

July is National Vehicle Theft Prevention Month



A Kia which was damaged after being stolen is seen at an auto repair shop in Milwaukee on Wednesday, Jan. 27, 2021. Automakers Hyundai and Kia are offering software updates for millions of their vehicles that are missing a “key” anti-theft device, an issue that was exploited on social media and led to rampant theft of the cars. (Angela Peterson/Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel via AP)

Be Aware Of Ongoing Threats

In recognition of July as National Vehicle Theft Prevention Month, the Oregon Division of Financial Regulation, in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), urges vehicle owners to be aware of the ongoing threat of vehicle theft.

Vehicle theft continues to be a significant concern in the U.S., costing vehicle owners more than \$8 billion in 2022 alone. Shockingly, more than 1 million vehicles were stolen in the same year, reflecting a 25 percent increase in vehicle theft totals compared to previous years. Of all stolen motor vehicles, passenger cars historically accounted for more than 74 percent, with an estimated occurrence of one motor vehicle theft happening every 32 seconds.

In 2021, Oregon ranked fifth in the country for stolen vehicles based on the highest rate of vehicle theft per 100,000 residents, according to data provided by the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB). The states with

the highest theft rates were Colorado, District of Columbia, California, New Mexico, Oregon, Washington, Missouri, Nevada, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Theft of vehicles is covered – subject to the deductible – if you have comprehensive insurance coverage. Talk to your insurance company or agent to make sure you have the correct coverage for your needs.

To ensure the safety of your vehicle, it is essential to adopt preventive measures. Always remember to:

- Park in well-lit areas
- Close and lock all windows and doors when parking
- Conceal your valuables
- Avoid leaving your keys inside your vehicle
- Refrain from leaving the area while your vehicle is running
- Check with your vehicle’s manufacturer to make sure the vehicle’s software is up to date

While some vehicles come equipped with alarm and anti-theft systems, those without such features should consider purchasing additional layers of protection. Anti-theft systems are readily available for purchase online or in stores and can provide an extra level of security for your vehicle.

Apply to Join the Community Council

Portland Children’s Levy looking for volunteers

PCL is recruiting volunteers with lived, professional, and volunteer experience with marginalized children, youth, families and their support services for its Community Council.

The Levy is looking to fill 2 seats with community members who have experience with youth with disabilities and/or parents of children with disabilities; experience with human services and child abuse prevention and intervention; families navigating poverty and food insecurity; grant-making; and/or residents of east Portland and north Portland. Community members with lived and/or professional experience in these areas are encouraged to apply.

PCL is committed to supporting our participants’ engagement in Council work. We offer stipends of up to \$500 per year, accommodations for disabilities, interpretation, trans-



Council members from left to right, front row: Lolita Broadous, Karina Bjork, Kamla Hurst, Amarachi Duru, Lisa Wittorff; back row: Jami K. LeBaron, Amy Ramos, Alejandra Favela, Alix Sanchez, Stephen Pham; not pictured: LaNae Williams
Headline: Apply to join the Community Council

lation, and meals for meetings.

An informational session is available 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 19. Applications are due Aug. 7. To attend the information session, contact the Levy’s Community Engagement

Coordinator directly by email at ra-cheal.nakhabala@portlandoregon.gov or call her at 503-823-8763. The deadline to register is 5 p.m. on Tuesday, July 18 to receive the meeting link and agenda.

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