

Street takeovers, also known as “sideshows”, have become an ongoing public safety concern in the Harbor Gateway area, particularly at and around Figueroa Street and Alondra Boulevard. These illegal gatherings can involve reckless driving, excessive speeding, burnouts, blocked roadways, large crowds, and other dangerous activity that puts motorists, pedestrians, residents, and first responders at risk. They can also leave behind significant damage to public infrastructure, creating unnecessary costs for the City and its taxpayers.

The Los Angeles Police Department Street Racing Task Force consists of specially trained officers tasked with addressing street racing, street takeovers, and associated spectating. The Task Force has also worked to proactively identify locations citywide and develop recommendations to address street takeovers. Previous legislative efforts focused on curbing these activities have led to interdepartmental coordination and examination of additional enforcement and safety treatments for targeted intersections across the City (Council File 22-1019). As a result of these efforts and the Task Force’s work to address street takeover hotspots, the Los Angeles Department of Transportation has supported engineering strategies for locations that extend beyond street takeovers and turn into street racing, including speed humps, speed tables, and double-yellow delineator extensions, to mitigate street racing and street takeovers and improve public safety.

The City should continue coordinated enforcement efforts in the Harbor Gateway area among participating agencies and evaluate potential roadway and traffic improvements that may deter street takeovers. This work should explore opportunities to expand the use of investigative technology, where appropriate, to identify participants and organizers, as well as identify funding for these safety initiatives. By using every available tool to deter street takeovers, identify and hold participants and organizers accountable, and ensure that residents are not left to bear the financial and public safety consequences of these events, the City can make clear that those who engage in or facilitate these activities will face consequences. When City property is damaged, the City should also pursue every lawful avenue to recover its costs and ensure that those responsible bear the cost of repairing public infrastructure.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), with the assistance of the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT), and the coordination of the City Attorney, to report on what additional enforcement tools are available to address recurring street takeovers in the Harbor Gateway area, particularly at and around Figueroa Street and Alondra Boulevard, including:

- Identifying all State and local authorities that allow the City to impound or seize vehicles used in street takeovers, sideshows, reckless driving, or related offenses, and identifying additional steps the City can take to make greater use of vehicle impoundment as a

deterrent, including the feasibility and legal requirements for authorizing impoundment for up to 30 days for vehicles involved in street takeovers;

- Identifying opportunities to increase the use and effectiveness of administrative citations, fines, and other penalties for individuals who participate in, organize, or facilitate illegal street takeovers, including opportunities to strengthen penalties through local legislation;
- Identifying opportunities to expand investigative technology, where legally permissible and appropriate, to identify participants, organizers, and vehicles involved in recurring street takeovers;
- Identifying funding opportunities, including State, federal, regional, or other available sources, that could support additional enforcement, investigative technology, roadway improvements, and traffic safety initiatives; and
- Identifying procedures to improve coordinated enforcement efforts with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) and California Highway Patrol (CHP) when street takeover activity crosses jurisdictional boundaries.

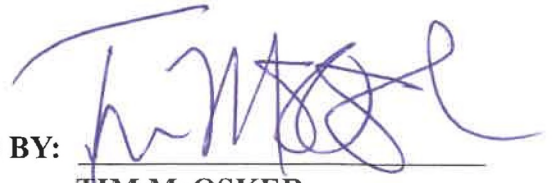
I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council instruct LAPD, LADOT, Bureau of Street Services (BSS), with the assistance of the City Administrative Officer (CAO) and other relevant departments, to report on potential roadway, traffic, and other physical improvements that could deter or disrupt recurring street takeovers in the Harbor Gateway area, particularly at and around Figueroa Street and Alondra Boulevard Figueroa Street and Alondra Boulevard. This report should also identify funding sources for the potential improvements, including whether such projects could be incorporated into the City's Capital Infrastructure Plan (CIP) and, if so, what steps would be necessary to prioritize and fund them.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council instruct the City Attorney and CAO, with the assistance of BSS, LADOT, and LAPD, to report on options for holding individuals responsible for damage to City infrastructure caused by street takeovers and recovering the City's costs to repair that damage, including:

- Identifying criminal and civil enforcement options when street takeover activity damages streets, crosswalks, roadway striping, traffic lanes, signage, curbs, or other public property, including whether this conduct may constitute vandalism or another offense subject to enhanced penalties under applicable law; and
- Identifying ways the City can recover the costs of repairing damage caused by street takeovers, including the costs of restriping crosswalks, traffic lanes, and other roadway markings and repairing damaged curbs, signage, and other public infrastructure.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council instruct LAPD and LADOT to continue engaging with residents and community stakeholders in the Harbor Gateway area regarding recurring street takeover activity and provide updates on additional enforcement, engineering, technology, and legislative and/or educational actions identified to address the problem.

PRESENTED BY:



TIM McOSKER

Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY:



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