

FOSTER CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT



2016 ANNUAL TRAFFIC REPORT



Joseph Pierucci- Chief of Police

**Report prepared by
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Introduction

This document provides an overview of Foster City's traffic statistics for the year of 2016. 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 2016, traffic collisions in Foster City increased slightly from 2015. However, the number of reported injuries decreased by 18 from 2015. 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 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. One injury was categorized as major.

During 2016, traffic and pedestrian safety remained the goal of enforcement and education efforts around the schools. 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 2016, 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 2016 traffic report includes the following noteworthy statistics:

- Overall, there were 220 collisions in 2016, an increase from the 2015 total of 212.
- There were 40 people injured in vehicle collisions, a decrease of 18.
- There were 12 collisions that resulted from a driver being under the influence of alcohol/drugs—5.4% of all collisions.
- There were 6 collisions involving bicyclists—2.7% of all collisions.
- There were 6 collisions involving pedestrians—2.7% of all collisions.
- There were no fatal collisions in 2016.
- FCPD officers conducted 6,716 traffic enforcement stops.
- FCPD officers issued citations in approximately 22% of the stops and provided warnings in approximately 78% of stops.
- FCPD issued 874 parking citations, an increase from the 2015 total of 686.

2016 Traffic Enforcement Events

Avoid the 23 Campaign

Throughout 2016, 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 February 26th and the second campaign was conducted on July 1st. During each campaign, officers from the Foster City Police Department participated in a task force deployed to identify and apprehend driving under the influence violators. On August 26th, officers also participated in a DUI checkpoint conducted in Daly City.

Operation Click it or Ticket

Between May 20th and June 5th, 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 19 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. 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 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 to decrease distracted driving from using a cell phone while 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 7 citations for cell phone usage violations and 1 citation for texting while driving.

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 2016, 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 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 2016, S.T.E.P. focused their efforts within Foster City to enhance traffic safety. Participation in S.T.E.P. will continue in 2017.

Directed Enforcement within Foster City

During 2016, 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, Metro Center Boulevard and Foster City Boulevard. 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. To help address the issue, the Police Department partnered with the City Engineer to erect new traffic signage in and around Foster City Boulevard at the connectors with S/R- 92. The intent was to assist with traffic flow, and to reduce the number of collisions and road rage incidents by directing freeway traffic to specific lanes.

2016 Supported Community Events

10-Miler Run / 4th of July / Opening Day of Soccer / Bicycle Safety class

On January 24th, Foster City hosted the Corrigan Sports Enterprises 10 Mile & 5K run through Foster City. The event attracted approximately 350 participants, which took them on a course through Foster City. The Foster City Police Department supported the event by providing approximately 20 officers, volunteers and outside agency personnel to assist with traffic control. The event was a success and there were no injuries due to vehicular traffic during the event.

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. The Emergency Operations Center was utilized as a command post for all operations during this event.

On September 10th, officers from the Foster City Police Department assisted the American Youth Soccer Organization for 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.

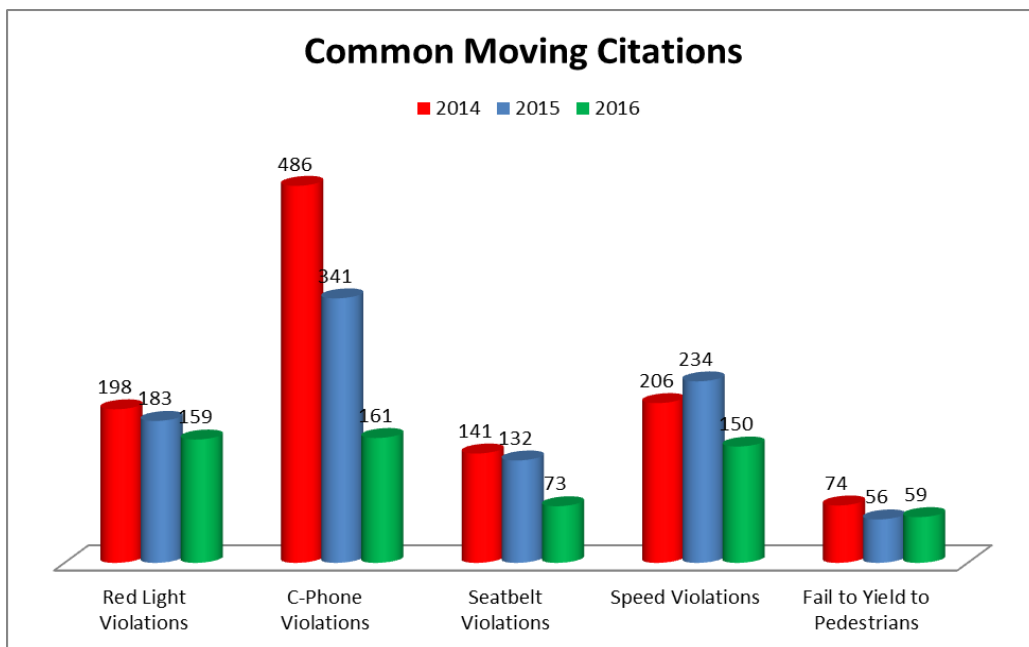
During November 11th-12th, the Head of the Lagoon rowing event was held in Foster City. The event brought vehicle traffic and people into the city to participate and to view the event. The Foster City Police Department utilized reserve officers to assist with maintaining a safe flow of traffic in, out and around the event.

On Thursday, September 22nd, a training class was conducted at Bowditch Middle School regarding bicycle safety. This idea came about after several collisions involving bicyclists who attended Bowditch. The goal was to educate teen bike riders on the importance of following the rules of the road and what hazards they need to be aware of when riding their bicycles. This event was supported by members of the Burlingame and Belmont Police Departments, who each allowed one of their officers to assist in the event.

The Foster City Police Department wholeheartedly supported these community events and other smaller events; despite a challenge with adequate staffing levels. 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 2016, officers conducted 6,716 traffic enforcement related stops. Officers issued a total of 2,859 traffic law violation/traffic related criminal citations. Citations were issued during 22% of the traffic enforcement stops, while warnings were given during 78% of the traffic enforcement stops. The graph below depicts the most common violations cited.



Collision Statistics

In 2016, there were 220 reported traffic collisions, an increase of 8 collisions from the 2015 total. 149 collisions occurred on public roadways and 70 collisions occurred on private property. During 2016, a total of 40 people reported being injured as a result of a vehicle collision, which was a decrease of 18 people from the 2015 total. Of the 40 people who reported they were injured, only 1 (0.25%) sustained injuries classified as major injuries. The majority, 39 (99.75%), reported sustaining minor injuries or complained of pain. No collision related fatalities occurred in 2016.

2015 – 2016 COMPARISON CHART

*Refer to legend below

MOTOR VEHICLE COLLISIONS										
LAST YEAR (2015)					THIS YEAR (2016)					
	SWITRS REPOR TABLE	PRVT PROP	PERSONS INJURED	FATAL	TOTAL	SWITRS REPOR TABLE	PRVT PROP	PERSONS INJURED	FATAL	TOTAL
JAN	20	9	10	0	29	12	2	2	0	14
FEB	8	2	2	0	10	14	8	4	0	22
MAR	13	6	6	0	19	15	4	5	0	19
APR	9	5	7	0	14	6	7	1	0	13
MAY	15	8	4	0	23	14	8	6	0	22
JUNE	10	6	4	0	16	11	2	2	0	13
JULY	6	6	5	0	12	11	7	3	0	18
AUG	11	6	4	0	17	14	6	3	0	20
SEPT	11	5	9	0	16	15	4	5	0	19
OCT	13	8	3	0	21	16	4	4	0	20
NOV	7	8	4	0	15	15	6	5	0	21
DEC	14	6	4	0	20	6	13	0	0	19
TOTAL	137	75	58	0	212	149	70	40	0	220

*Comparison Chart Legend:

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

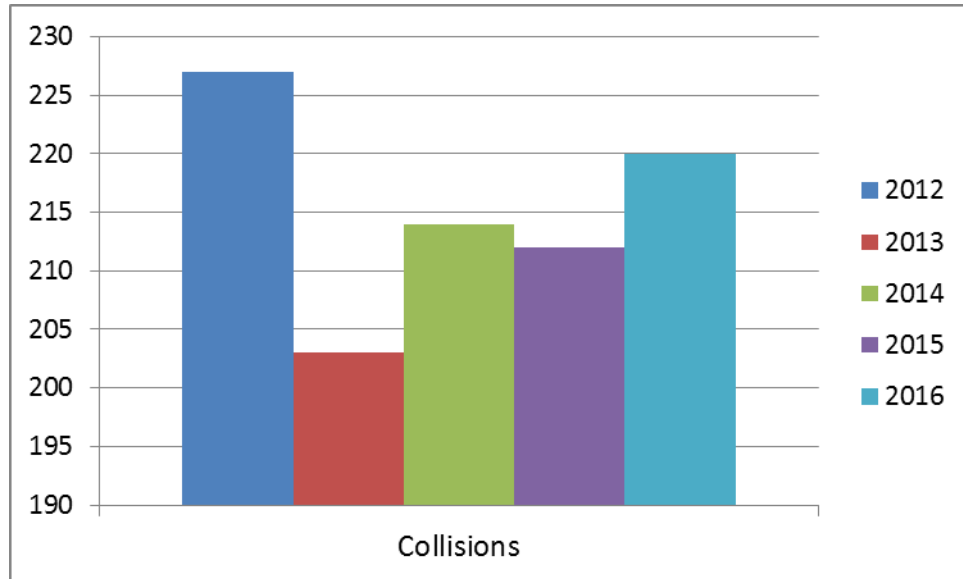
PRVT PROP: All reported collisions that occurred on private property.

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.

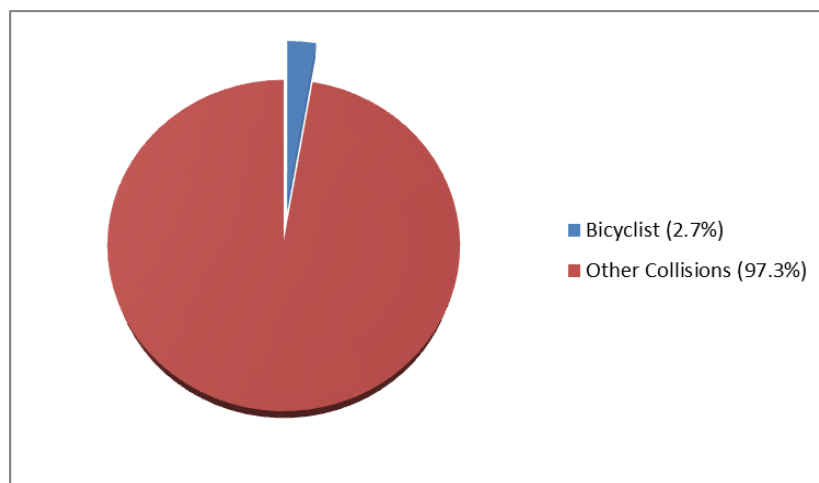
Collisions over five years:

Although collisions increased slightly in 2016 from 2015, they were still below the 5-year high of 227 from 2012. 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 2017.



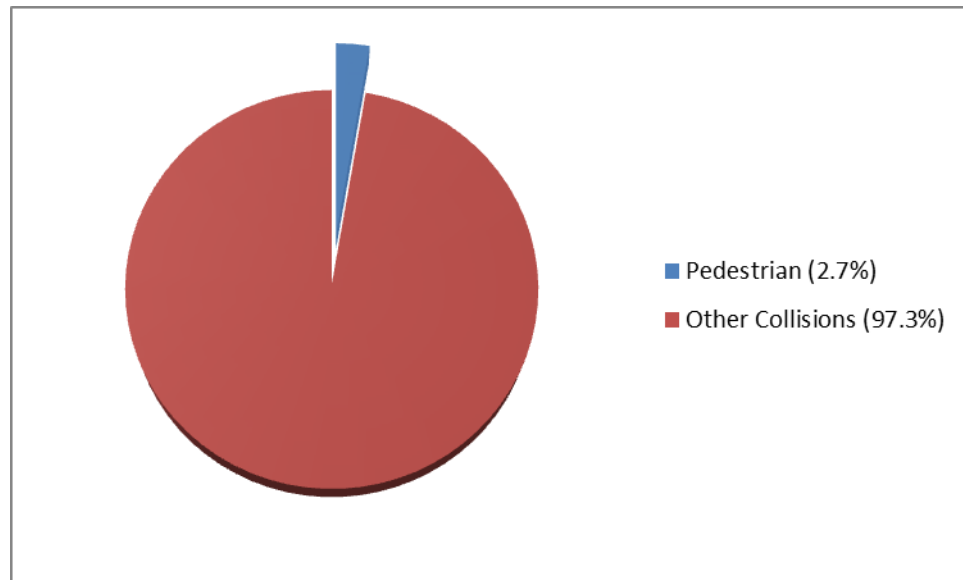
Collisions Involving Bicyclist

During 2016, there were six collisions involving a vehicle and a bicyclist. No bicyclist sustained injuries categorized as major injuries. Five 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*.



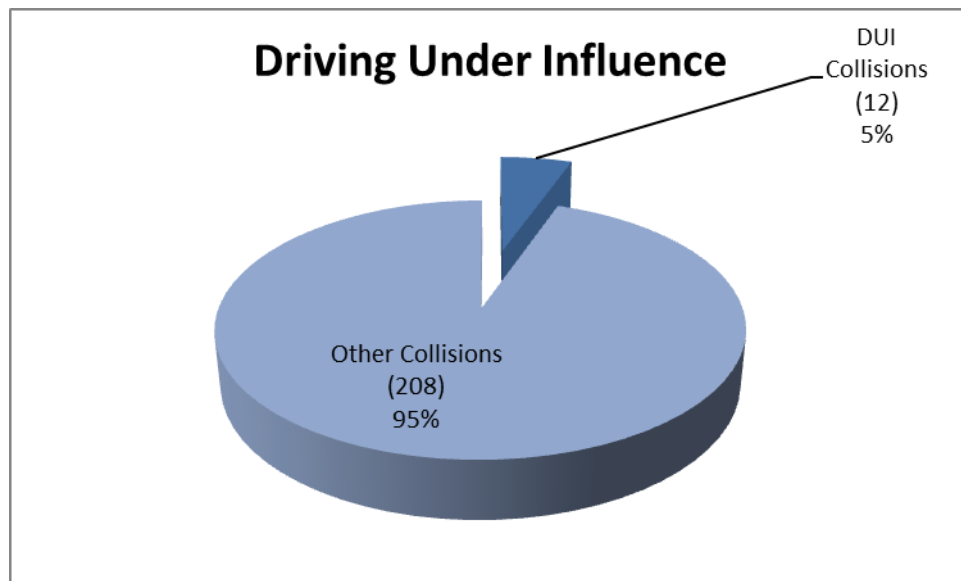
Collisions Involving Pedestrians

There were six collisions involving a vehicle and a pedestrian and no major injuries occurred. 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 2016, 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 2016, Foster City had **zero** fatal vehicle collisions. Over the last 21 years, two fatal 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 2016, 435 vehicles were monitored for the 72 hour observation and 130 citations were issued to vehicles for being parked for over 72 hours. This was a decrease of 48 citations from the previous year. FCPD towed 7 vehicles for being parked in violation of the 72 hour municipal code, which was a decrease of 5 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	36	72	4	0	11.11%	0
February	38	133	12	1	31.58%	8.33%0
March	49	148	24	0	48.98%	0
April	32	193	8	0	25.00%	0
May	34	132	9	0	26.47%	0
June	26	74	3	0	11.54%	0
July	45	123	9	1	20.00%	11.11%
August	52	135	13	0	25.00%	0
September	41	121	14	1	34.15%	7.14%
October	43	114	22	2	51.16%	9.09%
November	21	84	7	2	33.33%	28.57%
December	18	65	5	0	27.78%	0
2016 Total	435	1394	130	7	29.89%	5.38%
2015 Total	586	1969	178	12	30.38%	6.74%
Difference	-151	-575	-48	-5	-0.49%	-1.36%

Parking Violation Statistics

In 2016, 874 parking citations were issued, which was 188 more citations issued from the 686 citations in 2015. The graph below depicts the most common parking violations cited.

