

1 BY AUTHORITY

2 ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
3 SERIES OF 2025

COUNCIL BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
COMMITTEE OF

4 REFERENCE:

5  
6 A BILL

7  
8 **For an ordinance amending Chapter 54 of the Denver Revised Municipal Code**  
9 **to change the way parking citations are served, and in connection therewith,**  
10 **update the processes by which parking citations are enforced against vehicles**  
11 **unlawfully parked in the public right-of-way.**  
12

13 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:**

14 **Section 1.** That chapter 54, article XV, division 1, of the Code shall be amended by  
15 deleting the language stricken and adding the language underlined, to read as follows:

16 **Sec. 54-7887. Reserved. Illegally parked vehicles.**

17 Whenever any vehicle is found stopped or parked in violation of the restrictions imposed by  
18 this chapter, by any rules or regulations promulgated hereunder, or by rules and regulations of the  
19 manager of aviation, any police officer, or any employee of the city, or other person designated by  
20 the manager of safety to give such notices or summonses as a part of their official duties, shall  
21 take its registration number and may take any other information displayed on the vehicle which  
22 may identify its driver or owner, and shall issue a parking citation by conspicuously affixing to such  
23 vehicle a notice or summons, or by mailing such notice or summons by first class mail to the  
24 registered owners thereof, for the driver thereof to respond to and answer the charges against the  
25 driver within twenty (20) days of service in the manner set forth in the notice or summons.  
26

27 **~~Sec. 54-788. - Notices on illegally parked vehicles. Service by mail.~~**

28 ~~Whenever any vehicle is found stopped or parked in violation of the restrictions imposed by~~  
29 ~~this chapter, by any rules or regulations promulgated hereunder, or by rules and regulations of the~~  
30 ~~manager of aviation, any police officer, or any employee of the city, or other person designated by~~  
31 ~~the manager of safety to give such notices or summonses as a part of their official duties, shall~~  
32 ~~take its registration number and may take any other information displayed on the vehicle which~~  
33 ~~may identify its driver or owner, and shall conspicuously affix to such vehicle a notice or summons,~~  
34 ~~in writing, for the driver thereof to respond to and answer the charges against the driver within~~  
35 ~~twenty (20) days at the parking magistrate's office or such other division or bureau of county court~~

1 as may be designated by the presiding judge or rules of the county court. The officer, employee or  
2 person issuing such notice or summons shall send one (1) electronic or paper copy of the notice  
3 so issued to the chief of police, one (1) electronic or paper copy to parking management and one  
4 (1) electronic or paper copy to the county court. Service of the parking citation, notice, or summons  
5 upon the owners and lienors of a motor vehicle shall be deemed sufficient if a copy of the same is  
6 sent to the person shown as the owner or lienor on the records of the Colorado Department of  
7 Revenue, Division of Motor Vehicles, or any similar department of any sister state, by first class  
8 mail, at the address as shown by the records of the Colorado Department of Revenue, Division of  
9 Motor Vehicles, or any similar department of any sister state, as of the date of offense, or at the  
10 last known address given by the owner or listed upon any government issued identification  
11 document bearing the photograph of the owner or listed upon apparently valid documents verifying  
12 the owner's recent purchase of the motor vehicle that are in accordance with the laws of the state,  
13 any police officer, or any employee of the city, or other person designated by the manager of  
14 safety to give such notices or summonses as a part of their official duties , whether or not the letter  
15 is actually received. Service shall be deemed completed seven (7) days after the letter is mailed.

16  
17 **Sec. 54-789. Failure to comply with notice attached to parked vehicle or summons.**

18 If a violator of the restrictions on stopping, standing or parking imposed under this chapter  
19 or by rules and regulations of the manager of aviation does not respond to a notice or summons  
20 affixed to such motor vehicle or mailed via first class mail pursuant to section 54-788 within the 20-  
21 day period set in such notice by appearance at the parking magistrate's office by responding in the  
22 manner set forth in the notice or summons and arranging for payment or other disposition of the  
23 charge or by making payment by means of the United States mails, by telephone or by other  
24 means authorized by the city, the city or its contractor shall send another notice by mail to the  
25 registered owner of the vehicle to which the original notice was affixed informing the owner of the  
26 violation. If a vehicle's owner cannot be determined due to a lack of registry with the Department of  
27 Motor Vehicles, a pre-seizure notice informing the driver, owner or person in charge of the vehicle  
28 of the violation may occur by affixing such notice to the driver's side window. If the mailed or pre-  
29 seizure notice is disregarded for the period set in such notice, and the violator or owner has not  
30 paid applicable fines and penalties or has not appeared at the parking magistrate's office  
31 responded to the notice or summons in the manner set forth in the notice or summons and  
32 arranged for other disposition of the charge, the court may enter a judgment of liability by default  
33 against the owner pursuant to subsection 14-32(d), or the vehicle upon which the pre-seizure  
34 notice was affixed may be immobilized in accordance with subsection 54-811(17), or both. The

1 court may not enter default judgment before one hundred twenty (120) days have elapsed since  
2 the notice or summons was affixed to the motor vehicle or mailed via first class mail pursuant to  
3 section 54-788.

4

5 **Sec. 54-794. Service of process. Illegal cancellation of traffic or parking citations.**

6 It shall be unlawful for any person to cancel, or solicit the cancellation, of any traffic or  
7 parking summons or notice, other than by process of law.

8

9 **Section 2.** That chapter 54, article XV, division 2, of the Code shall be amended by deleting  
10 the language stricken and adding the language underlined, to read as follows:

11 **Sec. 54-811. - Authority for impoundment; vehicles deemed obstructions to traffic or**  
12 **public nuisances.**

13 (21) When a driver, owner or person in charge of a vehicle has failed to respond to a  
14 notice of illegal parking issued pursuant to sections 54-786(e) ~~7~~ or 54-788, and has also failed to  
15 respond to the additional notice sent to the registered owner or has failed to respond to the pre-  
16 seizure notice ~~affixed to the vehicle~~ as provided for under section 54-789; provided that under the  
17 circumstances in this subsection set forth employees of the city, acting in their official capacity, and  
18 officers of the police department may, and they are hereby authorized to temporarily and for a  
19 period of seventy-two (72) hours, immobilize such vehicle by installing on, or attaching to such  
20 vehicle, a device designed to restrict the normal movement of such vehicle, and if such vehicle is  
21 so immobilized, the employee of the city or police officer so installing or attaching such device shall  
22 conspicuously affix to such vehicle a notice, in writing, on a form provided by the chief of police,  
23 advising the owner, driver or person in charge of such vehicle, that such vehicle has been  
24 immobilized by the city for violation of one (1) or more of the provisions of this chapter, and that  
25 release from such immobilization may be obtained at a designated place; that unless  
26 arrangements are made for the release of such vehicle within seventy-two (72) hours the vehicle  
27 will be removed from the streets at the direction of the employees of the city, acting in their official  
28 capacity, or by a police officer, and that removing or attempting to remove the device before a  
29 release is obtained is unlawful, and containing such information as the chief of police shall deem  
30 necessary. It shall be unlawful for any person to remove or attempt to remove any such device  
31 before a release is obtained as herein provided or to move any such vehicle before the same is  
32 released by the police department, clerk of the county court or any county judge; and where such  
33 vehicle has been properly immobilized in such manner, a fee to be established by the manager of  
34 transportation and infrastructure based upon the actual costs, not to exceed one hundred twenty-

1 five dollars (\$125.00). The manager of transportation and infrastructure shall publish the new rate  
2 in an official publication of the city at least ninety (90) days before the new rate will become  
3 effective and such fee shall be charged by the police department or clerk of the county court before  
4 releasing such vehicle, and the parking restrictions, if any, otherwise applicable shall not apply  
5 while such vehicle is so immobilized. If the vehicle has remained immobilized for a period of  
6 seventy-two (72) hours and release has not been obtained, the police officer or employee of the  
7 city causing such immobilization shall have the vehicle impounded.

8  
9 COMMITTEE APPROVAL DATE: \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

10 MAYOR-COUNCIL DATE: \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

11 PASSED BY THE COUNCIL \_\_\_\_\_ 2025

12 \_\_\_\_\_ - PRESIDENT

13 APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ - MAYOR \_\_\_\_\_ 2025

14 ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ - CLERK AND RECORDER,  
15 EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE  
16 CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER  
17

18 NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE DAILY JOURNAL \_\_\_\_\_ 2025; \_\_\_\_\_ 2025

19  
20 PREPARED BY: Brylan B. Droddy, Assistant City Attorney; DATE:

21  
22 Pursuant to section 13-9, D.R.M.C., this proposed ordinance has been reviewed by the office of  
23 the City Attorney. We find no irregularity as to form and have no legal objection to the proposed  
24 ordinance. The proposed ordinance \_\_\_\_\_ is/ \_\_\_\_\_ is not submitted to the City Council for  
25 approval pursuant to § 3.2.6 of the Charter.  
26

27 Katie J. McLoughlin, Interim City Attorney

28  
29 BY: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ City Attorney DATE: \_\_\_\_\_