

Hello. My name is Dawn Willis and I am representing Center City Residents Association.

I live at the south west corner of Broad and Lombard, and I can state without exception that the racing up and down Broad Street for the past 6 months has significantly impacted my quality of life.

We posted notice about this hearing on the CCRA website and asked our members to comment about this issue and tell us their concerns. The response was overwhelming.

We heard from members living in high rise buildings and in single family homes throughout our membership catchment. All respondents stated emphatically that this issue has negatively impacted their quality of life. Some of the responses are as follows:

1. Moving here (from NYC, so I'm used to city life) I never expected to not be able to enjoy my home indoors. This would never fly in NYC. DeBlasio stated publicly if you ride your ATV, it will be confiscated and crushed. Mayor Kenny seems to turn his head allowing these trouble makers to terrorize people on the streets, the sidewalks,
2. You cannot enjoy eating out in the summer, you cannot enjoy an outdoor concert. Seems like they have more rights and sympathy from the Mayor than we do, the citizens who pay to live here.
3. A comment from the Ritz Carlton Residences: If this were happening in any suburban town square it would not be tolerated. The offenders would be arrested and their vehicles impounded.
4. The City of Philadelphia's policy of tolerance and inability to provide basic public safety has deteriorated the quality of life for most people, and will lead to many deciding to leave, including myself.
5. If public officials cannot perform their primary duty of public safety for fear of reprisal, then all is lost.

Some additional thoughts:

1. While a race park is a fine idea, it will not solve the current issue. It will not improve our quality of life today or even tomorrow. In addition, a lot of these bikes are illegal for street use and would have to be trailered to the race area. This is not likely to happen. Riders will ride these vehicles to the park and the noise and safety disturbances will continue.
2. Quite honestly, these riders do not want a race area. They want to ride in our streets and make as much noise as possible.
3. Speed bumps are not the answer. Instead of the bikes keeping us up at night, we will now be assaulted with the constant thump thump 24-7 of every car, suv, and truck going over the speed bumps.
4. Unfortunately, the only way to combat these riders is with manpower--in person, on the streets, and at the gathering points by either issuing tickets or confiscating bikes.
5. Without fixing this issue, we are looking at taxpayers moving out of the city, new residents thinking twice about moving to the city, and business and tax revenue suffering the consequences.

Thank you for your time.

Dawn Willis