Community Safety

A Special Message from the Chief of Police Robert Leftwich, Truckee Police Department

Tahoe Donner is a mountain getaway—regardless if you call this your full-time home or travel from elsewhere to enjoy it. The fresh Tahoe air, the towering pine trees and the feeling of peace and safety all contribute to your experience. Tahoe Donner and the Truckee Police Department (TPD) work hand-in-hand in the mission of safety—and speed enforcement is a major part of that.

Using comprehensive recording boxes set-up to collect data in high traffic areas, the TPD determined the most common days and times of the week for speeding violators. Armed with that data and the mission to foster strong relationship and provide a safe environment to the Tahoe Donner Community, our team created a plan to increase safety awareness and decrease speeding from April 15-Sept. 15, 2017.

INCREASED LAW ENFORCEMENT

- 103 hours of extra enforcement in Tahoe Donner, specific to Traffic Enforcement Zones (TEZs)
- 296 citations issued
- 436 stops made
- Every 14 minutes, a traffic stop was made while working the TEZs
- On average, a citation was issued every 1.5 stops

It is important to understand that taking a zero-tolerance stance on all offenses isn't the best way to improve safety and the relationship between the public and TPD. Allowing room for leniency to educate and take circumstances into account creates a more impactful result.

INCREASED COMMUNICATION WITH THE COMMUNITY

Communication is the key to education. We did the following:

- Created a newsletter
- Attended the Tahoe Donner fair emphasizing speed compliance and the Traffic Complaint Program
- Joined Nextdoor to communicate enforcement locations and philosophy
- Increased signage, radar trailers, and Volunteers in Police Services (VIPS) to enhance our physical presence in problem locations
- Included information in Tahoe Donner's emails, website and magazine

2018 TPD GOALS

- More consistent presence and traffic enforcement within Tahoe Donner neighborhoods, which includes an enforcement focus on 25 MPH zones within the neighborhoods
- Stronger social media communication of enforcement zones
- Use new technology and temporary speed radar signs in enforcement zones and complaint areas
- Enhanced collaboration with the Tahoe Donner board and committees
- Develop additional traffic positions within TPD for seven-day a week coverage



