



**FOSTER CITY  
POLICE DEPARTMENT  
TRAFFIC BUREAU  
2015 ANNUAL  
TRAFFIC REPORT**



*Excellent Service, Every call, Every contact, Every day.*

## Table of Contents

Page 3	Introduction and Summary
Page 4	2015 Traffic Enforcement Events
Page 5	2015 Supported Community Events
Page 6	Moving Citations Statistics
Page 7	Collision Statistics
Page 11	Abandoned Vehicle Abatement
Page 12	Parking Violation Citation Statistics
Page 13	Conclusion

## Introduction

This document provides an overview of Foster City's traffic statistics for the year of 2015. 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

During 2015, traffic collisions in Foster City decreased slightly from 2014. However, the number of reported injuries increased slightly from 2014. Foster City did not have any fatalities as the result of vehicle collisions. A small percentage 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 type 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. A few injuries were categorized as major.

During 2015, traffic and pedestrian safety remained the goal of enforcement and education efforts around the schools. Additionally, 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. Events such as the Fourth of July celebration, community bike ride, and the 10 Miler run were supported by officers providing pedestrian and vehicle traffic control, resulting in the events occurring without incident. Most importantly, participants and attendees experienced a safe and enjoyable event.

During 2015, 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 it devotes significant resources to continue to meet that goal.

### **The 2015 traffic report includes the following noteworthy statistics:**

- Overall, there were 212 collisions in 2015, a decrease from the 2014 total.
- There were 62 people injured as a result of being in a vehicle collision.
- There were ten collisions that resulted from a driver being under the influence of alcohol/drugs—4.7% of all collisions.
- There were ten collisions involving bicyclists—4.7% of all collisions.
- There were ten collisions involving pedestrians—4.7% of all collisions.
- There were no fatalities that resulted from collisions in 2015.
- FCPD officers conducted 8,238 traffic enforcement stops.
- Generally, FCPD officers issued citations in approximately one-fourth of the stops and provided warnings in approximately three-fourths of stops.
- 148 additional parking citations were issued over the 2014 total.

## **2015 Traffic Enforcement Events**

### **Avoid the 23 Campaign**

Throughout 2015, the Foster City Police Department participated in campaigns sponsored by the California Office of Traffic Safety aimed at mitigating driving under the influence of alcohol violations. Officers made 62 arrests for driving under the influence of alcohol and or drug violations, an average of 5 DUI arrests a month.

The first campaign took place on Memorial Day weekend in May of 2015. The second campaign was conducted in the summer during the month of August. The winter holiday campaign occurred between December 18<sup>th</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup>. During each campaign, officers from the Foster City Police Department participated in a task force deployed to identify and apprehend driving under the influence of alcohol violators. On August 30<sup>th</sup>, officers also participated in a countywide task force focused on serving arrest warrants for driving under the influence of alcohol violators who absconded.

### **Operation Click it or Ticket**

Between May 18<sup>th</sup> and May 31<sup>st</sup>, 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 20 citations for the violation of not wearing a seatbelt and children being unrestrained. Moreover, the public was educated on the importance of wearing seat belts and using child restraint systems. Because the high majority of vehicle drivers and passengers wear seatbelts, this event is an annual reminder to the public about the importance of wearing 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 NHTSA (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration) 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**

National Distracted Driver Awareness Month occurred in April 2015, which is a nationwide initiative to decrease distracted driving in the form of talking on a cell phone or sending/receiving a text while driving. During this safety awareness campaign, the Foster City Police Department focused on identifying drivers who violated the use of cell phone while driving law. This enforcement effort resulted in the issuance of 54 citations for violations of talking on a cell phone while driving. It also resulted in 15 citations for violations of the use of a cell phone to send/receive a text while driving.

Driver distraction is a significant and growing problem nationwide. According to the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration 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 2015, officers of 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 for the day. They would work 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 2015, S.T.E.P. focused their efforts within Foster City to enhance traffic safety. Participation in S.T.E.P. will continue in 2016.

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

During 2015, 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. Consequently, 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, Metro Center Boulevard and Foster City Boulevard. The goal was to patrol the area to reduce violations, mitigate congestion in intersections, and ensure a safe commute. The objective of the department's day-to-day proactive patrol activity was to enhance traffic safety by educating and enforcing common violations of traffic laws that cause vehicle collisions.

### **2015 Supported Community Events**

#### **10-Miler Run / 4<sup>th</sup> of July / Opening Day of Soccer / Community Bike Ride / Head of the Lagoon**

On January 18<sup>th</sup>, Foster City hosted the Corrigan Sports Enterprises 10 Mile & 5K run through Foster City. The event attracted approximately 200 participants, which took them on a course through Foster City. The Foster City Police Department supported the event by providing approximately 20 officers and volunteers to assist with traffic control. The event was a success. Moreover, there were no injuries due to vehicular traffic during the event.

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, Foster City hosted a fireworks show in celebration of Independence Day. The event brought in 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. The Emergency Operations Center was utilized as a command post for all operations during this event.

On September 12<sup>th</sup>, officers from the Foster City Police Department assisted the American Youth Soccer Organization for the opening day of the soccer season. Two officers, a community service officer, and two explorers assisted at the event by conducting pedestrian and vehicular traffic control to enhance safety.

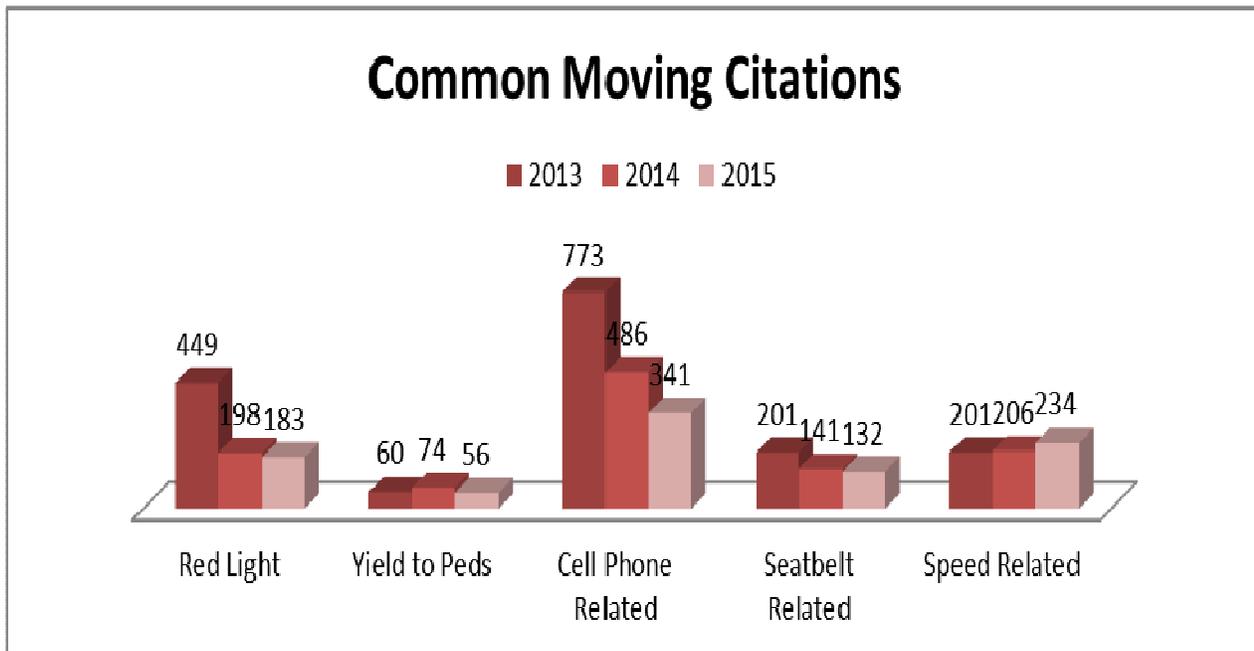
On September 20<sup>th</sup>, officers assisted the Parks and Recreation Department with the Annual Community Bike Ride. Officers enhanced the safety of participants by conducting traffic control and led the group of cyclists safely through Foster City streets from Boothbay Park until they reached the designated course on the levee.

During November 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, the Head of the Lagoon rowing event was held in Foster City. The event brought vehicle traffic and people into the city to participate and to view the event. The Foster City Police Department utilized reserve officers to assist with maintaining a safe flow of traffic in, out and around the event.

The Foster City Police Department wholeheartedly supported these community events and other smaller events; although, it did so with fewer officers on staff than in previous years. 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 2015, officers conducted 8,238 traffic enforcement related stops. Officers issued a total of 2,380 traffic law violation/traffic related criminal citations. Citations were issued during 29% of the traffic enforcement stops, while warnings were given during 71% of the traffic enforcement stops conducted. The graph below depicts the most common violations cited.



## Collision Statistics

In 2015, there were 212 reported traffic collisions, a decrease of 2 collisions to from the 214 collisions reported in 2014. 137 collisions occurred on public roadways and 75 collisions occurred on private property. During 2015, a total of 62 people reported being injured as a result of a vehicle collision, which is an increase of 11 people from the 2014 total. Of the 62 people who reported they were injured, 8 (12.9%) sustained injuries classified as major injuries. The majority, 54 (87.1%), reported sustaining minor injuries or complained of pain. No collision related fatalities occurred in 2015.

### 2014 – 2015 COMPARISON CHART

\*Refer to legend below

MOTOR VEHICLE COLLISIONS										
LAST YEAR (2014)						THIS YEAR (2015)				
	REPORT TO STATE	PRVT PROP	PERSONS INJURED	FATAL	TOTAL	REPORT TO STATE	PRVT PROP	PERSONS INJURED	FATAL	TOTAL
JAN	15	6	9	0	21	20	9	10	0	29
FEB	14	7	3	0	21	8	2	2	0	10
MAR	14	1	3	0	15	13	6	6	0	19
APR	5	8	3	0	13	9	5	7	0	14
MAY	12	11	3	0	23	15	8	4	0	23
JUNE	8	8	7	0	16	10	6	4	0	16
JULY	10	4	2	0	14	6	6	5	0	12
AUG	13	9	2	0	22	11	6	4	0	17
SEPT	11	7	7	0	18	11	5	9	0	16
OCT	15	6	4	0	21	13	8	3	0	21
NOV	10	8	5	0	18	7	8	4	0	15
DEC	9	3	3	0	12	14	6	4	0	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	136	78	51	0	214	137	75	62	0	212

\*Comparison Chart Legend:

**REPORT TO STATE** All reported collisions that occurred on a public roadway.

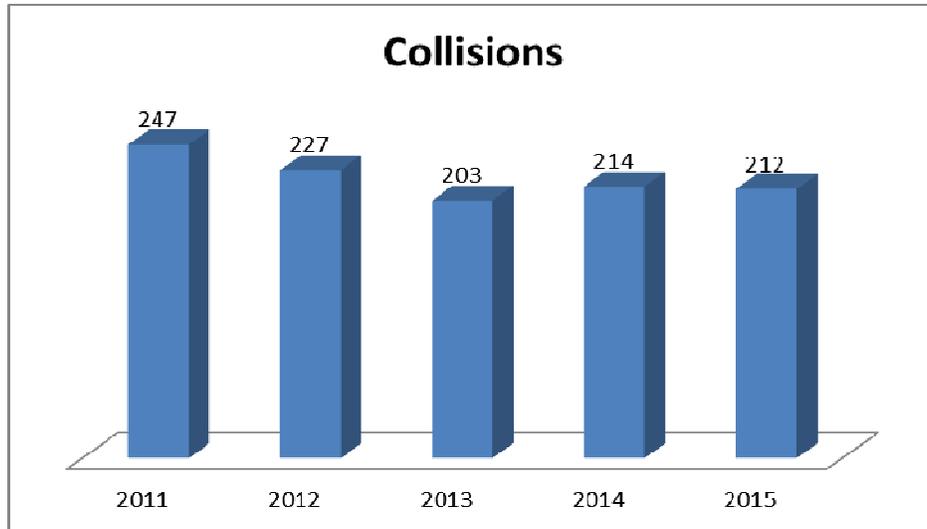
**PRVT PROP** All reported collisions that occurred on private property.

**PERSONS INJURED** The number of injured persons in collisions that occurred on either a public roadway or on private property.

**FATAL** The number fatalities that occurred a result of a collision.

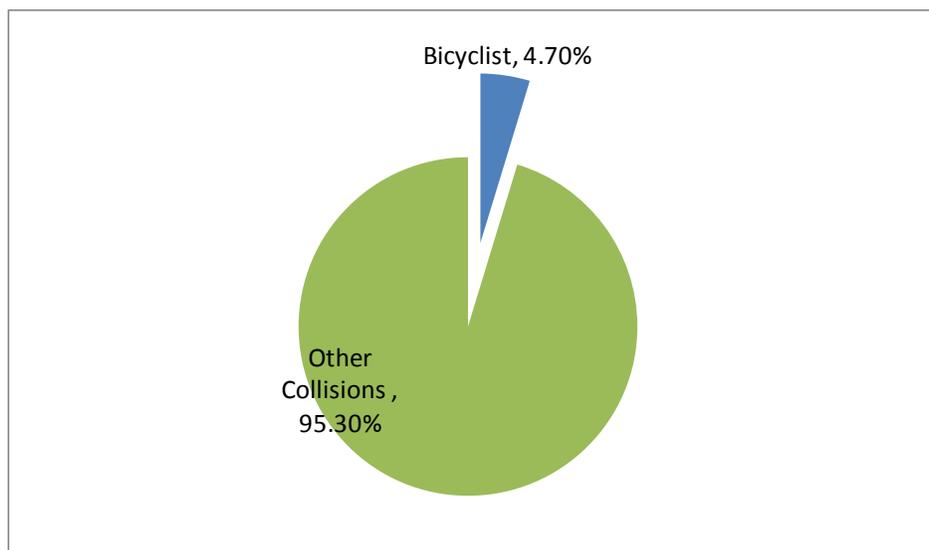
## Collisions Over Five Years

From 2011 through 2013 vehicle collisions decreased. Although collisions increased slightly in 2014, they decreased again in 2015. 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 2016.



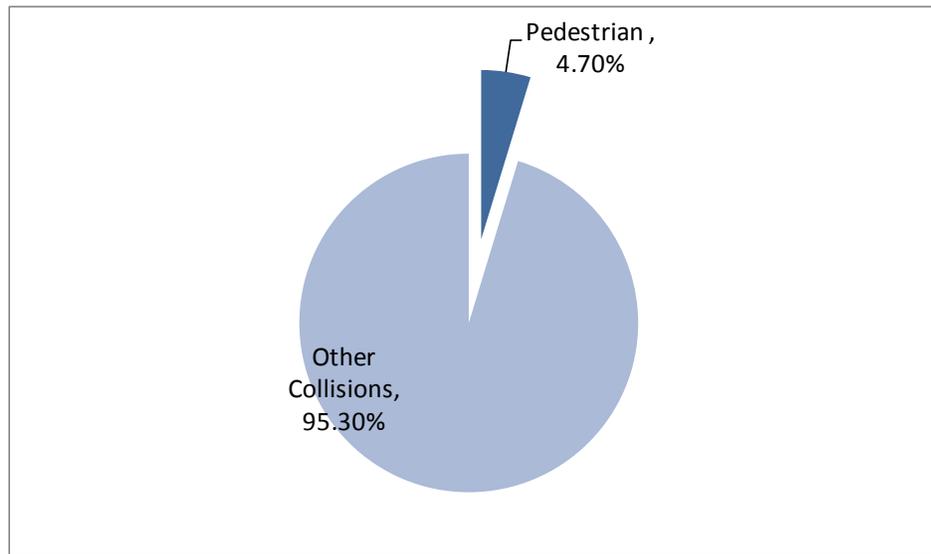
## Collisions Involving Bicyclist

During 2015, there were ten collisions involving a vehicle and a bicyclist. One bicyclist sustained injuries categorized as major injuries. Nine bicyclists sustained minor injuries or complained of pain that resulted from low speed, low impact collisions. The majority 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 *less than one per month*.



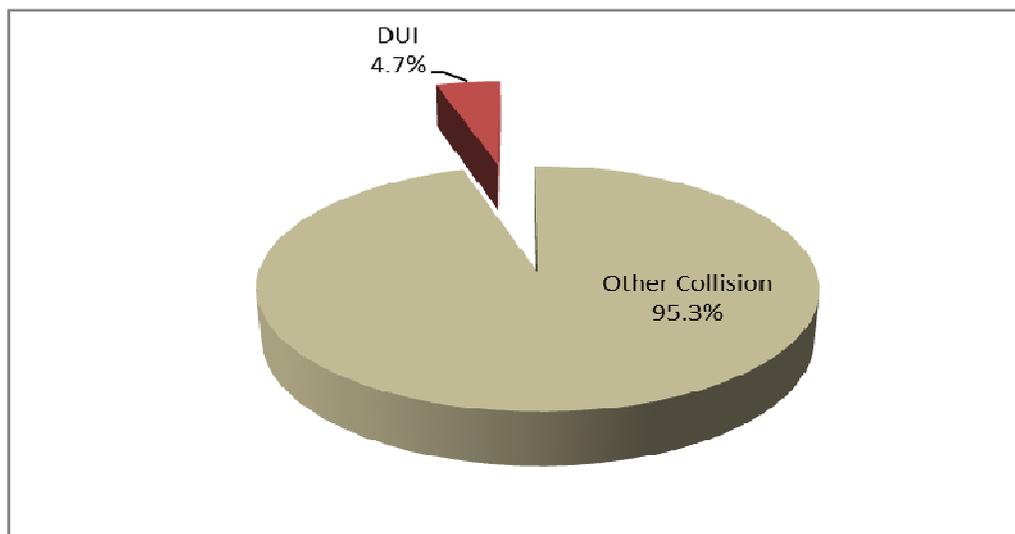
## Collisions Involving Pedestrians

There were ten collisions involving a vehicle and a pedestrian. In three of those collisions, the pedestrians sustained major injuries. In seven collisions the pedestrians sustained a minor injury or complained of pain. The majority of the collisions occurred in a private parking lot, as a vehicle exited from a private property through a driveway at slow speed, and as the vehicle made a right turn on a public roadway. The rate of occurrence for vehicle collisions involving pedestrians was *less than one per month*.



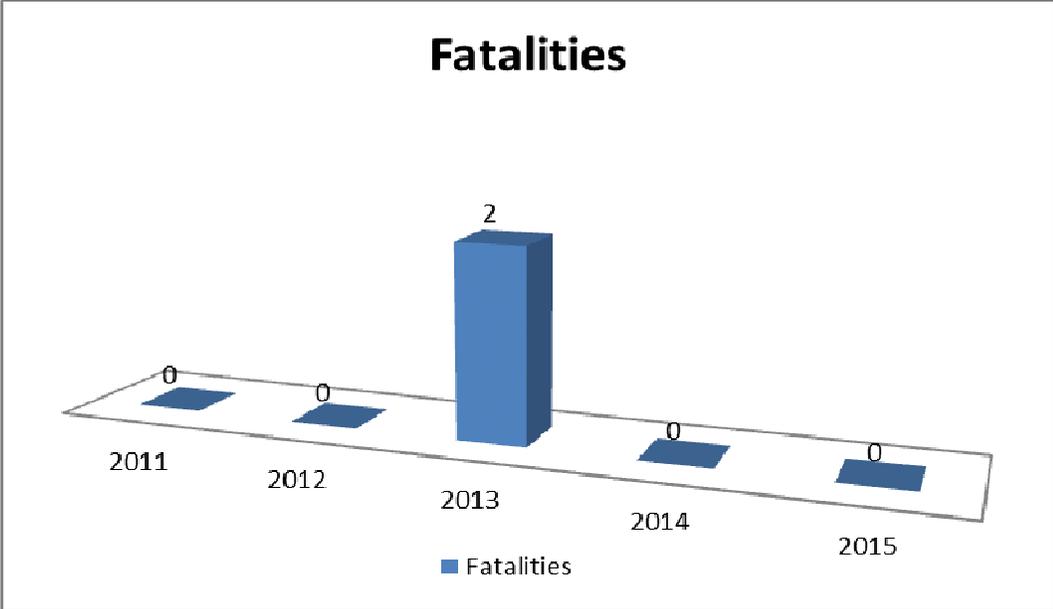
## Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol Collisions

During 2015, there were ten collisions related to violations of driving under the influence (DUI) of alcohol/drugs. Of the ten collisions, three people reported minor 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 with Fatalities**

During 2105, Foster City had **zero** fatalities as the result of vehicle collisions. In the span of 21 years, two fatalities resulting from vehicle collisions occurred, both in 2013.



## Abandoned Vehicle Abatement

The Foster City Police Department monitors vehicles that are parked for periods more than 72 hours in accordance with Foster City municipal code. If a vehicle is not moved after 72 hours, the vehicle is issued a citation and notice to move. If the vehicle remains parked for an additional 72 hours, the vehicle is then towed under California State law.

During 2015, 586 vehicles were monitored for the 72 hour observation and 178 citations were issued to vehicles for being parked for over 72 hours. This is an increase of 47 citations from the previous year. There were 12 vehicles that were towed for being parked in violation of the 72 hour municipal code, which is an increase of 3 tows from the previous year.

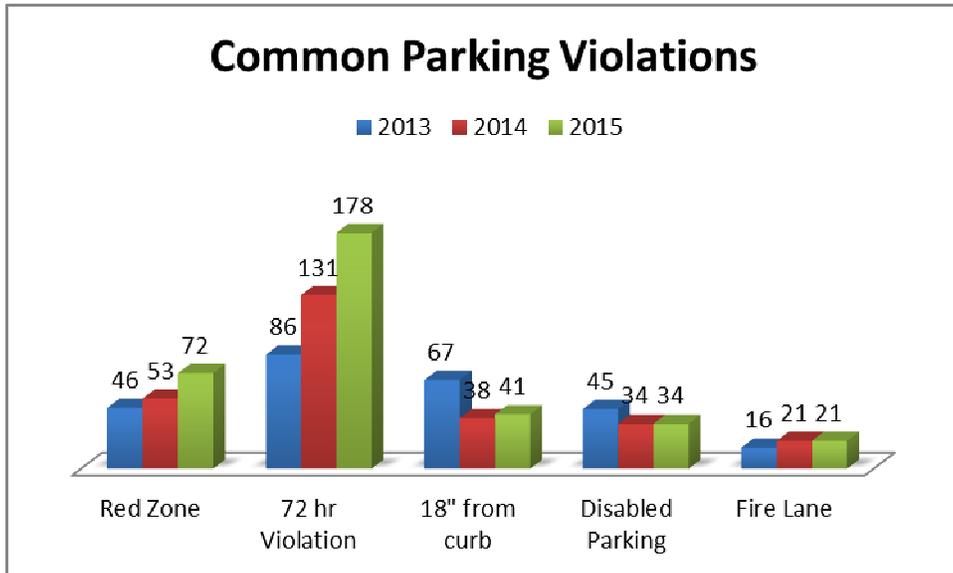
### Abandoned Vehicles Statistics Chart

#### 72-Hour Observation / 11-24 Statistics

Month	Vehicles	Observations Made	Citations	Towed	% Cited	% Towed After Cite
January	37	135	15	0	40.54%	0
February	40	74	11	1	27.50%	9.09%
March	24	105	16	1	66.67%	6.25%
April	32	39	13	2	40.63%	15.38%
May	40	93	5	0	12.50%	0
June	52	141	8	1	15.38%	12.50%
July	85	213	20	0	23.53%	0
August	79	346	16	1	20.25%	6.25%
September	72	265	25	1	34.72%	4.00%
October	62	266	28	4	45.16%	14.29%
November	39	178	11	0	28.21%	0
December	24	114	10	1	41.67%	10.00%
2015 Total	586	1969	178	12	30.38%	6.74%
2014 Total	426	1460	131	9	30.75%	6.87%
Difference	+160	+509	+47	+3	-0.37%	-0.13%

## Parking Violation Statistics

In 2015, 686 parking citations were issued, which is 148 more citations issued from the 538 citations in 2014. The graph below depicts the most common parking violations cited.



## **CONCLUSION**

During 2015, the Foster City Police Department proactively conducted traffic enforcement with the goal of enhancing the safety of motorists, vehicle passengers, pedestrians, and bicyclists. To achieve its objective, officers of the Foster City Police Department participated in four traffic safety campaigns: Avoid the 23, Operation Click it or Ticket, Distracted Driving, and San Mateo County Saturation Traffic Enforcement Program (S.T.E.P.). Day in and day out, Foster City Police Department officers conducted directed traffic enforcement throughout the city and focused their efforts on major streets, around all schools and high traffic areas. 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, Metro Center Boulevard and Foster City Boulevard. The objective was to patrol the area to reduce violations, mitigate congestion in intersections, and ensure a safe commute.

During 2015, officers continued their efforts to enhance traffic safety through proactive enforcement of traffic laws resulting in 8,238 traffic enforcement stops resulting in 2380 citations being issued. During those traffic stops, a citation was issued in approximately one-fourth of the traffic stops, and an educational warning was given in nearly three-fourths of the traffic stops. A priority for the Foster City Police Department was traffic safety around the schools during pick-up and drop-off times. Consequently, officers conducted focused enforcement patrols around the schools during times of high vehicle traffic. Furthermore, the Foster City Police Department conducted traffic and pedestrian control at community events to enhance the safety of people who participated in the events. The objective of all focused traffic enforcement efforts was to enhance motorist and pedestrian safety.

There were fewer traffic collisions in 2015 than the previous year. However, the total number of people injured who were involved in a vehicle collision increased slightly. The number of pedestrians or bicyclists involved in collisions remained a small percentage of the total number of vehicle collisions. The number of fatalities resulting from collisions remained at zero. In general, Foster City continues to maintain a trend of high traffic safety.

To abate abandoned vehicles parked on the public streets, continuously monitoring for 72-hour parking violations was conducted. Vehicles found not to comply with the 72-hour ordinance were issued a citation, and after further non-compliance, the vehicles were towed away. Consequently, 137 were issued, and 12 vehicles towed for the violation. In 2015, 686 parking citations were issued, an increase of 148 over the 2014 total.

The Foster City Police Department remains committed to providing Excellent Service, Every Call, Every Contact, Every day and to maintaining or improving the current level of traffic safety, so that Foster City continues to be a great place to live, work, and play in 2016.