



## CITY OF BANNING STAFF REPORT

**TO:** CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Douglas Schulze, City Manager

**PREPARED BY:** Doug Schulze, City Manager

**MEETING DATE:** February 27, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Second Reading and Adoption of Ordinance 1597, Establishing Regulations Governing the Possession of Catalytic Converters, and Amending Title 9 of the Banning Municipal Code

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

A motion to adopt Ordinance 1597, establishing regulations governing the possession of catalytic converters, and amending Title 9 of the Banning Municipal Code.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Ordinance 1597 was introduced at the February 13, 2024 meeting of the City Council. The City Council adopted a motion waiving full reading of the ordinance and introducing the ordinance, as read by title only. No changes were made to Ordinance 1597, as introduced.

Theft of catalytic converters has been an increasing problem in Riverside County as well as in Banning in recent years. The external location of catalytic converters and the use of valuable precious metals, including rhodium, palladium and platinum, in catalytic converters makes these devices a target for thieves. Individuals in possession of stolen catalytic converters often recycle them for substantial profit, while victims of these thefts suffer the consequences of paying thousands of dollars in repairs, the inconvenience of repairing their vehicles, and feeling unsafe in the community.

The purpose and intent of the proposed Ordinance is to curb the theft of catalytic converters in Banning and to provide the City with reasonable means to address the impact on the community and the victims posed by increasing catalytic converter thefts. Similar ordinances have been adopted by Riverside County and the City of Beaumont.

### **JUSTIFICATION:**

The inability to identify the victims of catalytic converter thefts can inhibit the ability to successfully prosecute individuals for thefts. The proposed Ordinance is necessary to provide the City of Banning a means to protect the public, deter this criminal activity, and promote a more productive use of City resources.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

City staff and legal counsel time involved with preparation of ordinance and staff report is minimal. Adoption of this Ordinance will create efficiencies for law enforcement personnel.

### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Adopt, as read by title only, Ordinance 1597, as written.
2. Adopt, as read by title only, Ordinance 1597, with minor clerical modifications.

3. Do not adopt Ordinance 1597.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. [Ordinance 1597, Catalytic Converters.pdf](#)