

City of Santa Rosa



Legislation Details

File #:	22-0708	Version:	1	Name:	Sideshow Ordinance
Type:	CC- Report	Status:		Status:	Agenda Ready
File created:	9/9/2022	In control:		In control:	City Council
On agenda:	10/11/2022	Final action:		Final action:	
Title:	REPORT - INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE TO THE SANTA ROSA CITY CODE ADDING CHAPTER 10-26 SIDESHOWS				

BACKGROUND: Over the last few years, Santa Rosa has experienced an increase in reckless driving exhibitions on City streets. These contests, known as “sideshows” (involving activities such as drifting, burnouts, and donuts) are held throughout the city, several times per month, usually in the late night or early morning hours. Hundreds of illegal street racers and spectators converge on various public streets and off-street parking lots in both commercial and residential neighborhoods. These juveniles and adult participants block the streets with their cars, set up exhibition areas for reckless driving and spectators will act as human guard rails. When patrol cars descend on an illegal sideshow site, spectators jump back into their cars and caravan to other locations, where a new sideshow is started until the police locate and move them along. The sideshow participants, traveling at high speeds from location to location, cause traffic congestion and dangerous conditions for other drivers. The high speeds and reckless driving that characterize sideshows endanger participants, members of the public, and police officers.

In recent months, sideshows have become significantly worse and present much like riotous behavior. With organized sideshows growing to hundreds of cars and becoming more violent, it frequently requires massive police responses that have pulled in officers from all over the city and county. These events have caused an increase in overtime for upstaffing police officers in anticipation of a sideshow event. They have been increasingly violent toward the responding officers as bottles, rocks and other dangerous items are thrown at them and their patrol cars. Fire trucks and ambulances have also been surrounded and damaged when trying to administer medical aid to persons involved in or around the sideshow events.

Sideshows effect all areas of Santa Rosa. Some of the primary locations for sideshow activities have included:

- Sebastopol Road and West Avenue
- Hoen, Yulupa and Summerfield Avenues
- Corporate Center Parkway near Sebastopol Road
- Wilson and 7th Street
- Dutton Avenue at W. 9th Street
- Hwy 12 and Fulton Road

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended by the Police Department that the Council introduce an ordinance to the Santa Rosa City Code adding Chapter 10-26 Sideshows for citing Participants, Spectators and Organizers of Sideshow events in Santa Rosa.

Sponsors:	Police
Indexes:	Not a Project
Code sections:	15061(b)(3) - General Rule Exemption, 15378 - Not a Project
Attachments:	1. Staff Report, 2. Ordinance, 3. Ordinance (Revised 10/11/2022 - Redlined), 4. Ordinance (Revised 10/11/2022 - Final), 5. Presentation

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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10/11/2022 1 City Council

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to waive reading of the text and introduce Pass
as amended