

PHOTO RADARS AND RED-LIGHT CAMERAS

Québec unveils the 15 locations chosen for its pilot project

Montréal, February 24, 2009 — The Minister of Transport of Québec and Minister responsible for the Mauricie region, Ms. Julie Boulet, accompanied by numerous partners, today unveiled the locations where photo radars and red-light cameras will be installed under a pilot project.

The project includes 15 locations (see attached list), distributed as follows:

- in Montréal: 3 red-light surveillance locations, 2 fixed photo radars and 1 mobile photo radar;
- in Montérégie: 1 red-light surveillance locations, 2 fixed photo radars and 1 mobile photo radar;
- in Chaudière-Appalaches: 2 red-light surveillance locations, 2 fixed photo radars and 1 mobile photo radar.

These locations were chosen carefully, targeting sites where a lot of accidents occur, attributable to speeding or failure to stop at red lights. The difficulty of conventional police control was also taken into account in choosing the sites.

Focus on safety

The Minister of Transport recalled that the introduction of such devices on the road network is the object of a broad consensus and that it is one of the measures adopted by the National Assembly in December 2007 in order to improve the Québec road accident toll. "Quebecers are ready for this significant change of direction, which gives an incentive to change behaviour on the road. Once again we are showing them that road safety is a government priority for which we spare no effort. We are convinced that this project has the potential for major leverage in the pursuit of our goal of improving road safety to save lives," Ms. Boulet pointed out.

The project is inspired by experiences in other countries, where the installation of such devices had a positive impact by reducing accidents and decreasing social costs. In France, for example, 75% of the road safety gains have been attributed to the installation of photo radar. The revenues coming from fines imposed under the pilot project will be paid to the Road Safety Fund, intended to finance road safety or road accident victim assistance programs and measures.

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Operation of the project

Three key dates should be remembered during this project. May 19, 2009 will begin a three-month trial period during which the offenders will receive warning letters. Starting August 19, 2009, the pilot project will begin for an 18-month period and notices of offence will be sent to the offenders. Finally, by August 2010, one year after the pilot project begins, an evaluation report will be submitted to the government and then be presented to the National Assembly.

The analysis of the results contained in this report will then provide useful clarification, particularly concerning the use of equipment and technology if the National Assembly concludes that it is beneficial to install these devices on a larger scale in Québec. This analysis will also make it possible to specify the different administrative, financial and technological conditions.

Obviously, road users will have access to all the necessary information. At any time, they can visit the Ministère des Transports website at www.mtg.gouv.qc.ca and the government portal at www.gouv.qc.ca to see all of the information, particularly the target regions, the locations where the devices will be used and the new signs that will be installed for this purpose.

A government project involving several partners

Remember that the photographic surveillance pilot project accounts for the concerns of the members of the Table québécoise de la sécurité routière and reflects their consensus. This project is the result of a concerted effort by several departments and partners, including the Ministère des Transports, which is responsible for the project, the Ministère de la Sécurité publique, the Ministère de la Justice, the Sûreté du Québec, the Service de police de la ville de Montréal, the Association des directeurs de police du Québec, Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec, and the mayors of the municipalities concerned, who expressed their support for conducting this project in their respective territories.

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APPENDIX

LIST OF THE 15 LOCATIONS

MONTRÉAL NUMBER (6)

Surveillance at red lights (3)

Name of location	Posted speed limit (km/h)
1. Rue University, southbound, at the intersection of Rue Notre-Dame Ouest	50
2. Rue Sainte-Catherine Est, eastbound, at the intersection of Rue D'Iberville	50
3- Boulevard Décarie, northbound, at the intersection of Rue Paré	50

Fixed photo radars (2)

Name of location	Posted speed limit (km/h)
4. Chemin McDougall, eastbound, between Le Boulevard and Avenue Cedar	50
5. Autoroute 15, southbound, about 300 m before the Atwater exit	70

Mobile photo radar (1)

Name of location	Posted speed limit (km/h)
6. Rue Notre-Dame Est, between Avenue De Lorimier and Avenue Gonthier	50 and 60

MONTÉRÉGIE NUMBER (4)**Surveillance at red lights (1)****Municipality**

Saint-Constant

Name of location	Posted speed limit (km/h)
1. Route 132, eastbound, at the intersection of Boulevard Monchamp	70

Fixed photo radars (2)**Municipality**

Boucherville

Name of location	Posted speed limit (km/h)
2. Autoroute 20, westbound, about 200 m before the Boulevard de Mortagne ramp	100

Municipality

Pincourt

Name of location	Posted speed limit (km/h)
3. Autoroute 20, eastbound, about 350 m west of Boulevard de l'Île	70

Mobile photo radar (1)**Municipality**

Marieville

Name of location	Posted speed limit (km/h)
4. Highway 112, from the Richelieu municipal limit to the Sainte-Angèle-de-Monnoir municipal limit	70 and 90

CHAUDIÈRE-APPALACHES NUMBER (5)

Surveillance at red lights (2)

Municipality

Lévis

Name of location	Posted speed limit (km/h)
1. Route du Président-Kennedy (Highway 173), southbound, at the intersection of Boulevard Wilfrid-Carrier and Rue Louis-H.-La Fontaine	50

Municipality

Thetford Mines

Name of location	Posted speed limit (km/h)
2. Boulevard Frontenac Est (Highway 112), eastbound, at the intersection of Boulevard Ouellet	50

Fixed photo radars (2)

Municipality

Lévis

Name of location	Posted speed limit (km/h)
3. Autoroute 20 collector, westbound, about 1 km before the exit for the Pierre-Laporte Bridge	100

Municipality

Saint-Georges-de-Beauce

Name of location	Posted speed limit (km/h)
4. Boulevard Lacroix (Highway 173), southbound, at the intersection of 114 ^e Rue	50

Mobile photo radar (1)

Municipality

Beauceville

Name of location	Posted speed limit (km/h)
5. Route 173, between the intersection of Route du Golf and the Notre-Dame-des-Pins municipal limit	50, 70 and 90