



NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

Co-Chair: Brandon Toole, First District

Co-Chair: Kevin Caneco, Twelfth District

June 10, 2025

3:00 PM

VIRTUAL ZOOM WEBINAR MEETING** &
LOUIS L. REDDING CITY/COUNTY BUILDING
1ST FLOOR COUNCIL CHAMBERS
800 N. FRENCH STREET, WILMINGTON, DE 19801

REVISED AGENDA

A. Meeting Call to Order

B. Approval of Minutes

C. Review/Discussion of Resolution(s)

D. Review/Discussion of Ordinance(s)

°25-084: (STATUS: TO BE CONSIDERED 6/24/25) TO AMEND NEW CASTLE COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 26 ("HUMAN RESOURCES"), ARTICLE 3 ("MERIT SYSTEM"), TO INCREASE THE RETIREMENT AGE FOR OFFICERS IN THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, DIVISION OF POLICE

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Toole, Mr. Caneco

°25-071: TO AMEND NEW CASTLE COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 34 ("TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES"), BY ADDING ARTICLE 5 ("ELECTRONIC SPEED MONITORING SYSTEM") TO ASSIST IN ENFORCEMENT OF TITLE 21 § 4170A OF THE DELAWARE CODE

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Sheldon, Ms. Durham

E. Presentations

Update on the Community Policing Unit

Discussion of potential speeding camera ordinance

Update on the Fire Service Committee

F. Other

G. Public Comment

H. Adjournment

AGENDA POSTED: June 3, 2025
REVISED AGENDA POSTED: June 3, 2025

*The agenda is posted (7) seven days in advance of the scheduled meeting in compliance with 29 *Del. C.* Section 10004(e)(2). The meeting may go into Executive Session to address issues that arise at the time of the meeting.

** The agenda was revised to add Ordinance 25-071. The revised agenda was posted (7) seven days in advance of the scheduled meeting in compliance with 29 *Del. C.* Section 10004(e)(2).

**Under Title 29, Section 10006A of *Delaware Code*, New Castle County Council is holding this meeting as a telephone and video conference, utilizing  Webinar. In addition, this meeting is open to the public in Council Chambers (800 N. French Street, Wilmington, DE 19801). The link to join the meeting via computer, smart device, or smart phone is : <https://zoom.us/j/377322142> You may also call into the meeting (audio) using the following call in numbers: 1-312-626-6799 or +1-646-558-8656 or +1-346-248-7799 or +1-669-900-9128 or +1-253-215-8782 or +1-301-715-8592. Then enter the Webinar ID: 377 322 142. If you do not have a good connection with one, please try the others. Additional information regarding phone functionality during the meeting is available at: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/360029527911-Live-Training-Webinars>

Meeting materials, including a meeting agenda, legislation to be addressed during the meeting, and other materials related to the meeting are electronically accessible at <https://www.nccde.org/2351/Agendas-and-Minutes> Members of the public joining the meeting may be provided an opportunity to make comments in real time. A comment period will be administered by a moderator to ensure everyone may have an opportunity to comment.

If permitted to comment, you will not be able to speak until called upon by the moderator. For those appearing virtually, there are functions in the program that allow you to do this. Please see the link in the previous paragraph.

ORDINANCE NO. 25-084

**TO AMEND NEW CASTLE COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 26 ("HUMAN RESOURCES"),
ARTICLE 3 ("MERIT SYSTEM"), TO INCREASE THE RETIREMENT AGE FOR
OFFICERS IN THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY,
DIVISION OF POLICE**

1 **WHEREAS**, the County Council finds that increasing the retirement age for police
2 officers is necessary to ensure the continued experience within the police department.

3
4 **WHEREAS**, this Ordinance aims to provide a more robust and experienced
5 workforce, while also addressing budgetary consideration and police attrition rate.

6
7 **NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNTY OF NEW CASTLE HEREBY ORDAINS:**

8
9 Section 1. *New Castle County Code* Chapter 26 ("Human Resources") and Article
10 3 ("Merit System"), are hereby amended by adding the material that is underscored and
11 deleting the material that is stricken, as set forth below.

12
13 **Division 26.03.908. - Retirement**

14
15 B. Subsection A shall permit a full-time County employee to become seasonal or
16 part-time upon reaching age seventy (70). This does not apply to retired employees
17 receiving a pension who subsequently are appointed by the County Council to serve as
18 judgment commissioners. The compulsory retirement age for a police officer shall be his
19 or her ~~fifty-fifth (55th)~~ fifty-seventh (57th) birthday. Notwithstanding any provision of this
20 Division to the contrary, any sworn police officer of the New Castle County Police
21 Department who reaches age 55 prior to obtaining 20 years of credited service will be
22 considered retired by the County upon reaching age 55 and shall receive a service
23 retirement pension if said member notifies the County prior to May 1, 2025 that he/she
24 elects to be covered by the prior mandatory retirement age of 55 as previously set forth
25 in this division.

Adopted by County Council of
New Castle County on:

Monique Williams-Johns
President of County Council
of New Castle County

Approved on:

Marcus Henry
County Executive
New Castle County

SYNOPSIS: This Ordinance would increase the retirement age for officers in the New Castle County Department of Public Safety, Division of Police from age fifty-five (55) to fifty-seven (57). Law enforcement agencies across the country are facing growing challenges, including a decline in recruitment, increased early retirements, and a shortage of experienced officers. Raising the retirement age is expected to mitigate these issues, reduce training costs and maintain institutional knowledge within the New Castle County Division of Police.

FISCAL NOTE: The fiscal impact includes an estimated increase in salary costs as well as the actuarial adjustment to the annual pension plan rate.

FY2026	\$218,427
FY2027	\$393,994
FY2028	\$537,904

Acknowledged by the Chief Financial Officer May 23, 2025.

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Sheldon, Ms. Durham
Requested by: Public Safety
Date of introduction: May 27, 2025

ORDINANCE NO. 25-071

TO AMEND *NEW CASTLE COUNTY CODE* CHAPTER 34 (“TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES”), BY ADDING ARTICLE 5 (“ELECTRONIC SPEED MONITORING SYSTEM”) TO ASSIST IN ENFORCEMENT OF TITLE 21 § 4170A OF THE *DELAWARE CODE*

1 **WHEREAS**, excessive speeding on Delaware roads poses a significant risk to the
2 safety of drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists; and
3

4 **WHEREAS**, data from traffic safety studies indicate that speed is a leading factor
5 in the severity of traffic collisions and fatalities; and
6

7 **WHEREAS**, electronic speed monitoring systems have been shown to effectively
8 deter speeding, improve compliance with posted speed limits, and reduce traffic
9 accidents; and
10

11 **WHEREAS**, it is not always possible for law enforcement officers to effectively
12 enforce the speed limitations due to a number of factors, including officer availability and
13 safety; and
14

15 **WHEREAS**, the adoption of electronic speed monitoring technology is intended to
16 complement traditional law enforcement efforts to promote compliance with Delaware’s
17 traffic safety laws and reduce speeding-related incidents; and
18

19 **WHEREAS**, in accordance with Title 21 § 4170A of the *Delaware Code*, New
20 Castle County is authorized to adopt an ordinance to enforce speed limits established
21 pursuant to Title 21 §§ 4169 and 4170 of the *Delaware Code* through the use of an
22 electronic speed monitoring system that results in the issuance of citations imposing civil
23 penalties for violations of the speed limit in excess of 11 miles per hour above the posted
24 limit; and
25

26 **WHEREAS**, the use of electronic speed monitoring systems deters speeding,
27 reduces accidents, encourages responsible driving, and provides fair and equitable
28 enforcement of traffic laws; and
29

30 **WHEREAS**, the use of electronic speed monitoring systems will supplement traffic
31 enforcement and reduce speeding in residential areas through the promotion of
32 behavioral change among vehicle operators. These automated systems will also improve
33 the quality of life for New Castle County residents, those conducting business in the
34 County, and visitors to the County.

35 **NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNTY OF NEW CASTLE HEREBY ORDAINS:**
36

37 Section 1. *New Castle County Code* Chapter 34 (“Traffic and Vehicles”), is hereby
38 amended by adding the underscored material as set forth below:
39

40 **Chapter 34. TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES.**

41 ...

42 **Article 5. Electronic Speed Monitoring System**

43 **Sec. 34.05.001 Speed Monitoring System**

44 The New Castle County Division of Police is authorized to use an electronic speed
45 monitoring system to enforce 21 Del. C. § 4170A of the Delaware Code. The New Castle
46 County Division of Police shall follow the procedures and requirements established in and
47 pursuant to 21 Del. C. § 4170A.
48
49

Adopted by County Council of
New Castle County on:

Monique Williams-Johns
President of County Council
of New Castle County

Approved on:

Marcus Henry
County Executive
of New Castle County

SYNOPSIS: This Ordinance, if approved, enables New Castle County to implement an electronic speed monitoring system which will assist in the enforcement of speed limits established pursuant to Title 21 §§ 4169 and 4170 of the *Delaware Code*.

FISCAL NOTE: The fiscal impact of this Ordinance, if approved, will be the cost of leasing the camera and the third party collection agency. It is anticipated that the State of Delaware will be providing \$28,550 which should cover the program for approximately five months. At the end of the five months, the program will be evaluated and if it is determined it will continue the ongoing costs and funding source will need to be identified. Any revenues received would be offset by the expense of an officer’s daily operational cost.

Acknowledged by the Chief Financial Officer May 6, 2025.