

Red Light and Speed Camera Information

On July 3, 2011, automated traffic enforcement began in the City of Des Moines at the specified locations listed below. The following relevant information is to be used for reference and to address future inquiries.

REFERRAL PHONE NUMBERS

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| Des Moines Police Traffic Unit | 515-323-8370 |
| Phones answered M-F, 7:00 AM – 3:00 PM | |
| Des Moines Police Patrol Section..... | 515-283-4836 |
| Phones answered M-F, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM | |
| Gatso USA Traffic Enforcement Solutions..... | 855-370-4229 |
| Phones answered M-F, 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM Central time | |

RED LIGHT CAMERA LOCATIONS

1. East 15th & Maple Streets (northbound)
2. 19th Street & University Avenue (northbound)
3. Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway & School Street (eastbound)
4. SE 5th & Army Post Road (eastbound)
5. 9th Street & Grand Avenue (southbound)

The red-light camera locations are selected by using statistical information provided by the Iowa Department of Transportation with data reviewed yearly. The factors considered in determining placement:

- Number, severity, and types of accidents at the intersection
- Traffic volume
- Type of intersection control
- Construction standards
- Plans for intersection reconfiguration

SPEED ENFORCEMENT LOCATIONS

1. 4700 block of I-235 (eastbound)
2. Grand Avenue & 14th Street (westbound)
3. 9th Street & Grand Avenue (southbound)

Mobile radar units' locations are selected by citizen speed complaints, traffic volume, and using statistical information provided by the Iowa Department of Transportation.

- Mobile units will be placed in a different location each day.
- The locations will be announced daily through media outlets and the department's social media pages.

FINES

- \$65.00 for red light violations
- \$65.00 for speed violations 11-15 mph over the posted speed limit
- \$75.00 for speed violations 16-20 mph over the posted speed limit
- \$80.00 plus \$2.00 for each mph in excess of 21 mph over the posted speed limit

Note: ****The citations will be in the form of civil infractions and will not impact a person's driver's license.****

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is the purpose of the automated enforcement systems?

A. The police department is committed to the safety of our residents and visitors, including the motoring public. Traffic-related complaints are among the most frequently heard from our citizens. The purpose of the automated systems is to reduce accidents and seek voluntary compliance of traffic laws from motorists.

Q. How many enforcement systems are being utilized?

A. Along with the fixed position automated systems described above, the police department utilizes a mobile system that can be used to respond to areas that have a high rate of traffic accidents, locations of citizens concerns, school and construction zones and other enforcement as identified by the police department.

Q. Is a citation reported to the State of Iowa, Department of Transportation?

A. No, the citation is a civil infraction that holds the registered owner of the vehicle responsible for the infraction.

Q. How do I pay the citation or contest it?

A. The instructions for payment and contesting are on the notice. However, if you have lost the notice or need other payment information, please call 877-468-4912

Q. Are the systems legal?

A. Yes, the city has an ordinance, DM/114-243, that allows the enforcement systems. The Iowa Supreme Court has also stated that the systems are constitutional.

Q. How does the system work?

A. The speed systems, both mobile and fixed, use certified radar and a camera system to identify speeding motorists. If the radar system detects a speeding motorist, the camera is activated, and pictures of the speeding vehicle are taken. The radar system is lane specific, and the camera identifies which lane the detection came from. At least two clear pictures of the moving vehicle will be available for review.

The red-light system also uses a radar system to detect a vehicle if the traffic control light is red. The detection is lane specific; two pictures and a video will be available to identify the vehicle that went through the red light.

GATSO USA, the vendor, conducts the initial evaluation and the police department makes the final determination. All infractions are reviewed and the final decision to issue a citation or not is the responsibility of the police department.