

**From:** [Terry Parker](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#); [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Mapps](#); [Ryan, Dan](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Commissioner Rubio](#); [City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero](#)  
**Subject:** [User Approved] Testimony on agenda item 644, Unlawful Street Takeover and Unlawful Staging of a Street Takeover Event, August 18, 2021  
**Date:** Monday, August 16, 2021 7:47:37 AM

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To members of the Portland City Council,

There has been a lot said lately about both equal enforcement of the law and an individual's right to freedom of speech and expression. Yet freedom of speech only seems to exist when the ruling administration agrees to what is being expressed while equal enforcement of the law seems to vary and depend on a person's race and/or political views.

Young drivers sliding across intersections and doing donuts is an expression of freedom of speech. It is no different than demonstrators or protesters closing down a bridge by lying down in the travel lanes and blocking all traffic. The drivers are just making use of their cars for their demonstrations instead of carrying signs or wearing body armor. Furthermore, for many decades it has become a right of passage for young drivers to show their cars and driving skills.

I was young once too. For my generation it was cruising around Yaws in the Hollywood District or on Broadway and 6th Avenue downtown, maybe with an occasional one block race between traffic lights if the section of the street ahead had no cars waiting at the next signal. Motorcycle cops were on scene every Friday and Saturday night harassing drivers for everything from a burnt out rear license plate light to making a turn where temporary "no turns" sign posts were placed at intersections. Instead of advancing respect for the police, harassing the cruisers only served to develop a young generation's contempt and disdain for the police. Having the police ticket drivers did not stop the cruising.

Any law that assesses fines or penalties for the unlawful takeover of a street and/or the unlawful staging of a street takeover MUST BE APPLIED EQUALLY. Blocking a street is blocking a street no matter if it is drivers doing donuts, un-permitted protests or demonstrations by both the left or the right, or even an un-permitted swarm of bicyclists where organizers block intersections so long processions of riders can stay together rather than being split apart by stopping at red lights at traffic signalized intersections.

Applying the law only to drivers clearly parallels the attitude of PBOT's discriminatory "car-hater" mindset and stacked deck citizen committees that have no taxpaying motorist representative seats at the public process tables. Anything less than applying the law unilaterally to any un-permitted group blocking a street would be a selective form of discrimination. The law MUST be written to apply to all un-permitted activities that take over a street.

Additionally, the city is spending or planning to spend a lot of money for activities for Black kids, teenagers and gang members as a long term effort to reduce and stop the

gun violence on the streets of Portland. Not only does City government also need to dispose of the car hater mindset, but instead of harassing young drivers just out to have fun with no place to do it, PBOT and the City need to find a place (maybe PIR) where these young drivers can gather together, enjoy a car culture and safely demonstrate their driving skills.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Parker  
Northeast Portland

**From:** [W Todd Cleek](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Anti-street shut down/street racing/driftng ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, August 16, 2021 8:43:17 AM

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Good day Portland Commissioners

I would like to offer my support for any regulation and enforcement efforts which are considered to curb the street racing, street takeover and drifting activities which have become a regular occurrence in my neighborhood and the City of Portland. On August 15, 2021 the bocks around 48<sup>th</sup> and SE Division were “taken over” and for hours our neighborhood was filled with noise pollution, air pollution and reckless driving endangering neighborhood residents and business customers. This has been an ongoing problem in the area and I am regularly amazed that it seems to go on unchecked throughout the evenings in which the events take place. Any support or tools you can provide neighbors or law enforcement would be most welcome.

Best regards

Todd Cleek

**From:** [Saundra Rose](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Suggestions for Code Section 14A.30.080  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 17, 2021 9:53:47 AM  
**Attachments:** [Video.MOV](#)  
[ATT00001.htm](#)

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Hello,

I unfortunately don't have time to compose a formal testimony by the end of the day today, but I wanted to voice my support for this new ordinance. All my neighbors in the Richmond and surrounding areas seem to be very supportive as well.

I would also like to suggest a page on the Portland city website for easily providing reports with images and videos of these incidents.

Thank you,

Saundra

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Saundra Rose <sandy.allison.rose@gmail.com>  
**Date:** August 16, 2021 at 4:02:37 PM PDT  
**To:** ness.zolan@portlandoregon.gov  
**Cc:** bobby.lee@portlandoregon.gov, sam.adams@portlandoregon.gov  
**Subject:** **Suggestions for Code Section 14A.30.080**

Good afternoon,

I am writing with a suggestion regarding the upcoming law on illegal street racing that is planned to be discussed soon. I saw your names on the documents, so that is why I chose to include you three in this email.

I am very supportive of this legislation, but I noticed that information about the street racing and burnouts taking place weekly in inner S.E. at 48thxDivision was missing from the list. I was surprised because it's a residential street with tons of kids, pedestrians, and cyclists. So, the behavior in this location comes with an even more elevated risk. Not to mention, there have been rising tensions with guns drawn and people beating each other up at these events. About a year ago, a young man in the street racing group was shot and killed on this spot. Balloons from the memorial were also released last night which tangled in power lines causing brown outs and a dangling live wire. I understand that this is a complicated issue (I know what it is like to lose a loved one to gun violence), but all of this combined just isn't acceptable to the neighborhood any more. It's clear that the behavior is not only unsafe in itself, but seems to attract violent and even

deadly situations. This dangerous behavior isn't just in the outer reaches of Portland - it's very much taking place in the heart of the city as well. I'm watching the tensions rise every week, and it's absolutely not sustainable. I don't want to see anyone else hurt or killed near my home.

I'm really just hoping to help push a solution forward and thought this might be useful information. I hope the new law has some teeth and that resolving this issue is prioritized along with gun violence. My neighbors and I all love and care about Portland, but it isn't feeling like home lately.

I'm attaching a video and some links below regarding last night's activity. Please exclude my name and any potentially identifying information if shared.

Thank you for your time,

Saundra

<https://katu.com/news/local/drag-racing-blocks-streets-in-se-portland-on-sunday-night>

**From:** [Audrey Addison](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item number "644" Street Takeover Event (Street Racing) Emergency Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 17, 2021 1:03:13 PM

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Portland city commissioners,

Please accept my testimony below on agenda item #644 in regards to illegal street racing.

After living in portland for 15+ years, my partner and I finally were able to purchase our first home in the St Johns neighborhood. It was a surprise to us to find out that with this neighborhood comes the sound of loud squealing tires and revving engines at all hours of the night from illegal street racing on Lombard, Columbia, and Marine Dr.

This unlawful and reckless activity affects our livability. It's agitating, stressful, dangerous, it disrupts sleep which affects every aspect of life. Not to mention the people who've died because of it. It has nothing but a negative impact on the neighborhood.

In my previous correspondence with state officials about this issue, Rep Tina Kotek's district director's response was Portland needs stricter local ordinances and towing policies.

It is my sincerest hope that with your help combined with traffic enforcement we can advance towing ordinances, add traffic calming infrastructure and speed traps, and especially learn from other communities that have dealt successfully with these issues before.

We've had quiet peaceful nights before and it is essential for the health of the community that we bring those calm nights back to our neighborhoods again.

Thank you for taking action on this issue.

N Portland resident,  
Audrey Addison

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My Birding Blog: <http://tweetsandchirps.com/>

**From:** [Rebecca Field](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Unlawful Street Takeover  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 17, 2021 2:41:10 PM

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I witnessed a car spinning out on SE 65<sup>th</sup> and Woodward on, I think it was Sunday August 14<sup>th</sup>.

Rebecca Field

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [Janet Elgin](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#); [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#)  
**Subject:** Item 644: Unlawful Street Takeover and Staging of a Street Takeover Event  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 17, 2021 8:30:33 PM

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Portland City Council:

I support Item 644 and I have my own nightly experiences with street racing in downtown Portland. I have filed two non emergency police reports.

I live at SW Broadway and Madison. Between 8 pm till 5 am there can be cars speeding alone or racing on SW Broadway. The mufflers and engines on these cars are unlawfully loud. And their windows are unlawfully dark.

I hear it on SW 6th as well. It goes on on quiet Sunday afternoons too. Looking out my window, I once saw a car run a red light. Another time I saw an individual on the sidewalk with a stop watch timing the incident.

I do not have A/C and would like to have my windows open at night. Instead I close them because of unlawful noise of motors and mufflers, and the fumes.

I am on the path for AMR ambulances going to OHSU 24/7. I don't even hear those sirens, because I know it is needed.

But unlawful speeding and unlawfully loud mufflers and engines is disturbing.

I would like to see a camera on this intersection. I believe that is an ODOT issue.

Thank you for your concern.

Janet M Elgin  
Portland, Oregon

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)



**From:** [Circular Music](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** 644 ( Car racing on Buchanan/Bank/N.Columbia Blvd  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 18, 2021 6:06:37 AM

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Good morning,

My name is Daniel Reyes Llinas. We moved to St. John's last January. My family is made of my wife Annette and my father in law who is suffering from advanced dementia and our indoor cat Rocky.

Our house is located on the west corner of Buchanan and Bank. After moving in we noticed immediately the car racing late at night not only on Columbia Blvd but also on Buchanan, Bank, Calhoun and Barr. This begins to happen around 10pm almost every day. Sometimes also during the day there's someone driving very fast and breaking and making sharp corners during the daytime almost daily.

The other day my father in law had an episode where he left the house on his socks and started walking on the street I was lucky to catch him walking on Bank and got him back home. If the person who drives over 50mph encounter a pedestrian that has very little awareness of sound, space and dangers of the urban outdoors it would certainly could cause a preventable accident. There is also a group of kids who ride daily and play with their bike around Buchanan/Bank and every time I see them I hope for the best. They are between 5 and 12 enjoying the outdoors being kids, They shouldn't have to worry about someone driving highway speed on a neighborhood street. I wrote a letter to the city of Portland I believe to the DOT / Trimet requesting speed bumps. I haven't received any answers. I am mostly worried of kids, elderly, animals and the real danger of a tragedy in our neighborhood. Please take action.

Thanks for listening.

Annette Herwander & Daniel Reyes Llinas  
347.930.94.09  
10142 N Buchanan Ave.

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[www.linasmusic.com](http://www.linasmusic.com)

**From:** [Donna Milrany](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** #644 street racing  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 18, 2021 7:16:39 AM

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I was woken twice last night by the sounds of street racing. I have hearing deficits so they must have been close to my Cathedral Park neighborhood. I know resources are strained but hope this dangerous activity can be addressed as soon as practicable.  
If I had known earlier about this agenda date, I would have tried to create suggestions. Donna

Donna Milrany  
mobile 503-544-7328  
8833 N Syracuse St, Portland, OR 97203  
email [donnamilrany@gmail.com](mailto:donnamilrany@gmail.com)

**From:** [Susan Lindsay](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Street Racing Ordinance  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 18, 2021 8:46:18 AM

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Dear Mayor Wheeler and fellow City Commissioners,

As someone who had the misfortune of being caught up and trapped by illegal street racing on two occasions, I write to wholeheartedly support the passage of this ordinance.

The racers create a very dangerous situation for all concerned.

The police do not respond, and the situation escalates with illegal fireworks and even gunfire.

Passenger cars and trucks are trapped...often for hours.

The whole thing just contributes to the already foregone conclusion for many on Portland's eastside and downtown that the city is lawless, managed abysmally, and rife with crime, violence, unsolved murders and allows dangerous situations to simply be, over and over again.

If the street racers need a place to race..which it's clear they do..then open up PIR and have the city or a private body manage the events there responsibly with insurance, no fireworks and no weapons.

But get this off the public thoroughfares as its dangerous and someone is going to get killed or badly injured soon.

Thank you,

Susan Lindsay  
625 SE 17th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97214

**From:** [Alexis Deacon](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Street sliding and unlawful street takeovers  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 18, 2021 9:51:13 AM

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Hello,

I am sorry I cannot join this meeting live today but here are my comments.

Street sliding and unlawful street takeovers should not be allowed on the streets of Portland. I support the city codes being introduced that make doing so a crime. This is my stand for the following reasons:

- 1.) It is dangerous for those involved and for bystanders.
- 2.) Closing roads so people can engage in street sliding is a terrible imposition on those living in Portland or traveling in the area. Emergency vehicles cannot get through. And citizens should be able to use the roads without interference from others. We pay taxes that support maintaining these roads: why should we be stopped from using them? These roads were not designed for street sliding.

Many people in north Portland are endangered going to work and simply living in the area. The noise is horrendous. I do not even understand why people think this could ever be legal? But no matter where it is happening, it needs to be stopped and those breaking the law need to be prosecuted. Enforcement is the only way this is going to stop. When people realize the police are not going to do anything, there is no deterrent to stop. Portland police should seek help from Oregon state troopers to enforce these new city codes. A little bit of enforcement goes a long way.

Portland is becoming a lawless, chaotic city. Please help Portland solve this problem.

Sincerely,

Alexis Deacon  
3826 NE 8th Ave.  
Portland 97212

**From:** [Tomas Quinones](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item number "644" Street Takeover Event (Street Racing) Emergency Ordinance  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 18, 2021 11:02:50 AM

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Portland city commissioners,

This is my testimony on agenda item #644 in regards to illegal street racing.

After living in Portland for 15+ years, my partner and I finally were able to purchase our first home in the St Johns neighborhood. It was a surprise to us to find out that with this neighborhood comes the sound of loud squealing tires and revving engines at all hours of the night from illegal street racing on Lombard, Columbia, and Marine Dr.

This unlawful and reckless activity affects our livability. It's agitating, stressful, dangerous, it disrupts sleep which affects every aspect of life. Not to mention the people who've died because of it. It has nothing but a negative impact on the neighborhood.

Riding my bicycle passed a spot frequented by these dangerous gatherings there have been several occasions where someone on their way to this event has nearly hit me as they were distracted by the ensuing burnouts going on at the parking lot of [6308 North Marine](#) drive right where there are not one, not two, but THREE memorials to people killed during these events who allegedly may have been participants in said activities.

I have sent emails about this issue and Rep Tina Kotek's district director's response was Portland needs stricter local ordinances and towing policies.

We've had quiet peaceful nights before and it is essential for the health of the community that we bring those calm nights back to our neighborhoods again.

Thank you for taking action on this issue.

North Portland resident, St Johns Neighborhood  
Tomas Quinones

**From:** [RICK JOHNSON](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Street Racing Ordinance  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 18, 2021 11:39:44 AM

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Dear Mayor Wheeler and fellow City Commissioners,

I am writing who to voice my support for the street racing ordinance.

While out on a walk in the Buckman neighborhood I witnessed a street racing incident at Eastburnside and SE 20th. The perpetrator entered the intersection and proceeded to spin donuts for 3-4 minutes while the light changed. He totally shut down the intersection and endangered the lives of those around him. If he had lost control pedestrians would have been killed. This type of behavior needs to be stopped and passing this ordinance is a good first step.

Talking to my fellow citizens we all agree that Portland is spiraling out of control through lack of leadership at the Mayor and City Commissioner level. Passing this ordinance would be a good start at gaining public trust again.

Thank You,  
Rick Johnson  
1414 SE Oak Street  
Portland, OR 97214

**From:** [Paul David Benedict](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** 644 - Street Racing Testimony  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 18, 2021 2:28:44 PM

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Hello there,

I live at 9840 N Lombard St, and the sound of street racing often loud enough to wake us up, drown out conversation, rattle the windows, etc.

That's my testimony.

Paul David Benedict

**City Council Meeting - Wednesday, August 18, 2021 2:00 p.m.**

<b>Agenda No.</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Zip Code</b>
644.1	Timothy	Swales	97211
644.2	Victoria	Preisler	97203
644.3	Edith	Gillis	97206