

# Targeted Police Enforcement



## DESCRIPTION:

Targeted police enforcement is the deployment of officers to specific streets or neighborhoods for a period of time to conduct radar speed enforcement and enforcement of traffic laws. The presence and actions of police has the immediate effect of reducing speeding, aggressive driving, stop sign violations, turn-restriction violations, and other traffic law violations but is likely not long term unless a sustained effort occurs.

## APPLICATION:

On neighborhood streets where speeding, other traffic law violations, and/or related crashes have been documented, the City of Albuquerque, Traffic Engineering Division may respond by submitting a request to the Albuquerque Police Department Metro Traffic Division for focused enforcement at the specified

locations. Because APD resources are limited, the duration of the targeted enforcement may be for a limited time. Targeted enforcement may also be requested in conjunction with new neighborhood traffic-management strategies to help drivers become aware of new restrictions or measures, such as turn prohibitions. The level of deployment can vary from one motor unit officer for a low-volume street to a team of patrol units at higher-volume locations.

Repeated short-term deployments over a longer term may be more cost-effective and results in a greater effect than one longer deployment (for example, eight 1 hour periods scattered over a few weeks rather than one 8 hour day). If regular drivers on a street see police enforcement at different times at the same location, they may be conditioned to anticipate enforcement in the future. If a radar speed trailer is deployed placing a police unit beyond a radar speed trailer, this may cause motorists to associate enforcement actions with the trailer, resulting in greater effectiveness of the radar speed trailer at a location.

## Advantages

- Highly effective in reducing speeding and other traffic law violations including stop sign running and illegal turns.
- Can be deployed on short notice and for the specific hours for which problems have been identified.
- Results are immediate.
- Can reduce crashes related to speeding and other violations.
- Low cost if used temporarily.
- Does not affect emergency vehicles.
- Targets violators without affecting normal traffic.
- Where neighborhood traffic-management measures have been recently deployed, the officers can issue warnings or citations at their discretion. This can promote public education regarding the new devices or restrictions.

## Disadvantages

- Effectiveness may be temporary, especially if the enforcement is deployed only once.
- Enforcement is limited to APD availability.

## Effectiveness Scorecard

	Speed	
	Volume	
	Cut-through	
	Crashes	
	Emergency Vehicle	
	Pedestrian	
	Bicycle	
	Noise	
	Cost	\$\$

Very Good   
 Good   
 Fair  
 Poor   
 Not Applicable



## Quick Glance

