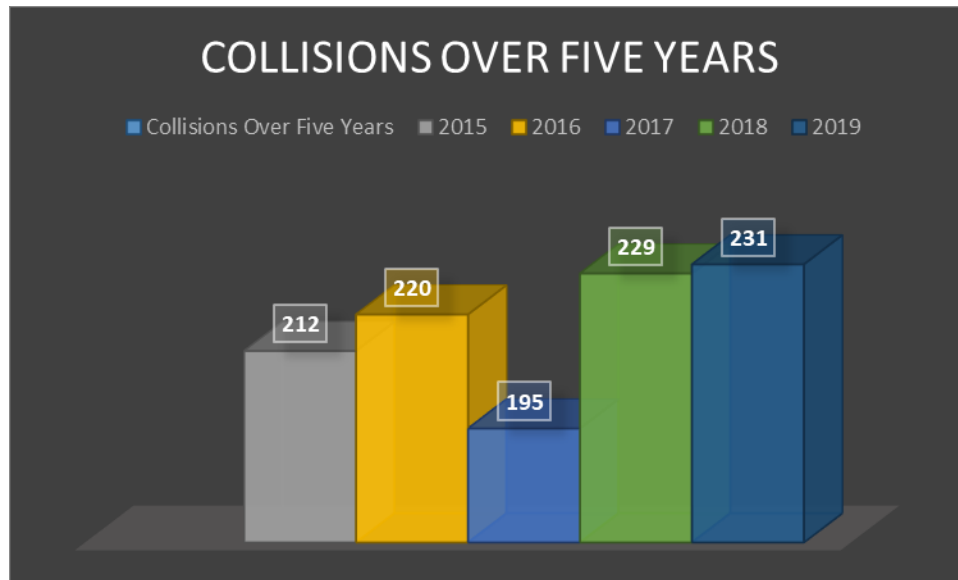
MOTOR VEHICLE COLLISIONS										
LAST YEAR (2018)						THIS YEAR (2019)				
	SWITRS REPORT ABLE	PRVT PROP	PERSONS INJURED	FATAL	TOTAL	SWITRS REPORT ABLE	PRVT PROP	PERSONS INJURED	FATAL	TOTAL
JAN	18	8	4	0	<b>26</b>	10	9	5	0	<b>19</b>
FEB	11	10	7	0	<b>21</b>	12	3	7	0	<b>15</b>
MAR	13	8	5	0	<b>21</b>	13	7	2	0	<b>20</b>
APR	11	3	7	1	<b>14</b>	5	7	1	0	<b>12</b>
MAY	13	7	3	0	<b>20</b>	10	7	3	0	<b>17</b>
JUNE	12	5	6	0	<b>17</b>	8	6	4	0	<b>14</b>
JULY	14	5	4	0	<b>19</b>	8	8	4	0	<b>16</b>
AUG	8	10	6	0	<b>18</b>	18	11	7	0	<b>29</b>
SEPT	16	4	3	0	<b>20</b>	17	3	7	0	<b>20</b>
OCT	16	8	6	0	<b>24</b>	21	8	2	0	<b>29</b>
NOV	13	6	3	0	<b>19</b>	12	9	4	0	<b>21</b>
DEC	11	3	3	0	<b>14</b>	11	8	5	0	<b>19</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	156	73	56	1	<b>229</b>	145	86	51	0	<b>231</b>

\*Comparison Chart Legend:

<b>REPORT TO STATE:</b>	All reported collisions that occurred on a public roadway.
<b>PRVT PROP:</b>	All reported collisions that occurred on private property.
<b>PERSONS INJURED:</b>	The number of injured persons in collisions that occurred.
<b>FATAL:</b>	The number fatalities that occurred a result of a collision.

## Collisions over the past five years:

Collisions increased by 2 in 2019 from 2018. The Foster City Police Department continued to conduct proactive traffic enforcement to enhance traffic safety and it will continue to be one of our primary goals for 2020.



## Collisions Involving Bicyclists

In 2019, there were eleven collisions involving a vehicle and a bicyclist. All eleven bicyclists sustained minor injuries or complained of pain that resulted from low speed, low impact collisions. The majority of these collisions occurred as a vehicle exited a driveway at slow speed or the vehicle proceeded ahead after slowing or stopping before driving through a crosswalk. The rate of occurrence for vehicle collisions involving a bicyclist was approximately *one per month*.

## Collisions Involving Pedestrians

There were four collisions involving a vehicle and a pedestrian, and none resulting in major injuries. In two of the collisions, a pedestrian was struck while crossing in a marked crosswalk. The remaining two collisions were considered minor and occurred on private property at low speeds. The rate of occurrence for vehicle collisions involving pedestrians was approximately *one for every 3 months*.

## Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol Collisions

In 2019, there were four collisions related to violations of driving under the influence (DUI) of alcohol/drugs. Of the four collisions, only one 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.



## Abandoned Vehicle Abatement

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. If a vehicle is not moved after 72 hours, the vehicle is issued a citation and a notice to move. If the vehicle remains parked for an additional 72 hours, the vehicle is then towed under California State law.

In 2019, 492 vehicles were monitored for the 72-hour observation and 152 citations were issued to vehicles for being parked for over 72 hours. This was a decrease of 16 citations from the previous year. The FCPD towed eight vehicles for being parked in violation of the 72-hour municipal code, which was a decrease of five tows from the previous year.

### Abandoned Vehicles Statistics Chart

**72-Hour Observation / Abandoned Vehicle Statistics**

Month	Vehicles	Observations Made	Citations	Towed	% Cited	% Towed After Cite
<b>January</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>49.15%</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>31.37%</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>40.63%</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25.58%</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>41.51%</b>	<b>4.55%</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>25.42%</b>	<b>6.67%</b>
<b>July</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>28.57%</b>	<b>25.00%</b>
<b>August</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2.70%</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>September</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>20.00%</b>	<b>20.00%</b>
<b>October</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27.03%</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>37.04%</b>	<b>10.00%</b>
<b>December</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>29.63%</b>	<b>12.50%</b>
2019 Total	492	1330	152	8	30.89%	5.26%
2018 Total	478	1290	168	13	35.15%	7.74%
Difference	+14	+40	-16	-5	-4.26%	-2.48%

# Parking Violation Statistics

In 2019, 986 parking citations were issued, which was a decrease of 463 citations as compared to 2018. The graph below depicts the most common parking violations cited.

