



**Committee:** PS  
**Committee Review:** At a future date  
**Staff:** Jim Ogorzalek, Legislative Attorney  
**Purpose:** To introduce agenda item – no vote expected

AGENDA ITEM #1A  
June 16, 2026  
**Introduction**

## **SUBJECT**

Bill 27-26, Motor Vehicles and Traffic – Unlawful Racing and Street Takeovers Prohibited

Lead Sponsor: Councilmember Friedson

## **EXPECTED ATTENDEES**

None

## **COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

N/A

## **DESCRIPTION/ISSUE**

Bill 27-26 would:

- (1) prohibit participation in unlawful racing and street takeovers on public highways or roadways;
- (2) define certain terms related to unlawful racing and street takeovers;
- (3) establish penalties for such violations; and
- (4) generally amend the law regarding motor vehicles and traffic.

## **SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS**

N/A

### **This report contains:**

Staff Report  
Bill 27-26

Pages 1–2  
© 1

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## MEMORANDUM

June 11, 2026

TO: County Council

FROM: Jim Ogorzalek, Legislative Attorney

SUBJECT: Bill 27-26, Motor Vehicles and Traffic – Unlawful Racing and Street Takeovers Prohibited

PURPOSE: Introduction – no Council votes required

Bill 27-26, Motor Vehicles and Traffic – Unlawful Racing and Street Takeovers Prohibited, is scheduled for introduction on June 16, 2026. Its Lead Sponsor is Councilmember Friedson. A public hearing is tentatively scheduled for July 14, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.

Bill 27-26 would:

- (1) prohibit participation in unlawful racing and street takeovers on public highways or roadways;
- (2) define certain terms related to unlawful racing and street takeovers;
- (3) establish penalties for such violations; and
- (4) generally amend the law regarding motor vehicles and traffic.

### **Background**

In response to recent instances racing, speed contests, and exhibition driving, the General Assembly enacted legislation increasing penalties for participation in racing or speed contests and prohibited exhibition driving, all in certain circumstances as defined under State law. In 2026, the Prince George's County Council enacted a similar law consistent with state law aimed at prohibiting unlawful speed contests, exhibition driving, stunt driving or race contests. No similar law exists in the Montgomery County Code.

### **Bill Specifics**

Bill 27-26 would prohibit the participation in unlawful racing and street takeovers on public highway or roadways, defining, as necessary, certain terms. The bill establishes that any violation of the new prohibitions is a Class A criminal penalty under the County Code.

This packet contains:  
Bill 27-26

Circle #  
1

Bill No. 27-26  
Concerning: Motor Vehicles and Traffic –  
Unlawful Racing and Street  
Takeovers - Prohibited  
Revised: 6/8/2026 Draft No. 1  
Introduced: June 16, 2026  
Expiration: December 7, 2026  
Enacted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Executive: \_\_\_\_\_  
Effective: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sunset Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ch. \_\_\_\_\_, Laws of Mont. Co. \_\_\_\_\_

## COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

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Lead Sponsor: Councilmember Friedson

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**AN ACT** to:

- (1) prohibit participation in unlawful racing and street takeovers on public highways or roadways;
- (2) define certain terms related to unlawful racing and street takeovers;
- (3) establish penalties for such violations; and
- (4) generally amend the law regarding motor vehicles and traffic.

By adding

Montgomery County Code  
Chapter 31, Motor Vehicles and Traffic  
Section 31-9F

<b>Boldface</b>	<i>Heading or defined term.</i>
<u>Underlining</u>	<i>Added to existing law by original bill.</i>
[Single boldface brackets]	<i>Deleted from existing law by original bill.</i>
<u>Double underlining</u>	<i>Added by amendment.</i>
[[Double boldface brackets]]	<i>Deleted from existing law or the bill by amendment.</i>
* * *	<i>Existing law unaffected by bill.</i>

*The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Act:*

1           **Sec. 1. Section 31-9F is added as follows:**

2           **Sec. 31-9F. Unlawful Racing and Street Takeovers Prohibited.**

3           (a) *Definitions.* In this section, the following words and phrases have the  
4           meanings indicated:

5           *Exhibition driving* has the meaning set forth in Section 21-1116.1 of the  
6           Transportation Article of the Maryland Code, as amended.

7           *Lawful order to disperse* means an order issued by a law enforcement officer  
8           directing people to leave a defined area because the officer has reasonable  
9           grounds to believe an unlawful race or a street takeover is occurring or about to  
10           occur.

11           *Motor vehicle* means a vehicle that is self-propelled, including two or four-  
12           wheel vehicles or all-terrain vehicles; motorcycles, mopeds, minibikes, dirt  
13           bikes, scooters; and any other means of land transportation deriving motor  
14           power from any source other than muscle or wind.

15           *Participant* means any person, in or outside a vehicle, who purposefully slows,  
16           stops, or impedes, or attempts to slow, stop, or impede, the movement of traffic,  
17           including pedestrian traffic, for the purpose of a speed contest, stunt driving,  
18           exhibition driving, or street takeover. Participant includes any person who aids,  
19           abets, promotes, organizes, or attends a speed contest, stunt driving, exhibition  
20           driving, or street takeover.

21           *Street takeover* means a coordinated gathering of persons, including persons in  
22           motor vehicles, that results in the intentional disruption of the movement of  
23           motor vehicles on the highway or roadway or the movement of public safety  
24           vehicles within the County, such as vehicles performing burnouts, drifting,  
25           spinning, doughnuts, acceleration exhibitions, or other similar maneuvers that  
26           create a substantial risk of injury on any county highway.

27 Stunt driving means any motor vehicle performing or engaging in burnouts,  
 28 doughnuts, drifting, or wheelies, or allowing a passenger to ride either partially  
 29 or fully outside the vehicle while operating that vehicle.

30 Unlawful race or speed contest means any race, speed contest, acceleration  
 31 contest, or competitive exhibition of speed or acceleration involving one or more  
 32 motor vehicles not authorized by law.

33 (b) Prohibited Conduct.

34 (1) A person must not engage in an unlawful race, speed contest, street  
 35 takeover, exhibition driving event, or stunt driving event on any  
 36 highway or roadway.

37 (2) A person must not participate as a timekeeper, flagger, participant,  
 38 or starter in an unlawful race, speed contest, street takeover,  
 39 exhibition driving event, or stunt driving event on any highway or  
 40 roadway.

41 (3) A person must not aid, abet, promote, or organize an unlawful race,  
 42 speed contest, street takeover, exhibition driving event, or stunt  
 43 driving event.

44 (4) A person must not remain in a defined area after a lawful order to  
 45 disperse has been issued by a law enforcement official.

46 (d) Any violation of this section or any regulation issued under it is a Class  
 47 A violation and may be punished as a misdemeanor.

48 (e) A motor vehicle used in violation of this section may be taken into  
 49 possession by County police or other authorized person designated by the  
 50 County Executive and may be towed and stored in accordance with  
 51 applicable law.