



Boston City Council
ED FLYNN
Councilor - District 2

April 22, 2024

Michael Cox, Commissioner
Boston Police Department
1 Schroeder Plaza
Boston, MA 02120

Lanita Cullinane, Superintendent
Boston Police Department
1 Schroeder Plaza
Boston, MA 02120

Re: Drag racing, dirt bikes, and dangerous stunts in neighborhood streets

Dear Commissioner Cox:

I'm writing in regards to the recent reports of drag racing in the Back Bay at 2am, and ask that the Boston Police Department thoroughly investigate this incident. With the weather getting warmer, it is critical to take measures to address this type of dangerous racing and gatherings in our neighborhood streets. As you are well aware, groups of dirt bikes, ATVs, motorcycles, and cars have at times occupied the streets to do stunts and racing, while endangering pedestrians, drivers, residents, and themselves.

This past weekend, there was a group of about 15 vehicles and 40 people in Back Bay who were using their cars to do donuts, driving the wrong way, and clogging traffic at 2am. This not only negatively impacted the quality of life of the residents in the area, but it was also dangerous for pedestrians and other cars, and can cause damage to roads and injuries to bystanders.

This is not an isolated incident. Our city streets, and even highways, have seen drag racing, as well as dirt bikes and ATV traveling in groups at dangerous speeds and blocking traffic, especially during the summertime. Last year, there was a large gathering of cars near the Oxford Pappas property and South Boston Waterfront for some sort of rave at 3am. Residents in my district have long been concerned about dirt bikes, ATVs, and dangerous behavior with vehicles. As summer approaches, we need to be proactive in addressing these issues, perhaps keeping track of vehicles that are engaged in these illegal races, and seizing stolen vehicles that are engaged in these activities.

I hope that Boston Police will do all it can to address these issues. Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 617-635-3203, or at Ed.Flynn@Boston.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ed Flynn".

Ed Flynn
Boston City Councilor, District 2