



FAIRFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

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RE: "Wheelie Challenge"

Dear Parents:

I hope this letter finds you and your family doing well during these very difficult times. I would like to take this opportunity to advise you of a real concern to the community and to ask for your assistance in trying to help us avert a tragedy from occurring.

I do not know if you are aware of a social media fad known as the "Wheelie Challenge". This challenge involves, mostly young people, riding their bicycles in the street on one wheel for a sustained period of time. These youths ride their bicycles in the middle of the street, they deliberately swerve towards cars to make motorists nervous and in some cases, go head on towards oncoming vehicles. The police department has recently received a number of complaints about this activity and we need to address it immediately.

I want all to know that the police department will have zero tolerance for this activity when witnessed by officers. An officer's enforcement options include the impounding of a violator's bicycle, which will include a tow fee, as well as the issuance of summonses.

The Fairfield Police Department will be working very hard to make the public aware of our increased enforcement efforts so it does not come as a surprise to anyone. Hopefully this campaign will help us to obtain voluntary compliance in suppressing this dangerous activity. This includes postings on social media and websites, announcements like this one distributed through the schools and recreation department, and by its officers stopping and speaking with children around town. But everyone should understand that this increased enforcement effort begins immediately. The department is requesting that parents speak with their children about the dangers of this fad and also about the importance of wearing a helmet as it is the law for all children under the age of 17.

Sincerely,

Anthony G. Manna,
Chief of Police