VEHICLE SPEED CONTESTS & RECKLESS DRIVING EXHIBITIONS

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Social Services & Public Safety Committee

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LEXINGTON

Recap

- August 11, 2026, Presentation to the Social Services & Public Safety Committee
- Presented an ordinance that would:
  - Prohibit:
    - Vehicle speed contests and reckless driving exhibitions.
      - i.e. racing or burnouts, doughnuts, drifting, etc.
    - The promotion of vehicle speed contests and reckless driving exhibitions.
    - The obstruction of streets to facilitate these events.
  - Allow:
    - A violator's vehicle to be impounded for 30 days for the first violation and 60 for subsequent violations.
    - LFUCG to either immediately impound or provide notice of future impoundment in instances where further investigation was necessary.
    - The imposition of civil penalties equal to impoundment and storage costs.
  - Provide multiple appeal rights.

We heard your feedback

- The Social Services & Public Safety Committee provided several recommendations for revising the proposed ordinance.
- This presentation will discuss recommended changes to the ordinance in light of those previous conversations.

Changes

- Removes language characterizing those who participate in these activities as “rowdy, uncivil, [or] intimidating.”
- Defines “vehicle” as
  - “every device in, upon, or by which any person or property is or may be transported” excluding:
    - Electric scooters, vehicles like bikes that run exclusively on human power, and the same specialty exemptions contained elsewhere in the Code of Ordinances.
- Removes the separate violation for coordinating or promoting vehicle speed contests and reckless driving exhibitions.
- Provides that enforcement is performed by peace officers within the Division of Police.

Changes, continued

- Removed impoundment of vehicle for a first violation.
  - Now, the penalty is a civil citation of $1,500 for a first violation.
    - Because first-offense impoundment (and its related storage/impounding fees) have been removed, the proposed first-offense penalty is now a flat $1,500 civil citation.
    - Subsequent violations remain at $4,500 and impoundment.
- Removed process allowing for notice of future impoundment.
  - Now, impoundment for a second violation would only occur at the time of the violation or immediately thereafter.
  - Also removed section of ordinance relating to appeal right for these notices.
- Because impoundment now applies only to second and subsequent violations, the minimum bond amount has been increased (to $6,000) to better correspond to the potential penalties and fees associated with those violations.

Questions?

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