



City of Austin

Recommendation for Action

File #: 26-1233, **Agenda Item #:** A38.

2/24/2026

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance amending Chapter 12-1 (*Traffic Regulation and Administration*) of the City Code to add a new section relating to vehicle engine noise; and creating an offense. Funding: This item has no fiscal impact.

Lead Department

Austin Police.

Fiscal Note

This item has no fiscal impact.

Prior Council Action:

March 28, 2019 - Council approved an ordinance amending City Code Section 12-1 (*Traffic Regulation and Administration*) and 12-2 (*Bicycles*) relating to the safe operation of micro-mobility devices.

For More Information:

Lee Rogers, Chief of Staff, Austin Police, (512) 974-5030.

Additional Backup Information:

This ordinance will add a new Section 12-1-36 (*Vehicle Engine Noise*), which addresses a loud or disturbing noise or vibration that is offensive to a person of ordinary sensibilities from the discharge into the open air of the exhaust from any motor vehicle. The section provides for enforcement and factors for the consideration of responding officers. In situations where the engine noise exceeds 85 decibels, a presumption is created that the noise violates the new law. Officers may cite for violations of this section with or without the presumption.