

SUMMARY - Amending Codified Ordinances Section 433.07 - Street Racing

- Prohibits additional actions and behaviors (beyond street racing), including:
 - Stunt driving
 - Burnouts, doughnuts, drifting, wheelies
 - Street takeovers
- New prohibitions conform to changes in state law, effective October 24, 2024.
- Penalty for a violation stays the same and is the same as state law (Section 4511.251, RC).
 - 1st degree misdemeanor and at least a 30 day suspension of driver's license
- Adds that any vehicle component used in violation of this section is an instrumentality, is subject to seizure as contraband and subject to forfeiture under state law. (Columbus ordinance)

This ordinance makes vehicle *components* subject to forfeiture. “Vehicle component” means any motor vehicle part or accessory specifically adapted for use in street racing, stunt driving or street takeover. Vehicle components include, but are not limited to, steering wheels, wheels and tires, and mufflers.

Forfeiture of entire vehicles is difficult: under state law, the forfeiture of an “instrumentality” (in this case a vehicle) must be proportionate to the offense committed. Forfeiture of a vehicle likely will not be considered by a court to be proportionate to the commission of a misdemeanor offense.

Further, it has been understood that, if any money is owed on a vehicle that is subject to forfeiture, the City would have to pay off the loan.

/RNS