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Drivers reminded to slow down when passing emergency vehicles and construction workers

Edmonton... The Alberta government is reminding motorists to slow down when passing emergency vehicles, tow trucks and construction workers - or face double the fine.

Motorists driving on the same side of the road as an emergency vehicle or tow truck that is stopped with its lights flashing must slow to 60 kilometres per hour, or less if the posted speed limit is lower.

The requirement to slow down applies only to vehicles travelling in the lane immediately beside the stopped emergency vehicle. Drivers in other lanes, including those in oncoming lanes, are not required to slow to 60 km/h, but should proceed with caution.

Emergency vehicles include fire trucks, police cars, ambulances, emergency response units, gas utility vehicles, and tow trucks.

The fine for speeding past these vehicles when they are stopped with their lights flashing is double the regular speeding fine. Regular speeding fines range from \$57 to \$351, depending on vehicle speed. The double fines range from \$114 to \$702.

Speeding fines are also doubled for speeding in a construction zone when workers are present.

This law came into effect on October 31, 2005, to protect emergency medical workers, police officers, firefighters, tow truck operators, construction workers, and others who work on or beside our highways.

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