



Memorializing Resolution of the City Council - #0007-2024

Sponsored by: **Mary Lupien**, East District Representative

January 22, 2024

To The Honorable
Rochester City Council
30 Church Street
Rochester, New York 14614

RE: Memorializing the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to use its authority to recall unsafe Hyundai and Kia vehicles (2011 and 2022) which are particularly vulnerable to theft

Honorable Council Members:

I ask you to join me by signing your name on this Memorializing Resolution – to urge Acting Commissioner Carlson and the NHTSA to use their authority to recall Hyundai and Kia vehicles manufactured between 2011 and 2022 – and, in doing so, to collectively **State and Resolve:**

WHEREAS, due to an inherent vulnerability in their starting systems, the vehicles can be hotwired and stolen in a matter of minutes, presenting a serious safety issue in the City of Rochester and nationwide; and

WHEREAS, thefts of these vehicles have led to numerous deaths, significant injuries and substantial property damage nationwide; and

WHEREAS, these thefts have diverted crucial public safety and other emergency services resources from other priorities; and

WHEREAS, Hyundai and Kia announced voluntary service campaigns for software updates for vehicles with this starting-system vulnerability, however, this is an insufficient response to the problem which does not adequately remedy the safety concerns facing vehicle owners and the public; and

WHEREAS, a voluntary service campaign lacks the notice and regulatory requirements of a safety recall process and thus is unlikely to remedy as many vehicles as necessary in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, Hyundai and Kia vehicles' inherent vulnerability to hotwiring and theft has created a safety crisis on roads in the City of Rochester and across the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, Hyundai and Kia vehicles' are often affordable models that appeal to working class families who are disproportionately affected by the theft and loss of use of their vehicle and are less able to absorb costly repairs or the loss of their primary means of transportation to and from work; and

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WHEREAS, the NHTSA should order a recall of unsafe Hyundai and Kia vehicles; and

WHEREAS, we support the request of New York State Attorney General Letitia James and her peers from across America who are requesting an NHTSA Recall.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the undersigned Members of the Rochester City Council, therefore urge the NHTSA to implement a recall as soon as possible of the aforementioned Hyundai and Kia vehicles to prevent additional injuries, fatalities, and related harm to vehicle owners and the public both here in Rochester, New York and across the entire United States of America.

Sincerely,



Mary Lupien, Councilmember
East District

Attachment

RE: Memorializing the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to use its authority to recall unsafe Hyundai and Kia vehicles (2011 and 2022) which are particularly vulnerable to theft

The following Councilmembers join their colleague in support of Memorializing Resolution 0007-24:



Miguel A. Meléndez, President
At-Large Representative



LaShay D. Harris, Vice President
South District Representative



Willie Lightfoot, Councilmember
At-Large Representative



Stanley Martin, Councilmember
At-Large Representative



Bridget Monroe, Councilmember
Northwest District



Michael A. Patterson, Councilmember
Northeast District Representative



Kim Smith, Councilmember
At-Large Representative



Mitch Gruber, Councilmember
At-Large Representative