

MAURICE CHALMERS
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OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE
BUDGET REVIEW



NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE
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Inter-Departmental Memo

To: Hon. Richard Nicoletto, Presiding Officer
Hon. Kevan Abrahams, Minority Leader
All Members of the Nassau County Legislature

From: Maurice Chalmers, Director
Office of Legislative Budget Review

Date: May 20, 2022

Re: Clerk Items 133-22 & 148-22

Attached are copies of Fiscal Impact Statements for the Legislative Calendar for the May 23 hearing.

133-22: A Local Law to amend Section 21-29.10 of the Nassau County Administrative Code with respect to catalytic converters.

148-22: A Local Law to amend the County Government Law of Nassau County in relation to establishing a Nassau County Movie, Television, and Digital Media Commission.



**THE NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE
OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE BUDGET REVIEW
MAURICE CHALMERS, DIRECTOR
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

TITLE: A Local Law to amend Section 21-29.10 of the Nassau County Administrative Code with respect to catalytic converters.

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION:

Catalytic converters are exhaust emissions control devices that reduce harmful pollutants in exhaust gas from internal combustion engines. They are an essential and legally required component of most gas and diesel-powered vehicles. These devices contain precious metals including platinum, palladium and rhodium, and are an attractive target for thieves that can easily sell these highly valued components to scrap metal dealers. Replacing stolen converters and repairing damages due to the theft can cost victims thousands of dollars. These catalytic converters are easily stolen by skilled thieves using common tools and are not marked, stamped or otherwise identifiable in a manner that would assist law enforcement to identify the vehicle from which the device was stolen from. The theft and sale of catalytic converters has skyrocketed as the price of precious metals have increased.

It is the intent of this Local Law to require scrap metal dealers in Nassau County to better document information on the seller of a catalytic converter to assist law enforcement in its mission to deter the theft of these devices and prosecute offenders.

Section 21-29.10 of the Nassau County Administrative Code shall be amended to include the following subsections:

- a) A person attempting to sell a catalytic converter to a Purchaser shall provide to the Purchaser the following information:
 - i. The year, make, model, and vehicle identification number for the vehicle from which the catalytic converter was removed;
 - ii. A copy of the certificate of title or other documentation indicating that the seller has an ownership interest vehicle described in subdivision (i), or where the seller is the owner of a garage or repair shop and the catalytic converter was removed in connection with a motor vehicle repair, the name and address of the vehicle's owner and copies of all related invoices.
- b) A Purchaser may not purchase a catalytic converter from a seller who does not comply with the requirements of subsection (a).
- c) A Purchaser may not purchase a catalytic converter unless such Purchaser determines that the catalytic converter is consistent with the manufacturer's specifications for a catalytic converter from the vehicle for which the seller provided information under subdivision (a)(i).

d) A Purchaser shall keep an accurate electronic record of each purchase of a catalytic converter made in the course of the Purchaser's business. The record must be in English and include the information required pursuant to §21-29.10 of the Nassau County Administration Code.

e) A Purchaser shall preserve each record required pursuant to this section until the 5th anniversary date the record was made. The records must be available for inspection no later than 72 hours after the date of purchase.

f) On request, a Purchaser will permit representatives of the Nassau County Department of Consumer Affairs or the Nassau County Police Department to inspect all records required to be kept pursuant to this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

This Local Law shall take effect immediately.

FISCAL IMPACT:

According to the Office of Consumer Affairs, current on-board Inspectors would have the added step of checking vehicle information and documentation on their routine inspections of the 12 scrap metal dealers in Nassau County. The Office states that this can be done with no fiscal impact.

In Nassau County, there were 50 thefts reported this time last year and this year, there have been 402 thefts so far. Catalytic converters have a street value of between \$200 to \$500 in the black market. The cost to replace a catalytic converter can range from \$1,000 to \$3,000, depending on the insurance coverage. Larger vehicles tend to have more expensive catalytic converters and some newer vehicles have two. Also, thieves will often cut the fuel and electric lines which adds \$5,000 to \$10,000 in damage per vehicle.¹

ECONOMIC IMPACT:

The Proposed Local Law is not expected to have an economic impact on the local economy.

PREPARED BY: Lamartine Pierre Jr., Senior Legislative Budget Analyst

SOURCES:

Office of Consumer Affairs

¹ Brodsky, Robert, "Officials Warn of Surge in Catalytic Converter Thefts from Vehicles", Newsday.com, May 6, 2022



**THE NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE
OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE BUDGET REVIEW
MAURICE CHALMERS, DIRECTOR
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

TITLE:

A Local Law to amend the County Government Law of Nassau County in relation to establishing a Nassau County Movie, Television and Digital Media Commission.

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION:

This local law seeks to add a new Section 2109 to the Nassau County Charter to establish a Nassau County Movie, Television and Digital Media Commission.

The Nassau County Movie, Television and Digital Media Commission shall consist of 12 members, all of whom shall serve at the pleasure of the County Executive. Seven members shall be appointed by the County Executive, three members appointed on the recommendation of the Presiding Officer of the County Legislature and two members appointed on the recommendation of the Minority Leader of the County Legislature. The County Executive shall designate one member as Chairperson. Members must have a background in movie, television, digital media business, development, labor or other related industries.

The Commission shall not receive any funding from the County of Nassau unless an appropriation specifically for the use of the Commission is approved by the County Legislature. The Commission is authorized to obtain monies through private fundraising, which shall be governed by bylaws duly adopted by the Nassau County Movie, Television and Digital Media Commission and filed with the Nassau County Board of Ethics.

The Nassau County Movie, Television, and Digital Media Commission shall:

- a. Concern itself with any and all matters pertaining to the development and use of Nassau County by the movie, television and digital media industries.
- b. Cooperate and assist the movie, television and digital media industries.
- c. Encourage, promote and assist the movie, television and digital media industries in utilizing the natural and man-made resources within Nassau County.
- d. Advise, assist and cooperate with other agencies of the County, local governments, boards and agencies, commissions and private enterprise pertaining to the aforementioned industries.
- e. Solicit the use of Nassau County as location sites for prospective content producers.
- f. Solicit available locations and accompany prospective content producers in visiting sites. Assist prospective producers in selecting such sites.
- g. Coordinate movie, television, and digital media projects in the County with regard to laws, permits, fees, or any other government related obligations.

- h. Invite, from time to time, any other governmental officials to participate in its deliberations or otherwise assist it in discharging its duties under this section.
- i. The Board shall meet at least once a year, may schedule additional meetings as necessary, and shall post a notice of all such meetings on the official website of Nassau County.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

This local law will take effect immediately.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Nassau County Parks Department has collected fees for use and occupancy permits it issues for television and production activities. Historical revenue and the current budget amounts are detailed below.

Sum of Actual Revenues		Fiscal Year			
Department Title	Sub-object Title	2019	2020	2021	2022 Budget
PARKS, RECREATION AND MUSEUMS	FILM & ADVERT ACTIVITIES	310,825	679,425	964,459	888,200

The Nassau County Movie, Television, and Digital Media Commission has the opportunity to obtain additional revenue for the County through its mission.

ECONOMIC IMPACT:

Although a specific amount can't be estimated, if the commission is successful in promoting the movie, television, and digital media industries, positive economic impacts will accrue to Nassau County.

PREPARED BY:

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 Helen Carlson, Chief Deputy Director