

# Wytheville Police Department



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The Wytheville Police Department always takes great measures to protect the citizens of Wytheville with proactive law enforcement and traffic safety. When citizens address their concerns with our department directly, or through Town Council we take them seriously.

Over the past summer and early fall citizens addressed Town Council with concerns of excessive speeding on East Monroe Street, specifically between 11<sup>th</sup> Street and Tazewell Street.

The Wytheville Police Department started a town wide speeding enforcement campaign, "Obey the sign or pay the fine". Extra traffic enforcement was assigned to this and other areas utilizing both stationary and moving radar speed enforcement. We utilized a social media campaign, and visual deterrents with our marked police vehicle attached to a speed trailer, and large message boards.

What we have found, with and without our speed trailer and large message boards, that all the areas of concern were found to not have a speeding issue.

In the months of August, September, and October three separate covert traffic speed studies were conducted on East Monroe Street. All three studies had very similar results as listed below:

## **Statistical data for East Monroe Street from the Covert Traffic Data Collector:**

### **25 MPH Zone**

**Study dates: 10/03/2021 to 10/22/2021**

**Average 2,752 cars a day**

Average Speed 28 MPH

27% at or below 25 MPH

48% 26 to 30 MPH

22% 31 – 35 MPH

4% 35 to 45 MPH

0.5% above 45 MPH

**Statistical data for Holston Road from the Covert Traffic Data Collector:**

**35 MPH Zone**

**Average cars a day 2,320 cars a day**

Average Speed 33 MPH

62% at or below 35 MPH

27% 36 to 40 MPH

8.6% 41 – 45 MPH

2% 46 to 55 MPH

0.3% above 55 MPH

**Statistical data for Fisher Road from the Covert Traffic Data Collector:**

**25 MPH Zone**

**Average 1,600 cars a day**

Average Speed 32 MPH

15% at or below 25 MPH

36% 26 to 30 MPH

34% 31 – 35 MPH

13% 35 to 45 MPH

0.5% above 45 MPH

**Statistical data for Marshall Street from the Covert Traffic Data Collector:**

**25 MPH Zone**

**Average 1,400 cars a day**

Average Speed 19 MPH

86% at or below 25 MPH

12% 26 to 30 MPH

1% 31 – 35 MPH

0.2% above 35 MPH

**Statistical data for West Spiller Street, High School Hill from the Covert Traffic Data Collector:**

**25 MPH Zone**

**Average 1,013 cars a day**

Average Speed 28.5 MPH

27% at or below 25 MPH

38% 26 to 30 MPH

25% 31 – 35 MPH

10% 35 to 45 MPH

0.4% above 45 MPH

With the speed study data and our continued enforcement campaign for the entire town we believe there is not a sever speeding issue in the town of Wytheville. This is also proven with our reported crash data that is submitted to the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles. 85% of vehicle crashed in the Town of Wytheville are non-speed related.

As of Tuesday October 26th, 2001, there were 160 crashed in the town of Wytheville:

Description	Crashes	Percent	Number Vehicles Involved
Speed Limit Exceeded	16	10%	27
Safe Speed Exceeded	8	5%	13 Driving too fast for road conditions rain,snow,ice
No Speed Violation	136	85%	240
Total	160	100%	280

What does all this break down to?

From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, to October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the Wytheville Police Department has issued 299 traffic summonses for various traffic offenses. They include speeding, reckless driving by speed, driving suspended, driving without a license, driving unregistered vehicle, driving without insurance, driving uninspected vehicle, fail to yield the right of way, and defective equipment.

Do we have speeders in Wytheville? Yes, every town, county, and city in America has speeders.

Do we have a speeding problem? No, the Covert Traffic Data Collection shows this.

Do we have other traffic issues? Yes, distracted, and inattentive drivers causing traffic crashes.

What do we attribute our low amount of speeding to in the Town of Wytheville as shown by our Covert Speed Data?

Highly visible patrol vehicles that are on constant patrol 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Continuous speed enforcement utilizing moving and stationary radar.

Well-marked speed limit signs.

Conscientious drivers that follow speed limit and other traffic laws.

Social Media campaigns and News articles on our traffic enforcement in the town.