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Radar Traffic Counters & Traffic Calming

"Some kid is going to die out here," "It's not a matter of if, it's when," "People are driving 50 mph down my street and you need to do something about it," "People are driving too fast, can we get a stop sign?"

Probably like most of you that work for the public, you've heard some of those statements. Some of you maybe more than once. As for the City of Fort Wayne, when I started with the Traffic Department we had tube counters we could place to confirm traffic data and supplement our traffic calming program. The information was helpful in explaining to the neighborhoods what the average speeds and traffic volumes were on their streets. However, the downfall to this were those darn tubes laying across the street that brought attention to what was going on. The tubes even sometimes ended up damaged out of spite or bad weather. So we budgeted and purchased 2 separate types of radar counters, each with their own advantage.

Radar 1 was our JAMAR traffic data collector, which is a bi-directional, speed, volume, gap, classification counter that has been quite handy in sneakily getting traffic data in neighborhoods without residents even knowing. This is our radar of choice for the "50 mph" complaint areas. The counter is the size of a lunchbox from the 80's and with the exception of our chains keeping it from being stolen, it's basically un-noticeable. The radar mounts to existing poles in minutes and sets up with a laptop in the field. The data collected is nicely summarized and provides percentile speeds, volumes, gaps, AADT, police enforcement evaluators and provides premade reports that can be edited.

Radar 2 was our Traffic Logix Evolution radar speed display sign. This guy is fun to use in neighborhoods and streets where you want to bring awareness to speeds. This one is requested often since it looks like a speed limit sign and provides instant feedback. This unit is a one-directional radar counter which is great at targeting streets that have possible issues you want people to know about. Again, it sets up in minutes on existing posts, can be pre-set up in the office and implemented immediately in the field. The Evolution counter is Cloud connected so data is always available from any computer. This unit also provides speeds, volumes, summaries and comes with pre-made reports.

Both units allow for exporting data into a database so you can manipulate further or create your own summaries and reports. Both units should run a few thousand each and both types have their advantages. Each are good for approximately 1 week without re-charge and I would suggest getting a spare battery. With the quick set-up and easy reporting functions these units can help review community requests for speeding, help you with your traffic investigations and help your local law enforcement agencies make smart decisions.

If you would like more information about these radar counters, report samples or more information, please let me know and I would be happy to assist.