

MOTION

Illegal Street racing and reckless driving exhibitions (also known as “side shows”), where individuals gather to watch motorists engage in exhibitions of speed and other dangerous activities while blocking roads and intersections, have been a continuing problem in the City, as well as other cities across the state. Over recent years, the internet and social media have made it even easier for organizers of these illegal events to organize and promote them, despite the best efforts of law enforcement.

In an effort to address this in their jurisdiction, the City of San José recently adopted an ordinance to criminalize the promotion of illegal street races and side shows. Under this ordinance, it is a misdemeanor to knowingly encourage, promote, instigate, assist, facilitate, aid, or abet the gathering of persons as spectators at a street race or reckless driving exhibition in San José. As this crime is a misdemeanor, it is punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 and/or imprisonment in the county jail for not more than six months. The Council should request a report looking into the feasibility of adopting a similar ordinance in the City of Los Angeles.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Attorney be requested to report on the feasibility of enacting an ordinance to make it unlawful to knowingly encourage, promote, instigate, assist, facilitate, aid, or abet the gathering of persons as spectators at a street race or reckless driving exhibition, modeled after the ordinance recently adopted by the City of San José.

PRESENTED BY: 

JOHN S. LEE
Councilmember, 12th District

SECONDED BY: 

jwd

AUG 31 2021

ORIGINAL