

## **CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT, MARYLAND**

**Ordinance No.:** **O-26-09**

**Introduced by:** **City Council**

**Date Introduced:** December 1, 2025

**First Reading:** December 1, 2025

**Second Reading:** December 8, 2025

**Date Adopted:** **December 8, 2025**

**Date Effective:** **January 5, 2025**

### **AN ORDINANCE concerning**

#### **Speed Monitoring Enforcement**

**FOR** the purpose of amending Chapter 150 – Vehicles and Traffic of the Code of the City of Seat Pleasant for the purposes of increasing the Fines for Certain Violations and Establishing Scofflaw.

**BY** amending Chapter 150 – Vehicles and Traffic  
Section 150-24, 150-72 and 150-73 Speed Monitoring Enforcement  
Code of the City of Seat Pleasant (1994 Edition, as amended)

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to § 5-202 of the Local Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, the City Council of the City of Seat Pleasant (hereinafter, the “City”) has the power to adopt ordinances as it deems necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the City; and

**WHEREAS**, § 21-809 of the Transportation Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended (hereinafter, “TR § 21-809”), authorizes the City, by local law of its governing body, to operate a speed monitoring system in certain locations in the City, provided that the City follows the procedures and requirements set forth in § 21-809; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to TR § 21-809, the City Council adopted an ordinance enacting Seat Pleasant City Code §150-72 Speed Monitoring System, codified in Chapter 150 of the City Code; and

**WHEREAS**, by HB 182 (2025), the Maryland General Assembly amended TR §21-809 to allow fines greater than \$40 for a speed monitoring systems violations involving speeds exceeding the speed limit by more than 15 miles per hour; and

**WHEREAS**, the Seat Pleasant City Council has determined that increasing the fines for speed monitoring system violations as permitted by HB 182 will serve the public interest in enhanced road safety for vehicles and pedestrians by further discouraging drivers from greatly exceeding posted speed limits.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED**, by the Council of the City of Seat Pleasant, Maryland that Seat Pleasant Code, Chapter 150 "Vehicles and Traffic" §150-72. "Speed Monitoring System", shall be and is hereby amended to read as follows:

**SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE SEAT PLEASANT CITY COUNCIL** that Chapter 150 (Vehicles and Traffic), § 150-24, 150-72 and 150-73 of the Code of the City of Seat Pleasant (1994 Edition, as amended) be and it is hereby amended to read as follows:

**§ 150-24 Impoundment without prior notice.**

A-S NO CHANGES

T. THE SEAT PLEASANT POLICE DEPARTMENT ("SPPD"), OR ITS AUTHORIZED DESIGNEE, MAY IMMOBILIZE (BOOT), TOW, OR IMPOUND ANY MOTOR VEHICLE ASSOCIATED WITH:

1. TWO (2) OR MORE DELINQUENT VIOLATIONS THAT ARE NINETY (90) DAYS PAST DUE, OR
2. ANY VIOLATION FOR WHICH A SCOFFLAW FEE HAS BEEN ASSESSED AND REMAINS UNPAID.

A. PRIOR TO IMMOBILIZATION OR TOWING, SPPD SHALL MAKE REASONABLE EFFORTS TO NOTIFY THE REGISTERED OWNER OF THE OUTSTANDING VIOLATIONS AND POTENTIAL ENFORCEMENT ACTION.

B. NO VEHICLE SHALL BE RELEASED UNTIL ALL OUTSTANDING FINES, SCOFFLAW FEES, TOWING AND STORAGE CHARGES, AND ADMINISTRATIVE FEES ARE PAID IN FULL.

C. VEHICLES UNCLAIMED TWENTY-ONE (21) DAYS AFTER IMPOUNDMENT MAY BE DISPOSED OF BY PUBLIC AUCTION CONSISTENT WITH MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION ARTICLE, TITLE 25.

**§ 150-72. Speed Monitoring**

A-C NO CHANGES

D. The driver of a motor vehicle is subject to a civil penalty ((in the amount of \$40)) if the motor vehicle is recorded by a speed monitoring system ((as)) WHILE being operated in a school zone AND RESIDENTIAL ZONE in excess of the posted speed limit. THE CIVIL PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS THROUGH THE SPEED MONITORING SYSTEM SHALL BE:

1. TWELVE TO FIFTEEN MILES PER HOUR OVER THE POSTED LIMIT: FORTY DOLLARS (\$40.00)
2. SIXTEEN TO NINETEEN MILES PER HOUR OVER THE POSTED LIMIT: SEVENTY DOLLARS (\$70.00)
3. TWENTY TO TWENTY-NINE MILES PER HOUR OVER THE POSTED LIMIT: ONE HUNDRED TWENTY DOLLARS (\$120.00)
4. THIRTY TO THIRTY-NINE MILES PER HOUR OVER THE POSTED LIMIT: TWO HUNDRED THIRTY DOLLARS (\$230.00)
5. FORTY MILES PER HOUR OR MORE OVER THE POSTED LIMIT: FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$425.00)

F. AND G. NO CHANGES

H. SCOFFLAW FEE ESTABLISHED

- A. A SCOFFLAW FEE NOT TO EXCEED \$1,000.00 IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED.
- B. THE FEE SHALL BE ASSESSED WHEN A VIOLATOR HAS ONE OR MORE DELINQUENT VIOLATIONS AND REASONABLE NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY TO PAY HAVE BEEN PROVIDED.
- C. THE FEE SHALL BE ADDED TO THE ACCOUNT BALANCE AND COLLECTED IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER CIVIL PENALTIES AND SHALL REFLECT THE COSTS OF RECOVERY TO THE CITY, INCLUSIVE OF ALL INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL DOCUMENTED COSTS.
- D. THE FEE SHALL BE ASSESSED BASED ON THE COSTS OF RECOVERING OUTSTANDING FEES AND FINES DUE TO THE CITY AND WILL REFLECT THE ACTUAL COST OF RECOVERY, NOT TO EXCEED \$1,000.00

**§ 150-73 Administrative fees.**

- A. NO CHANGES
- B. Returned check fee: \$35.50 per returned check.
- C. ~~If a speed camera or red light camera citation has not been paid in 30 days, the fee shall double, and if not paid in 60 days, the fee shall double again for each speed and red light camera citation.~~  
COLLECTIONS FEE: A COLLECTIONS FEE OF 35% SHALL BE ASSESSED ON ANY VIOLATION REFERRED TO THE CITY'S AUTHORIZED COLLECTIONS VENDOR FOR

RECOVERY ACTIONS. IF A REGISTRATION FLAG IS ISSUED ON A VIOLATION SENT TO COLLECTIONS, THE FLAGGING FEE SHALL BE ASSESSED IN ADDITION TO THE COLLECTIONS FEE.

D. ~~Any citations for speed or red light camera that are unpaid after 60 days risk the suspension of their tags.~~ LATE PAYMENT FEE: ANY CIVIL PENALTY THAT REMAINS UNPAID THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF ISSUANCE MAY BE ASSESSED A \$40.00 LATE FEE.

**SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT** that the Recitals to this Ordinance are incorporated herein and deemed a substantive part of this Ordinance.

**SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED BY CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT** that all other ordinances or parts of ordinances or provisions of the Code of the City of Seat Pleasant (1994 Edition, as amended) in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance or the property maintenance code adopted by this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

**SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED BY CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT** that the title of this Ordinance, or a condensed version thereof, shall be deemed to be, and is, a fair summary of this Ordinance for publication and all other purposes.

**SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED BY CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT** that, if any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court or competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance, it being the intent of the City Council that this Ordinance shall stand, notwithstanding the invalidity of any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion hereof.

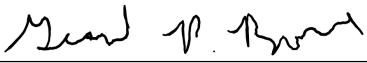
**SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED BY CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT** that the City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this Ordinance, and cause the same or, to the extent permitted by the Charter, a fair summary of the same, to be published as required by law, and that this Ordinance shall become effective at the expiration of twenty (20) days following approval by the Mayor or passage by the City Council over the Mayor's veto.

**APPROVED:**

**COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT**

Monica Higgs, Councilmember

Ashley Kearney, Councilmember

Signed by:  
  
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Gerald R. Raynor, Sr., Councilmember

Signed by:  
  
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Gary A. Jones, Councilmember

Signed by:  
  
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Shireka McCarthy, Councilmember

Kizzie Scott, Councilmember

**ATTEST:**

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Dashaun N. Ball, CPM, MMC  
City Clerk

**This Ordinance was presented to the mayor for his approval or disapproval pursuant to Section C-313 of the Charter of the City of Seat Pleasant this 9<sup>th</sup> day of December 2025.**

DocuSigned by:  
  
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**Dashawn N. Ball, CPM, MMC**  
**City Clerk**

**In accordance with Section C-313 of the Charter of the City of Seat Pleasant, I hereby Approve or Disapprove this Ordinance this \_\_\_\_\_ day of 12/9/2025, 2025**

DocuSigned by:  
  
DEBE1E4086FF457...  
**Kelly Porter,**  
**Mayor**

## **EXPLANATION**

CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

((Double Parenthesis)) indicates matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike Out~~ indicates matters stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law.