

Council Summary
Department of Public Safety

June 26, 2025

Ordinance No.: 704-2025

Legislative Purpose: To amend Section 630.01 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Cleveland, Ohio, 1976, as amended by Ordinance No. 228-2025, passed April 24, 2025, relating to criminal activity nuisances declared

Legislative Summary:

Ordinance No. 704-2025 amends CO Section 630.01 Criminal Activity Nuisances Declared by removing division (b) relating to repeat nuisance activities. This is necessary because division (b) conflicts with the recent changes to CO Section 630.02 that extended the time period that criminal nuisance activities count towards a nuisance declaration and qualifies for fines from six months to twelve months. Division (b) is unnecessary as the Director's authority is enumerated in CCO 630.02.

New Section 630.01 (b) relating to the description of a nuisance activity is presented as a separate section and is removed from Section 630.01 (a) for clarity.

In addition, the Department of Public Safety respectfully requests that Council make and pass the provided amendments to Ordinance No. 704-2025 that will:

1. Add Additional Offenses

The proposed amendments add the following sections of the Traffic Code to the list of offenses that may qualify as criminal activity nuisances:

- Section 451.22 (Between Sidewalk and Setback Line)
- Section 451.23 (Tree Lawn and Private Driveway)
- Section 451.241 (Parking Vehicles on Vacant Lots Prohibited)
- Section 451.251 (Prohibition Against Abandonment of Junk Motor Vehicles)

These additions were recommended by the Division of Police based on field experience and observed patterns of nuisance behavior.

Additionally, Section 683.02 (Playing of Sound Devices in Motor Vehicles Prohibited; When) is proposed for inclusion due to recurring complaints regarding loud music from vehicles parked in residential driveways and parking lots, which have been identified as a frequent source of disturbance during ordinance implementation.

2. Modify the Notice Provisions

The proposed amendment to the ordinance modifies the timeframe for submission of an abatement plan from within ten (10) days of *receipt* of the nuisance notice to within fourteen (14) days from the *date* of the notice. Similarly, the grace period before a fourth nuisance activity can be counted is amended from thirteen (13) days after *delivery* to seventeen (17) days after the *date* of the notice. These changes reflect practical difficulties encountered in determining the exact date of delivery, particularly in cases where certified mail is refused or unclaimed. Using the transmittal date provides a clearer, more enforceable standard.