
Street Racing

Safety, Housing, Education & Homelessness
April 21, 2021



Specific Questions from Council

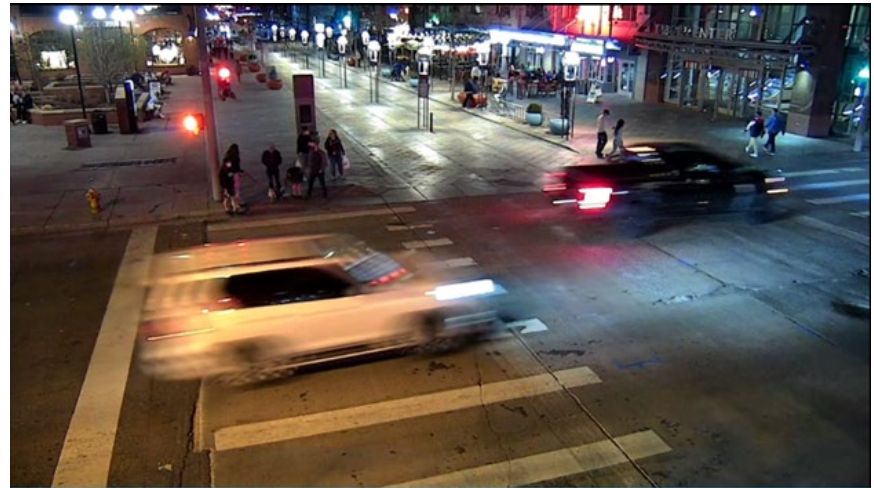
- Our response to:
 - Audacious and dangerous escalation of street racing
 - Coordinated events on highways
- What we are doing with our partners to disrupt this increasing threat to public safety

Outline

- Dangers of street racing
- Prevention efforts
- City- and Metro-wide collaborations

Dangers of Street Racing

- Serious road safety concern for participants, observers, and uninvolved passersby
- Concern related to:
 - High-speed crashes
 - Driving while impaired
 - Other criminal activity including recovered guns and drugs



Prevention Efforts

Public messaging

- Message the dangers and ramifications of street racing
- Utilizing traditional and social media

Focused deterrence

- Placing officers in the area of known street racing locations
- Identify officers for rapid response



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Relations Unit
Denver Police Department
Phone: 720-913-6028

Denver Police Continues to Warn Drivers on the Dangers and Consequences of Street Racing

Denver – Friday, March 19, 2021 – With the warm weather predicted this weekend, the Denver Police Department is again reminding drivers and passengers of the dangers of speed contests and illegal drag racing events. Drag racing continues to be a safety concern for motorists as high speeds increase the likelihood of injury and death in crashes. Additionally, large gatherings where these occur can result in other crimes and violence. There are several consequences of drag racing, including the impounding of vehicles.

An example of drag racing occurred on February 6, 2021, when a Denver Police officer assigned to Traffic Operations was proactively patrolling on I-25 near Downing Street. There he witnessed two vehicles slow their speeds to approximately 45 miles per hour (MPH) in a 60 MPH zone. Both drivers quickly accelerated, and the officer clocked one of the vehicles traveling at 108 MPH. He safely pulled the 25-year-old male driver over and cited him for drag racing. Then, the vehicle was detained under Denver's [Public Nuisance Abatement Ordinance](#), and will be held until August of 2021.

"Between January 1, and March 17, 2021, Denver Police officers cited 17 drivers for drag racing" said Police Chief Paul M. Pazen. "Drag racing is extremely dangerous and has very serious consequences. Those who engage in drag racing risk losing their drivers' licenses with the 12-point traffic violation, fines up to \$999 and having their vehicle impounded."

The Denver Police Department continually monitors for street racing events, and for several months has dedicated resources – now including its helicopter – to disrupting the gatherings, while enforcing traffic and criminal offenses.

To report street racing or planned events that organize illegal street racing, visit [ReportStreetRacing.com](#). Also, to report street racing or reckless driving by phone, witnesses should call 720-913-2000 or call/text 911.

For more information on Denver's drag racing ordinance, visit <https://bit.ly/3l4jnHo>.

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City- and Metro-Wide Collaborations

- Direct communication and outreach with impacted or likely impacted businesses
- Working with DOTI on focused road closures and adjustments
- Partnering with the City Attorney's Office to utilize existing Public Nuisance Abatement laws
- Utilizing Air-1
- Information-sharing and partnerships with local and state law enforcement and prosecutors
- Partnering with Colorado State Patrol for highway enforcement



Take it to the track – Bandimere Speedway

- Sponsored by Colorado State Patrol
- Aimed at 15-21 y/o
- Racing their vehicles at the track rather than engaging in street racing

How to Report Illegal Street Racing

- Call (720) 913-2000
- Call/text 911
- Report online at www.ReportStreetRacing.com

Questions?

*Work Hard & Treat People
Right*

