

City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM20.1	ACTION			Ward: All
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Putting the Brakes on Auto Theft: Immediate Action Needed to Keep our Neighbourhoods Safe - by Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Jon Burnside

** Notice of this Motion has been given.
* This Motion is subject to referral to the Economic and Community Development Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Jon Burnside, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Government of Canada to:
 - a. update current and mandate new technological standards and security features for all vehicle manufacturers; and
 - b. expedite outgoing screenings at all ports.
2. City Council request the Provincial Minister of Transportation to:
 - a. eliminate the ability for any citizen to register a vehicle on another person's behalf without power of attorney; and
 - b. ban the public from relying on a New Vehicle Information Statement to register a vehicle, limiting this registration mechanisms to only licensed dealers.

Summary

The surge in auto theft and home invasions are significantly impacting our neighbourhoods across Canada. Residents are going to bed worrying what they won't find when waking up- and often fear that their families will be victimized by home invasions. Many believe auto thieves have the upper hand and that this issue isn't being taken seriously enough.

According to the Insurance Bureau of Canada, auto theft costs Ontarians hundreds of millions in insurance claims and premiums per year. This doesn't include court, policing, legal, and out-of-pocket costs, such as deductibles. Toronto continues to top the list of Ontario cities when it comes to the total value of auto theft claims.

Canada's technology standards for vehicles haven't been updated by the Government of Canada since 2008. All vehicle manufacturers should be mandated to heighten the technology and security features in vehicles.

While increased measures has been taken at the Port of Montreal, there has been a significant increase of illegal activity at the Port of Halifax. More resources need to be allocated to all Canadian ports to accelerate the screening process of all outgoing items.

Re-vinning stolen vehicles has been a major play in criminals' playbooks. Removing the ability to register a vehicle on another's behalf without power of attorney will restrict criminals from being able to fly under the radar.

Registering a vehicle using the New Vehicle Information Statement is another way to create Vehicle Identification Numbers. Restricting access from the public and granting access only to licensed dealers will, once again, deter criminals from being overlooked.

More action needs to be taken to curb auto theft and support safety in our neighbourhoods.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM20.1