

Behind The City Scene

We are heading toward summer and that is generally welcomed unless we consider the scourge of street racers with modified mufflers. This is especially a problem along the I-225 corridor.

In researching this month's article I found a situation in Los Angeles where last year a street racer went out of control and killed 3 innocent bystanders plus the driver. Closer to home a street racer was recently involved in a fatal accident at E. Iliff and S. Blackhawk. APD and especially its Traffic Division are acutely aware of the problem. I have learned about the challenges of suppressing this activity as a result of numerous conversations with our Officers. There are hundreds of street racers in the metro area. They have dedicated social media pages. They use 2-way radios to update real time law enforcement actions.

The law relating to modifying mufflers already exists. Nevertheless reckless driving with a modified muffler does not normally trigger a high speed pursuit to apprehend a fleeing offender. In 2016 APD did conduct a "saturation" effort on I-225 with Police motorcycles. I cringed to think of these Officers weaving in and out of freeway traffic at night when intoxicated drivers are out on our roads.

Recently APD learned of a meeting of street racers at Wheel Park and responded with a major muffler modification ticket issuance. This was an effort to send a message to say you are not welcome in Aurora. The bottom line is that APD subject to available resources which can be pretty thin on weekends will issue reckless, careless, speeding tickets as warranted to street racers plus if applicable a modified muffler violation. A modified muffler violation in isolation calls into play hundreds of street racers versus the thin blue line. I wish I could share more optimistic news.



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2019 Ward IV Town Meetings — Held on the third Thursday of each month from 6:30-8:30 pm at Fire Station #11 on north-west corner of E. Iliff and S. Joplin St.

Heather Ridge Metro Matters June 2019