



CITY OF CLEVELAND
Mayor Frank G. Jackson



Sgt. Jennifer Ciaccia, Public Information Officer
Division of Police
216-623-5033

Daniel Williams, Director of Media Relations
Office of the Mayor
(216) 664-4011 or (216) 857-3301

Latoya Hunter, Assistant Director of Media Relations
Office of the Mayor
216-664-4303

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
May 16, 2017

City of Cleveland Announces Proposed Legislation to Address Unlawful Street Riding

New legislation is part of comprehensive plan and allows for stronger penalties

CLEVELAND –[Mayor Frank G. Jackson](#) and [Cleveland Police Chief Calvin D. Williams](#) today announced the City of Cleveland will introduce legislation to address unlawful dirt bike and off-road vehicle operation. Riders of dirt bikes and off-road vehicles are currently disrupting traffic flow on city streets and freeways.

“I have been working closely with the Cleveland Division of Police and leaders in the bike-life community to create alternatives for street riding and ensure the safety of police officers, residents, riders and our community,” said Mayor Jackson. “This legislation is part of a comprehensive plan to keep everyone safe, educate riders and enforce laws.”

The legislation will be introduced to Cleveland City Council before summer recess. And will include:

- **Prohibiting All-Terrain Vehicles or illegal (not properly licensed and equipped) Dirt Bikes on streets, sidewalks and in City parks and strengthening the penalties for violations.**
- **Prohibit Road/Street stunts that compromise the flow of traffic.**

“The Division of Police has been working with our law enforcement partners to construct a plan that will curb this illegal activity,” said Chief Williams. “It is our goal to move the riders off of our streets and address the issues of blocked and disrupted traffic and the concerns of residents. By educating riders and citizens and with the public's assistance, this is certainly possible.”

The City supports legal recreation activities and is working with many of the street riders to find alternatives that promote this sport legally. One alternative is the multi-modal racing track at Marion Motley Park.

City leaders are also embarking on a joint effort with the [Bob Burton Foundation](#) to connect with the riding community. City leaders and members of the organization met with several members of the community to discuss plans that not only address illegal activity, but inform riders of the rules and regulations.

“We want to bridge the gap between youth/urban motorcyclists and other at risk youth with the community, including law enforcement,” said founder Johnnie Burton. “Our goal is to be the liaison who people trust to ensure fairness and safety for all involved.”

About the City of Cleveland

The City of Cleveland is committed to improving the quality of life of its residents by strengthening neighborhoods, delivering superior services, embracing diversity and making Cleveland a desirable, safe city in which to live, work, play and do business. For more information on the City of Cleveland, visit online at www.city.cleveland.oh.us , Twitter at [@cityofcleveland](https://twitter.com/cityofcleveland) or Facebook at www.facebook.com/cityofcleveland.

###