
VILLAGE OF THORNTON
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ORDINANCE
NUMBER 2025-016

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 9 OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF THORNTON
COOK COUNTY ILLINOIS WITH THE ADDITION OF A NEW CHAPTER 14 PROHIBITING
STREET TAKEOVERS AND ESTABLISHING PENALTIES FOR PARTICIPANTS,
SPECTATORS, AND VEHICLE IMPOUNDMENT**

MAXINE REYNOLDS, Village President
NIKKI KITAKIS, Village Clerk

TRUSTEES
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GINA GLASER
ERNEST “BO” KAYE
PHILLIP MIDDLEBROOKS
DEBRA PISARZEWSKI
MARTIN PRATSCHER

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VILLAGE OF THORNTON – 115 E. MARGARET STREET – THORNTON, ILLINOIS 60476

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WHEREAS, the Village of Thornton is a validly organized and existing Home Rule municipality within the purview of Article VII, Section 6(a) of the Illinois Constitution (1970), and the said Village, therefore, may exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Thornton seeks to ensure the safety of its residents, visitors, and motorists; and

WHEREAS, street takeovers—events involving the unlawful blocking of roadways to perform motor vehicle stunts, drag racing, or reckless driving activities, often with large numbers of spectators—pose severe risks to life, property, and public peace;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Thornton, Cook County, Illinois, as follows:

SECTION 1. That Title 9 of the Code of the Village of Thornton, Cook County Illinois shall be amended with the addition of a new Chapter entitled “Street Takeovers” and shall read as follows.

9-14-1. Definitions.

1. **Street Takeover:** The unlawful use of a public street, intersection, parking lot, or other roadway where two (2) or more persons block or impede traffic for the purpose of performing stunts, burnouts, doughnuts, drifting, drag racing, or other reckless driving activities.
2. **Participant:** Any person who engages in, organizes, aids, abets, facilitates, or operates a motor vehicle in a street takeover.
3. **Spectator:** Any person who is knowingly present for the purpose of viewing, recording, encouraging, or supporting a street takeover and who is not an on-duty law enforcement officer, first responder, or otherwise authorized by law to be present.

9-14-2. Prohibited Acts.

A. No person shall organize, participate in, or otherwise engage in a street takeover within the Village of Thornton.

B. No person shall knowingly attend, witness, or spectate at a street takeover.

9-14-3. Penalties.

A. Any spectator at a street takeover shall be subject to a fine of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for each offense.

B. Any participant operating or using a vehicle in a street takeover shall be subject to a fine of Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750.00) for each offense.

C. Any motor vehicle used in a street takeover shall be subject to seizure and impoundment, subject to provision 10-1A-14 of this code, and the registered owner shall be responsible for an administrative tow fee of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), in addition to all towing and storage costs. For purposes of this chapter "motor vehicle" shall mean any mechanical instrument of conveyance used for transporting people or goods not solely propelled by human power.

D. Each occurrence, and each day a violation continues, shall constitute a separate offense.

9-14-4. Enforcement.

This ordinance shall be enforced by any sworn law enforcement officer of the Village of Thornton.

SECTION 2. That Title 10 Chapter 1A section 14A shall be amended and shall read as follows

10-1A-14A. Whenever a police officer has probable cause to believe that a vehicle is subject to seizure and impoundment pursuant to §§ 9-12-4, 10-1A-11, 10-1A-12, 10-1A-13 and 9-14-3 of this Code, the police officer shall provide for the towing of the vehicle to a facility authorized by the Village or its agents. Before or at the time the vehicle is towed, the police officer shall notify any person identifying himself as the owner of the vehicle or any person who is found to be in control of the vehicle at the time of the alleged violation, of the fact of the seizure and of the vehicle owner's right to request a vehicle impoundment hearing to be conducted under this section.

SECTION 3: That all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance be and the same are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4: That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval by law.

SECTION 5: That this Ordinance is authorized to be published in pamphlet form.

ADOPTED, by the Village President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Thornton,
Cook County, Illinois this 20th day of October 2025, pursuant to a roll call vote, as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CUNNINGHAM				
GLASER				
KAYE				
MIDDLEBROOKS				
PISARZEWSKI				
PRATSCHER				
VILLAGE PRESIDENT REYNOLDS				
TOTAL				

APPROVED by the Village President of the Village of Thornton, Cook County, Illinois
This 20th day of October 2025.

MAXINE REYNOLDS
VILLAGE PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

NIKKI KITAKIS
VILLAGE CLERK