

14-0054

PUBLIC SAFETY

MOTION JAN 14 2014

Los Angeles is home to a long-standing car culture, which includes a sub-culture of street racing, featuring cars heavily modified to travel in excess of safe operating speeds or specifications. The operation of these vehicles on City streets can often lead to tragic results for the drivers, passengers, or bystanders. In addition to the safety hazard posed by racing, neighborhoods are subjected to late-night noise from the cars and the spectators assembled to observe the race. These activities result in the expenditure of taxpayer dollars used to respond to police calls, dispatch of first responders in the event of an accident, and repairs to public property from high speed driving and loss of control.

Advocates of street racing are calling for the City to locate a suitable location within City-limits for the establishment of a street racing track, where drivers can operate within the bounds of the law, avoid disturbing residential neighborhoods, and in general avoid unintentional loss of life. Street racing advocates allege that an uptick in street racing activities in the City and Los Angeles County can be attributed to the closure of the few remaining dedicated street racing locations within a reasonable travel distance. While not all street racers will adhere to legal options, advocates believe that a controlled location where racers can participate in their pastime will greatly reduce the burden racing currently poses to the City.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Chief Legislative Analyst, with assistance from LAPD, LAFD and CAO as necessary, be **INSTRUCTED** to report on the annual costs associated with responding to illegal street racing activities.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Attorney be **REQUESTED** to report on potential liability issues associated with holding a city-sanctioned street racing event on city property or on public streets.

PRESENTED BY: *Joe Buscaino*
JOE BUSCAINO
Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY: *[Signature]*

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