



**CITY OF CLEVELAND**  
Mayor Frank G. Jackson

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**March 15, 2017**

## **St. Patrick's Day, 2017**

*City of Cleveland Encourages Safe, Enjoyable Celebration*

**CLEVELAND** – [The City of Cleveland](#) welcomes all parade participants and parade goers of the 2017 St. Patrick's Day Parade on Friday, March 17, 2017 in downtown Cleveland.

The combination of downtown residents, visitors and working professionals in the same location brings a busy time. The City of Cleveland and other downtown area and law enforcement partners are providing tips to make the experience safe, memorable and enjoyable.

In addition to increased traffic, parking downtown will be a challenge due to the already in progress workday. The priority of the [Division of Police](#) is to get attendees to and from the parade safely and to ensure that the event is safe and secure.

The City of Cleveland and Division of Police offering citizens the following advice to improve their visit:

- **Ride RTA.** Park, ride or plan to commute with the [Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority \(RTA\)](#). Rail service will be increased to accommodate more riders as this is their busiest day of the year. The last train leaves Tower City at midnight on the Red and Blue Lines and at 9 p.m. on the Green Line. Bring exact change and prepare to buy a special St. Patrick's Day \$5 Round-Trip Ticket from RTA staff at major rail stations. All-Day Passes are also available on the RTA mobile app.
- **Arrive early** to your destination. If you plan on attending the parade, leave home early enough to give yourself ample travel time.
- **Familiarize yourself** with downtown parking garages and surface lots – understand that the lots closest to the parade route will fill up first.
- **Be aware** of increased pedestrian traffic in the downtown area.

- **Plan for the weather** – the forecast at this time calls for temperatures in the 30's, so dress accordingly.

The Bureau of Traffic will supplement their customary allotment of traffic enforcement officers with additional police officers and traffic controllers to facilitate traffic into and out of downtown and to assist with pedestrian traffic. Numerous officers from both the Cleveland Division of Police and partnering law enforcement agencies will be detailed to the event for added security and crowd control.

**Parade Route:** The parade route for the 2017 St. Patrick's Day Parade begins at Superior Avenue at East 18<sup>th</sup> Street. The parade travels west on Superior Avenue to Public Square, north on West Roadway, and east on Rockwell Avenue, ending at Rockwell Avenue and Ontario Street. Roads crossing Superior Avenue throughout the route will be closed at Superior Avenue before and throughout the parade. The entire parade route is closed, meaning that observers are NOT to enter the parade at any time.

**Child Reunification:** Parade goers who intend to bring small children are reminded to be mindful of their whereabouts at all times. Small children can disappear into a crowd very quickly and become lost. Advise children that if they do become separated from you to find someone in uniform. There will be many uniformed law enforcement and safety personnel on site, as well as members of the Downtown Cleveland Alliance, who can keep them safe and reunite them with loved ones. The Child Reunification Center will be located in the Justice Center at 1300 Ontario Street. Members of the Bureau of Community Policing will care for lost children until reunification is established.

**Impaired Driving:** The Cleveland Division of Police will not have dedicated OVI checkpoints on St. Patrick's Day, however there will be an overall heightened awareness for OVI offenders both on city streets and the highways. Persons found to be driving impaired will be arrested and their vehicles impounded. Celebrators are urged to plan ahead by utilizing RTA or other public transportation services.

Follow along on the Cleveland Division of Police [Facebook](#) page and Twitter ([@CLEPolice](#)). Use the hashtag #CLEStPats.

### **About the City of Cleveland**

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

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