

STREET RACING PRESENTATION

May 10, 2021



CURRENT CONCERNS AND TRENDS

- ▶ March 7, 2021, 600-800 Street Racers shut down I-225 in Aurora causing major traffic delays and community frustration. Aurora Police Department had considerable difficulty addressing the situation.
- ▶ April 3, 2021 Speed Racing event in downtown Denver cited as the cause of a traffic fatality.
- ▶ FOX31/Denver PD reported that Street Racing has tripled since the beginning of the pandemic.

COMMERCE CITY QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES RELATED TO STREET RACING

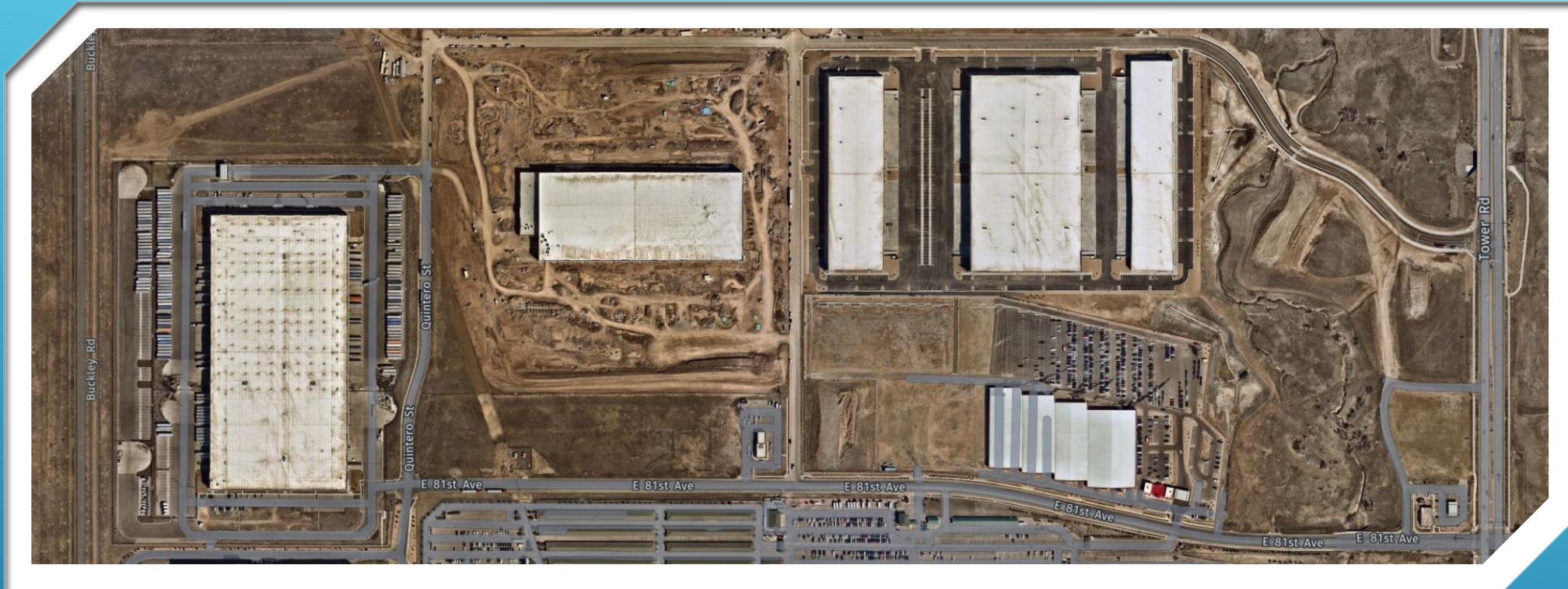
- ▶ Commerce City is typically not a location where street racers hold races.
- ▶ Commerce City has been a hub for racers and car clubs to gather prior to or after their pre-planned events.
 - ▶ Pioneer Park (Summer of 2020)
 - ▶ Monaco Park
 - ▶ 8100 & 8300 block of Tower Road



PIONEER PARK



MONACO PARK



E. 81ST AND TOWER ROAD

CFS SUMMARY

- ▶ Over a 3 year period, Commerce City Police has received 124 calls for service related to street racing. These CFS include:
 - ▶ Racing
 - ▶ Cars gathering before, during or after racing
 - ▶ Noise complaints as a result of racing and/or gathering (music, revving of engines, squealing tires, etc.)

CHALLENGES

- ▶Resources to deal with large street racing groups gathering in locations around the city.
- ▶When officers conduct enforcement on violators, drivers simply do not stop and their actions do not warrant a high speed pursuit. Therefore identification and accountability is difficult.
- ▶Street Racing groups are mobile and have creative ways to communicate with members making it difficult to be proactive.

- ▶ Active involvement with the Regional Street Racing Work Group. ** Fusion Center Intel communication is key with this work group.
- ▶ Mutual Aid Agreement with Adams County L.E. partners
- ▶ Enforcement where possible
- ▶ Ongoing development of operational plans to address the constant changes in street racing and car club trends.
- ▶ Educating the community and asking for reporting assistance. One resource is www.reportstreetracing.com.

ONGOING POLICE DEPARTMENT EFFORTS

42-4-1105 (1)(a)- Engaged in a Speed Contest

42-4-1105 (2)(a)- Engaged in an Exhibition of Speed

42-4-1105 (3)(a)- (Aided in/ Facilitated) a Speed Contest

42-4-1105 (3)(a)- (Aided in/ Facilitated) in an Exhibition of Speed

42-5-1105 (3)- Obstructed Highway Incident to Speed Contest

42-4-1401 (1)- Reckless Driving

42-4-1402 (2)(a)- Careless Driving

18-9-107- Obstructing (Highway/ Street/ Sidewalk)

18-9-114- Hindering Transportation

**CURRENT TRAFFIC LAWS AND APPLICABLE
ORDINANCES**

- ▶ 7-1003 Operation of motorized vehicle; parking adjacent to parks
- ▶ 7-1004 Closed areas; curfew
- ▶ 11-1202 (i) Section 616
- ▶ High traffic hazard routes (1) and (2)
- ▶ 12-2010 Failure to follow rules and regulations on public property
- ▶ 12-2011 Entrance upon closed public grounds prohibited
- ▶ Require a Victim
- ▶ 6-2011 Unreasonable Noise
- ▶ 12-3000 Trespass
- ▶ 12-4002 Reckless endangerment
- ▶ 12-5000 Disorderly conduct
- ▶ 12- 5002 Unlawful Assembly
- ▶ 12-5004 Disturbing the peace
- ▶ 12-5010 Nuisance party prohibited
- ▶ 12-6001 Obstruction of public ways

COMMERCE CITY MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES

► **11-2105 Street racing and exhibition of speed- Prohibited**

- Increase fine schedule to maximum amount.
- Require 30-day jail sentence for second conviction.

► **12-3000.5 Trespassing for the purpose of furtherance of street racing exhibition of speed**

► **3-2304 Penalties**

- Add subsection to increase the minimum penalty for violations of 11-2105 to maximum allowed for a municipality.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES

Ongoing mutual aid operations.

Formalize investigatory process and partner with local agencies to potentially charge at a higher level.

Educate the street racing community.

Utilize technology to identify participants and proactively communicate the consequences if involved in street racing (ALPR).

Enlist community support for reporting and deterrence.

Utilize undercover investigators to help identify and build criminal and civil cases.

FUTURE EFFORTS

ADDITIONAL ACTIONS

- ▶ Physically close Pioneer Park after hours.
- ▶ Signage to close roadway during peak hours- Enables additional enforcement tool.
- ▶ Signage to enhance PD ability to charge violators- Trespassing signs that spells out the prohibition of exhibition of speed (squealing tires, revving engines) on private property. Work with businesses for posting.

RECOMMENDATIONS WITH BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

- ▶ Covert mobile ALPR unit- Approximately \$24K per unit.
- ▶ LiveView mobile trailer surveillance system
- ▶ Close Pioneer Park after hours w/ solar powered gates

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

- ▶ Staff is present to answer questions