

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **AUTOMATED SPEED ENFORCEMENT**

The Township of Ramara is moving forward with an Automated Speed Enforcement Program. The first phase of the program is anticipated to begin mid-August 2025 with the second phase planned for mid-October 2025.

#### What is Automated Speed Enforcement?

Automated Speed Enforcement, commonly known as ASE, is a safety tool that combines speed detection technology with camera equipment to identify vehicles traveling over the posted speed limit. This system is used in community safety zones to encourage safer driving. When a vehicle is recorded exceeding the speed limit, a ticket is issued to the registered owner of the vehicle. ASE violations result in a fine, but there are no demerit points.

### Why is the Township of Ramara introducing ASE?

The Township is launching ASE in response to ongoing concerns about speeding, particularly in areas where public safety is a priority. Community Safety Zones are meant to protect vulnerable individuals, such as children and pedestrians. By using ASE, the Township aims to promote safer driving habits, reduce speeding, and create safer roads for everyone.

### How does ASE help improve road safety?

Automated speed systems have a proven track record in reducing dangerous driving behavior. In municipalities across Ontario, similar programs have resulted in up to a 60% increase in compliance with speed limits. By slowing drivers down, ASE contributes to fewer collisions, and the crashes that do occur tend to be less severe.

#### How much is this costing Ramara taxpayers?

Ramara's ASE program operates under a cost-sharing agreement with a third-party service provider. This agreement covers everything required to implement and run the program, including the equipment, ongoing maintenance and program administration. This allows the Township to focus on improving road safety in the community without increasing taxes.

### **Camera Locations**

### Phase 1: Mid-August 2025

- Concession Road 4 (Brechin)
- Muley Point Road
- Creighton Street

#### Phase 2: Mid-October 2025

- County Road 169
- Simcoe Road
- Switch Road



## Why is ASE being used instead of traditional enforcement?

ASE provides ongoing, automated monitoring that supports the work of police by delivering consistent speed enforcement at specific high-risk locations, even when officers are not present.

#### Isn't ASE just a cash grab?

No. The goal of Automated Speed Enforcement is to improve safety, not to generate revenue. In Ramara, speeding is a consistent concern the Township hears from residents, especially in Community Safety Zones where vulnerable road users are at greater risk. Based on traffic data collected in June 2025, 58% of drivers were recorded speeding in these zones, some at dangerously high speeds.

By introducing ASE, the Township hopes to reduce speeding, encourage safer driving habits, and protect people in high-risk zones. Any revenue collected from fines will be directed back into local road safety initiatives.



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### Where is ASE being implemented in Ramara?

Automated Speed Enforcement is currently authorized for use in Community Safety Zones under the *Ontario Highway Traffic Act*. The Township of Ramara will introduce ASE in phases.

- Phase 1 Starting Mid-August 2025:
  - Concession Road 4 (Brechin)
  - Muley Point Road
  - Creighton Street
- Phase 2 Starting Mid-October 2025:
  - County Road 169
  - Simcoe Road
  - Switch Road

More ASE locations may be added in the future as the Township continues to monitor traffic safety needs.

# How will drivers know if they are entering an area monitored by ASE?

The Township of Ramara will post clear signage in all Community Safety Zones where automated speed enforcement will be active. Before ticketing begins, warning signs must be installed for a 90-day period to inform motorists that the cameras will soon be operational. Once the system is live, additional signs will be posted to alert drivers as they enter areas where ASE is being used. For the latest details, please visit ramara.ca/ASE.

## What are the speed thresholds for the ASE locations?

Speed limits are set by law, not guidelines, so the threshold for enforcement is not being publicly disclosed. Drivers can avoid penalties simply by obeying the posted speed limit.

#### What times of the day are the cameras active?

The program is in effect 24/7.

# How accurate is an ASE system when measuring speed?

ASE technology is extremely precise and dependable. The system uses the same type of speed detection equipment that law enforcement agencies rely on, ensuring consistent and accurate results.

#### How are the ASE tickets issued?

When a vehicle is detected traveling over the speed limit, the ASE camera system captures an image of the vehicle's rear licence plate. These images are then sent to a processing centre where a Provincial Offences Officer reviews the evidence. If the violation is confirmed, a ticket that includes a copy of the image and a close-up of the licence plate is mailed to the registered owner of the vehicle. The fine is monetary only; no demerit points are given.

# Does the ASE system capture video footage as well as images?

No. The ASE technology used in Ontario does not record video. It only takes still images of vehicles, specifically focusing on the licence plate of the speeding vehicle.

# What happens if I get a ticket as part of the ASE program?

If you receive a ticket through the ASE program, the next steps will be clearly outlined on the notice you receive. In Ramara, you have two main options:

- Pay the fine
  - You can pay your fine:
    - Online at ramara.ca/ASE
    - By mail to the Township
    - In person at the Township Office
- Dispute the ticket
  - If you wish to contest the ticket, you can request an appeal:
    - Virtually, or
    - In person at the Township Office (on select dates—details will be provided when you request the appeal)

If you do not respond within 30 days of receiving the ticket, it will be considered confirmed and the fine will stand. Unpaid fines will enter a default status, also known as plate denial, meaning you will not be able to renew your vehicle permit until the ticket, and any additional fees from the Ministry of Transportation, are paid in full.





