



12650 DETROIT AVENUE 44107 216-529-6055

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Lakewood City Council  
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**Council at Large**

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JASON SHACHNER, WARD 2  
JOHN LITTEN, WARD 3  
CINDY MARX, WARD 4

Issued 01/13/23

## **PUBLIC NOTICE – PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

The Public Safety Committee will meet Tuesday January 17, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Auditorium of Lakewood City Hall at 12650 Detroit Avenue. The meeting is open to the public.

Individuals with disabilities who require accommodations for participation in meetings must request accommodations at least 3 business days ahead of the scheduled meeting. Contact Michelle Nochta at (216) 529-5906 [michelle.nochta@lakewoodoh.net](mailto:michelle.nochta@lakewoodoh.net).

This meeting will be livestreamed on the City's website at the following link:

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[www.lakewoodoh.gov/councilvideos](http://www.lakewoodoh.gov/councilvideos)

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### **PUBLIC COMMENT PROTOCOL**

The public is invited to comment on agenda items in person or by submitting a written comment in advance of the meeting using the eComment platform available [HERE](#). New users must create an eComment account.

### ***The agenda is as follows:***

Approval of the minutes of the November 7, 2022 meeting of the Public Safety Committee.

Communication from Councilmembers Baker, Bullock & Shachner regarding speed enforcement trends. (Referred to Public Safety 10/3/22)

Kyle Baker, Chair  
Jason Shachner, Cindy Marx; Members  
**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**



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CINDY MARX, WARD 4

October 3, 2022

## **Re: Speed Enforcement Trends**

Dear Colleagues,

Vehicular Speeding has long been an issue on Lakewood streets, negatively affecting the quality of life of our residents, business owners, and visitors, while also increasing the risk of dangerous crashes in our dense and walkable neighborhoods. Speeding typically can be addressed by both street design and speed enforcement. Council's past budget priorities have often included traffic calming in our neighborhoods showing that this is a constant concern for our residents. We are currently researching and drafting a Complete & Green Streets Ordinance to help address the design of streets. However, speed enforcement is the other mechanism to control speeding and serves as a valuable deterrent to reckless driving and a tool to enhance our unique neighborhoods that make Lakewood attractive to families and individuals of all ages and abilities throughout the region. In order to effectively manage speeding in our neighborhoods, both street design and speed enforcement must be effectively executed.

Empirical data shows that speed enforcement is ripe to be re-prioritized on both the local and national levels. According to the Lakewood Police Department's 2021 Annual Report, radar citations have declined by nearly 70% since 2018, while traffic crashes have not mirrored that drop, declining by only 30% during that same period. In 2020, the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety found in a telephone survey that 35% of drivers admitted to exceeding the speed limit by 10 miles per hour or more on residential streets. This type of speeding remains significant in that it has been a factor in one third of all motor vehicle fatalities nationwide over the last 2 decades, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

While speeding is widespread, there are cost effective tools that Lakewood Police can explore that can make an impact without overly expending manpower and detracting from other safety responses. Other Northeast Ohio communities are experimenting with the use of handheld speed radars that automatically issue civil fines.<sup>1</sup> We propose that Lakewood examine this practice and have a community conversation about it, and that, if implemented, any revenue raised from it go into a speed enforcement fund earmarked for future traffic calming measures

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<sup>1</sup> See *Camera will help police enforce speeding on I-271 in Mayfield; tickets will be sent by mail*, Piorkowski, Jeff, *Cleveland.com*, September 21, 2021 (available at: <https://www.cleveland.com/community/2021/09/camera-will-help-police-enforce-speeding-on-i-271-in-mayfield-village-tickets-will-be-sent-by-mail.html>)

and/or speed enforcement. Moreover, similar technology could be used in concert with the city's noise ordinances to photographically cite overly noisy cars/motorcycles, to preserve peace and quiet in our neighborhoods.<sup>2</sup> The aim of this communication is to initiate a community conversation about speed enforcement and ways Council and the Administration can promote safer neighborhoods with new tools and strategies to monitor and enforce the speed limit.

We look forward to working with Mayor George, Chief Kauchek, the rest of Council, and the Administration in addressing this shared concern. We ask that this communication be referred to the Public Safety Committee for further deliberation.

*Sincerely,*



Kyle Baker  
Councilmember, Ward 1



Tom Bullock  
Councilmember At Large



Jason Shachner  
Councilmember, Ward 2

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<sup>2</sup> See *New York Is Now Using Cameras With Microphones to Ticket Loud Cars*, Silvestro, Brian, *Road Track*, February 16, 2022 (available at: <https://www.roadandtrack.com/news/a39105913/new-york-automated-sound-tickets/>)