

**PROPOSED ORDINANCE [ORDINANCE #-
ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF [CITY] IMPOSING A HIDE
LOCK TAKE SIGNS ORDINANCE TO BE ENFORCED BY THE [CITY] POLICE
DEPARTMENT CODE ENFORCEMENT**

Recitals

WHEREAS, The recent pandemic/recession, and overall lack of citizens practicing responsible safety measures resulted in rising vehicle crimes and break-ins. Furthermore, City revenues and law enforcement staffing cannot keep up with the rising issue jeopardizing the community's essential emergency safety services;

WHEREAS, without added contribution from local businesses and the community operating in heavy crime areas the City cannot maintain consistent public safety, gang prevention, crime and emergency response, and community outreach programs for local residents and all other general city services;

WHEREAS, all businesses and properties within the City will contribute by taking part in the Hide Lock Take auto theft awareness and prevention program;

WHEREAS, this measure would ensure community accountability by requiring those with parking spaces, especially within heavily effected areas and specific property/business types, to post the Hide Lock Take awareness signage;

WHEREAS, on the basis of the foregoing, the City [ORGANIZATION] determined that an emergency exists requiring placement of a measure for the general safety of the City by [DATE]. The signs would be purchased and installed individually by property the owners;

WHEREAS, the measure, if approved, would be imposed on properties with parking spaces of 100 spaces or more, properties with overnight parking or long term parking, entertainment venues, shopping areas and areas where average parking time is over 1 hour;

WHEREAS, the program and measure would be enforced by City Police Code Enforcement divisions and promoted through community outreach and local media broadcast.

THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF [CITY] DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section [INSERT SECTION] Chapter [INSERT CHAPTER] is hereby added to the [CITY] Municipal Code to read as follows:

(a) An owner or person in control of property on which 100 or more parking spaces are located that are available for public use shall post and maintain on the exterior premises of the property two signs complying with Subsection (b). One additional sign is required to be posted and maintained for each 50 parking spaces over 100 that are located on the property. Also, one additional sign is required to be posted and maintained within five feet of each clustered mailbox site located on the premises of a multifamily property, as defined in Section 27-3 of this code.

(b) Each sign required to be posted and maintained under Subsection (a) must comply with the following:

(1) Contain language that includes the statements: HIDE YOUR THINGS, LOCK YOUR VEHICLE, TAKE YOUR KEYS; A REMINDER FROM [CITY] POLICE DEPARTMENT;

(2) Meet uniform specifications for size, color, and format established by, and maintained on file in the office of, the chief of police.

(3) Be made of durable, all-weather material, with the lettering readable day and night.

(4) Be approved by the chief of police.

(5) Be permanently installed on the property in a manner and location approved by the chief of police so that at least one of the signs is visible and readable from every parking space located on the property.

(6) Be posted so that the bottom edge of the sign is not lower than five feet or higher than eight feet above ground level.

(c) An owner or person in control of property on which signs are required to be posted and maintained under Subsection (a) commits an offense if he fails to post or maintain signs in compliance with this section.

(d) A person commits an offense if he removes or obstructs, or allows the removal or obstruction of, a sign required to be posted and maintained on property under Subsection (a). It is a defense to prosecution under this subsection that the removal or obstruction of the sign was caused by:

(1) a city employee in the performance of official duties; or

(2) the owner or person in control of the property who was performing, or causing the performance of, repairs or maintenance on the sign.