

**ORDINANCE NO. 2021-21  
CHAPTER 31  
ARTICLE V**

**AN ORDINANCE to amend Chapter 31 of the 2019 Detroit City Code, *Offenses*, Article V, *Offenses Against Public Peace*, by adding Section 31-5-17, *Spectating, organizing, and participating in the preparations for a dangerous driving exhibition; presence; definitions*, to prohibit spectating at dangerous driving exhibitions, organizing dangerous driving exhibitions, and participating in the preparations for dangerous driving exhibitions in the City of Detroit.**

IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF DETROIT THAT:

**Section 1.** Chapter 31 of the 2019 Detroit City Code, *Offenses*, Article V, *Offenses Against Public Peace*, be amended by adding Section 31-5-17 to read as follows:

**CHAPTER 31. OFFENSES  
ARTICLE V. OFFENSES  
AGAINST PUBLIC PEACE**

**Sec. 31-5-17. Spectating, organizing, and participating in the preparations for a dangerous driving exhibition; presence; definitions.**

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly:

(1) Be present as an exhibition spectator at a dangerous driving exhibition conducted on a public street, a highway, or private property open to the general public without the consent of the owner, operator, or agent thereof;

(2) Be present as an exhibition spectator where preparations for a dangerous driving exhibition are being made;

(3) Act as an exhibition organizer of a dangerous driving exhibition; or

(4) Participate in the preparations for a dangerous driving exhibition.

(b) A person is considered to be present at a dangerous driving exhibition when within 200 feet of any portion of the location of the event, or within 200 feet of any portion of the location where preparations for a dangerous driving exhibition are being made.

(c) For purposes of this section, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them by this subsection:

*Dangerous driving exhibition* means an event where a motor vehicle is involved in drag racing or another form of driving prowess, including, but is not limited to, donuts, drifting, and sliding, which is

recklessly dangerous and threatens the health and safety of the public, interferes with pedestrian and vehicular traffic, creates a public nuisance, or interferes with the right of private businesses or residents to enjoy the use of their property.

*Donuts* means a driving technique where a driver maneuvers a vehicle to create circles or figure eights by intentionally and unnecessarily causing the vehicle to move in a zigzag or circular course, or to gyrate or spin around.

*Drag racing* means, as likewise defined by Section 626a of the Michigan Vehicle Code, being MCL 257.626a, the operation of two or more vehicles from a point side by side at accelerating speeds in a competitive attempt to out-distance each other over a common selected course, or where timing is involved, or where timing devices are used in competitive accelerations of speeds by participating vehicles.

*Drifting* means a driving technique where a driver uses the throttle, brakes, clutch, gear shifting, and steering input to keep a vehicle in a state of oversteer while maneuvering from turn to turn.

*Exhibition organizer* means any person who knowingly takes part in the planning, organization, coordination, facilitation, advertisement or sharing of the location for the dangerous driving exhibition, or who collects money in connection with a dangerous driving exhibition.

*Exhibition spectator* means any person who is present at a dangerous driving exhibition for the purpose of viewing, observing, watching, or witnessing the event as it progresses and who is at the location without regard to whether the person arrived at the event by driving a vehicle, riding as a passenger in a vehicle, walking, or arriving by some other means.

*Preparations for a dangerous driving exhibition* means actions that are taken by a group of motor vehicles or persons arriving at a location for the purpose of knowingly participating in or being a spectator at a dangerous driving exhibition, which includes, but is not limited to, lining one or both sides of the public street or highway, gathering on private property open to the general public without the consent of the owner, operator, or agent thereof, driving in an unauthorized vehicle caravan, impeding the free use of the public street or highway by actions, words, or physical barriers, revving or spinning the tires of a motor vehicle, or stationing at or near one or more motor vehicles for purposes of starting the dangerous driving exhibition.

*Sliding* means a driving technique where a driver maneuvers a vehicle around a corner while still maintaining forward momentum.

*Unauthorized vehicle caravan* means the unauthorized operation of two or more vehicles in a caravan fashion, either in a single lane or side by side in multiple lanes, upon a public street or highway, or upon private property open to the general public without the consent of the owner, operator, or agent thereof for the purpose of participating in, or being an exhibition spectator at, a dangerous driving exhibition.

**Section 2.** This ordinance is hereby declared necessary to preserve the public peace, health, safety, and welfare of the People of the City of Detroit.

**Section 3.** All ordinances, or parts of ordinances, in conflict with this ordinance are repealed.

**Section 4.** In the event this ordinance is passed by two-thirds majority of City Council Members serving, it shall be given immediate effect and become effective upon publication in accordance with Section 4-118(1) of the 2012 Detroit City Charter. Where this ordinance is passed by less than a two-thirds majority of City Council Members serving, it shall become effective on the 30th day after enactment in accordance with Section 4-118(2) of the 2012 Detroit City Charter.

(J.C.C. Page	):	June 29, 2021
Passed:		July 20, 2021
Approved:		July 21, 2021
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JANICE M. WINFREY  
City Clerk