



# Wauwatosa Police Department

## Departmental Correspondence

DATE: 5/17/23

TO: Transportation Affairs Committee – 5/30/23 meeting

FROM: Capt. Luke Vetter

SUBJECT: Proposal to Adopt New Reckless Driving Impound Law

ATTCHED: Wisconsin Legislative Act Memo dated 4/10/23

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There continues to be local, regional and State concern over dangerous reckless driving on our roadways that result in crashes and unsafe travel. Law Enforcement Executives from the State and County level (Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association-WCPA and the Milwaukee County Law Enforcement Executive Association-MCLEEA) have coordinated efforts and asked the State Legislature for an additional tool to improve enforcement efforts against repeated reckless driving. Thankfully the Legislature listened, responded, and acted upon those requests.

The tool that was approved for law enforcement in early April is 2023 Wisconsin Act 1 which created Wisconsin State Traffic Statute 349.115 "Authority to Impound Vehicles," which allows the impounding of reckless driving vehicles in *certain* circumstances (see attached Legislative Memo). The Wauwatosa Police Department supports the adoption of this statute into Wauwatosa ordinance.

If approved, Police staff will be provided a detailed directive to train staff in the judicious use of this new law and ordinance. The directive will include the requirement of Supervisory approval before vehicles are impounded.

The Police Department fully promotes adoption of this new State Law by adopting ordinance 11.66.025.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Luke Vetter", written in a cursive style.

Capt. Luke Vetter  
Patrol Bureau