



# Traffic Code Update First Reading

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**Chief Jeff Swoboda**  
**Assistant Chief Kristy Volesky**

Police Services

- FCPS and City of Fort Collins staff receive numerous reports from community members regarding unreasonable traffic noise.
- Staff have reviewed current code and propose an ordinance be added as it relates to unreasonable traffic noise and clarification in other traffic ordinances.
- In addition to having the ability to enforce code changes, FCPS will work to educate community members regarding traffic noise as it relates to the behavior and operations of motor vehicles.
  - Social Media
  - PSD
  - Driving School

- The following 4 noise related code updates are being requested:
  1. Adopt newly created Section 1418, Unreasonable Vehicle Noise Prohibited in the Traffic Code to address specific noise violations related to the operation of a vehicle.
  2. Amend Section 17-129 of the Municipal Code to remove all reference of traffic noise and relocate those provisions to the newly created Unreasonable Vehicle Noise Prohibited in Section 1418 above.
  3. Amend Section 225, Mufflers in the Traffic Code to Clarify the different types of equipment violations related to mufflers.
  4. Amend Section 1-15 of the Municipal Code to allow some specified traffic violations that do not have a state equivalent charge to be designated as a misdemeanor offense, such as the newly created Section 1418 regarding Unreasonable Vehicle Noise Prohibited.

- Add municipal ordinance specific to unreasonable TRAFFIC noise with criteria, including:
  - Officer looks at all factors to determine reasonableness
    - Location
    - Duration
    - Type of noise
    - Time of day
    - Etc.
- Decibel reading not necessary
- Increases efficiency for officer – eliminates need for criminal report
- Addresses Behavior





- New ordinance provides clarity in the code
  - Sections re-organized to add clarity and to distinguish potential issues with mufflers so an officer can base enforcement decision on independent, usable subsections.
- Fine schedule to be determined by the court in summer, 2025. Clarity in ordinance
  - Recommendation to increase amount fined.
- Based on equipment, not operation/behavior.

