

TITLE VII: TRAFFIC CODE

Chapter

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7.1: TRAFFIC REGULATIONS

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' 7.1.01 STATE HIGHWAY TRAFFIC REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY REFERENCE.

(A) The Highway Traffic Regulations Act is hereby adopted by reference. The regulatory provisions of M.S. Ch. 169, as it may be amended from time to time, are hereby adopted as a traffic ordinance regulating the use of highways, streets, and alleys within the city and are hereby incorporated in and made a part of this section as completely as if set out in full herein.

(B) Any violation of the statutes adopted by reference in division (A) of this section is a violation of this section, and the violator shall be guilty of an offense and shall be punished by such penalty as is prescribed by such statutes.

' 7.1.02 DEFINITIONS.

Any term used in this chapter and defined in M.S. ' 169.01, as it may be amended from time to time, shall have the meaning given it by that section.

'7.1.03 TURNING RESTRICTED.

The City Council by resolution may, whenever necessary to preserve a free flow of traffic or to prevent accidents, designate any intersection as one where the turning of vehicles to the left or to the right, or both, is to be restricted at all times or during specific hours. Appropriate signs shall mark any intersection so designated. No intersection on a trunk highway shall be so designated until the consent of the Commissioner of Transportation to such designation is first obtained. No person shall turn a vehicle at any such intersection contrary to the directions on such signs.

' 7.1.04 THROUGH STREETS; ONE-WAY STREETS.

The City Council by resolution may designate any street or portion of street as a through highway or a one-way roadway where necessary to preserve the free flow of traffic or to prevent accidents. Appropriate signs shall be posted at the entrance to such street. No trunk highway shall be so designated unless the consent of the Commissioner of Transportation to such designation is first secured.

' 7.1.05 TRUCK RESTRICTIONS.

The City Council by resolution may designate streets on which travel by commercial vehicles in excess of 10,000 pounds axle weight is prohibited. Appropriate signs shall be

erected on such streets. No person shall operate a commercial vehicle on such posted streets in violation of the restrictions stated.

' 7.1.06 SEASONAL WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS.

The City Council may prohibit the operation of vehicles upon any street under the City Council's jurisdiction or impose weight restrictions on vehicles to be operated on such street whenever the street, by reason of deterioration, rain, snow, or other climatic conditions, will be seriously damaged or destroyed unless the use of vehicles on the street is prohibited or the permissible weights thereof reduced. Appropriate signs shall be erected plainly indicating the prohibition or restriction at each end of that portion of the street affected. No person shall operate a vehicle on a posted street in violation of the prohibition or restriction.

§ 7.1.07 CERTAIN VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT PROHIBITED ON STREETS.

It is unlawful to operate any vehicles or equipment of any type whatsoever not equipped with pneumatic tires, a pneumatic tire being a tire in which compressed air is designed to support the load. A violation of this section shall constitute a misdemeanor.

§ 7.1.08 ESTABLISHMENT OF SAFETY ZONES, LANES OF TRAFFIC, AND THE LIKE.

To assist in the direction and control of traffic, to improve safe driving conditions at any intersection or dangerous location, and to warn pedestrians or drivers of motor vehicles of dangerous conditions or hazards, the City Council may establish safety zones, lanes of traffic, and stop intersections, and may order installation of stop signs, yield signs, warning signs, signals, pavement markings, or other devices. No regulation may be established on a trunk highway unless the consent of the Commissioner of Transportation is first secured.

§ 7.1.09 EXHIBITION DRIVING PROHIBITED.

No person shall turn, accelerate, decelerate, or otherwise operate a motor vehicle within the city in a manner that causes unnecessary engine noise or backfire, squealing tires, skidding, sliding, swaying, and throwing of sand or gravel, or in a manner simulating a race. Unreasonable squealing or screeching sounds emitted by tires or the unreasonable throwing of sand or gravel by the tires is prima facie evidence of a violation of this section.

§ 7.1.10 LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS DUTIES.

During a fire or other emergency or to expedite traffic or safeguard pedestrians, officers of the fire department may direct or assist the law enforcement officers in directing traffic at the scene of a fire or in the immediate vicinity.

§ 7.1.11 PENALTY.

Any person convicted of violating any provisions of this chapter shall be punished consistent with the maximum punishments set by Minnesota Statute for the violation alleged under statute.

7.2: PARKING REGULATIONS

Section

General Provisions

- 7.2.01 No parking, stopping, or standing zones
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Truck Zones, Loading Zones, and the Like

- 7.2.06 Establishment
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- 7.2.09 Property owner initiative
- 7.2.10 Semi-trailer parking
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GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 7.2.01 NO PARKING, STOPPING, OR STANDING ZONES.

The City Council may by resolution designate certain streets or portions of streets as no parking or no stopping or standing zones and may limit the hours in which the restrictions apply. Appropriate signs shall mark each zone so designated. Except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the directions of a police officer or a traffic control device, no person shall stop or park a vehicle in an established no stopping or standing zone when stopping or standing is prohibited. No vehicle shall be parked in a no parking zone during hours when parking is prohibited, except that a vehicle and a truck may be parked temporarily between the hours of 5:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. of any business day for the purpose of loading or unloading where access to the premises is not otherwise available.

§ 7.2.02 TIME LIMIT PARKING ZONES.

The City Council may by resolution designate certain areas where the right to park is limited during, hour specified. Appropriate signs shall mark each zone so designated. During the hours specified on the sign, no person shall park a vehicle on any limited parking zone for a longer period than is so specified.

§ 7.2.03 TIME LIMIT AND WINTER PARKING.

(A) It shall be unlawful for anyone to park motor vehicles, equipment, or structures on a street or alley in the city for more than 24 consecutive hours, without a special written permit from the City Clerk-Treasurer.

(B) It shall be unlawful for anyone to park motor vehicles, equipment, or structures on a street or alley in the city between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. between November 15 and April 1 of the following year, those dates inclusive.

§ 7.2.04 IMPOUNDMENT.

Any sheriff's deputy at the request of a City official or a member of the City maintenance crew may remove a vehicle from a street to a garage or other place of safety when the vehicle is left unattended and constitutes an obstruction to traffic or hinders snow removal or street improvement or maintenance operations. Such vehicle shall not be released until the fees for towing and storage are paid in addition to any time imposed for violation of this section.

§ 7.2.05 PRIMA FACIE VIOLATION.

The presence of any motor vehicle on any street when standing or parked in violation of this chapter is prima facie evidence that the registered owner of the vehicle committed or authorized the commission of the violation.

TRUCK ZONES, LOADING ZONES, AND THE LIKE

§ 7.2.06 ESTABLISHMENT.

The City Council may by resolution establish spaces in streets as loading zones or truck zones. The City Council may specify in the resolution establishing the zone such times as shall be the loading zone or truck zone hours. Appropriate signs shall mark each zone.

§ 7.2.07 TRUCK ZONE PROHIBITIONS.

During truck zone hours, no person shall stop, stand, or park any vehicle except a truck in a truck zone. No person shall stop, stand, or park a truck in a truck zone except to receive or discharge passengers or freight and then only for a period no longer than is necessary for the purpose.

§ 7.2.08 LOADING ZONE PROHIBITIONS.

No person shall stop, stand, or park any vehicle in a loading zone except to receive or discharge passengers for the purpose. No person shall occupy a loading zone with a vehicle other than a truck for more than five minutes.

§ 7.2.09 PROPERTY OWNER INITIATIVE.

Any person desiring the establishment of a loading zone or truck zone abutting the premises that the person occupies shall make written application therefor to the City Council. If the City Council grants the request, the proper city officer shall bill the applicant for the estimated cost of placing signs and of painting the curb. When the amount is paid to the Clerk-Treasurer, the local authority shall install the necessary signs and paint the curb.

§ 7.2.10 SEMI-TRAILER PARKING.

No person shall allow a semi-trailer to stand or be parked unattached from a tractor for any length of time on any street in the city except in an emergency in order to change tractors.

§ 7.2.11 NO TRUCK PARKING ZONES.

The City Council may by resolution establish "No Truck Parking" zones in the business district and appropriate signs shall mark any zones so established. Such zones shall be established in the business district where heavy traffic by trucks or other traffic congestion make parking by trucks a hazard to the safety of vehicles or pedestrians. No person shall park a truck of more than two-ton capacity between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on any week day upon any street in any such zone, but parking of the vehicle for a period of not more than 30 minutes shall be permitted in the zone for the purpose of having access to abutting property when access cannot conveniently be secured otherwise.

7.3: SNOWMOBILES; ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES

Section

- 7.3.01 Definitions
- 7.3.02 Uses of snowmobiles and ATV's prohibited
- 7.3.03 Crossing of streets or highways
- 7.3.04 City traffic ordinances applicable
- 7.3.05 Yielding right-of-way
- 7.3.06 Operation by persons under 18
- 7.3.07 Equipment required; ignition lock
- 7.3.08 Emergency operation permitted
- 7.3.09 Animal protection

§ 7.3.01 DEFINITIONS.

For the purpose of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE or ATV. Refers to trail bikes, mini-bikes, and amphibious vehicles and similar devices other than snowmobiles used at least partially for travel on natural terrain, but does not include special mobile equipment defined in M.S. ' 168.021, Subd. 22, as it may be amended from time to time.

DEADMAN THROTTLE or SAFETY THROTTLE. A device which, when pressure is removed from the engine accelerator or throttle, causes the motor to be disengaged from the driving mechanism.

NATURAL TERRAIN. Areas other than roadways or driveways (private or public), parking lots, and other areas, the surface of which has been intentionally modified for motor vehicle operation thereon.

OPERATE. To ride in or on and control the operation of a snowmobile or A TV.

OPERATOR. Every person who operates or is in actual physical control of a snowmobile or ATV.

OWNER. A person, other than a lien holder having the property in or title to snowmobile or ATV entitled to the use or possession thereof.

SAFETY THROTTLE. See DEADMAN THROTTLE.

SNOWMOBILE. A self-propelled vehicle designed for travel on snow or ice, steered by skis or runners.

§ 7.3.02 USES OF SNOWMOBILES AND ATV'S PROHIBITED.

(A) Public and private property. Except as herein specifically permitted and authorized, it is unlawful for any person to operate a snowmobile or A TV not licensed as a motor vehicle within the limits of the city:

- (1) On the portion of any right-of-way of any public highway, street, road, trail, or alley used for motor vehicle travel, except that a snowmobile may operate upon the most right-hand lane of a municipal street or alley and may in passing or making a left turn operate on other lanes which are used for vehicle traffic in the same direction, for purposes of going to or returning from a non-highway area of permissible operation, by the most direct route. Snowmobiles may also be

operated upon the ditch bottom or the outside bank of trunk, county state-aid, and county highways where such highways are so configured within the corporate limits;

- (2) On a public sidewalk provided for pedestrian travel;
- (3) On boulevards within any public right-of-way;
- (4) On private property of another without specific permission of the owner or person in control of the property;
- (5) On any other public place except that place known as the “North” alley, or any other place as may be specifically permitted by the City; or
- (6) At a speed in excess of 10 miles per hour.

(B) Natural terrain. It is unlawful for any person to operate a snowmobile or ATV not licensed for highway use, or ATV licensed for highway use when operating on natural terrain within the limits of the city:

- (1) At any place while under the influence of alcohol or drugs as defined in M.S. § 169.121, as it may be amended from time to time, which is hereby incorporated herein by reference;
- (2) At a rate of speed greater than a reasonable or proper under all surrounding circumstances;
- (3) At any place in a careless, reckless, or negligent manner or heedlessly in disregard of the rights or safety of others, or in a manner so as to endanger or be likely to endanger or cause injury or damage to any person or property;
- (4) Closer than 100 feet to any dwelling which is usually occupied by one or more persons;
- (5) So as to tow any person or thing, except through use of a rigid tow bar attached to the rear of the snowmobile or ATV; or
- (6) Within 100 feet of any fisherman, pedestrian, skating rink, or sliding area where the operation would conflict with use or endanger other persons or property.

§ 7.3.03 CROSSING OF STREETS OR HIGHWAYS.

(A) All licensed snowmobile or ATV's may make a direct crossing of a street or highway, except an interstate highway or freeway, provided that the conditions set forth in division (B) are met.

(B) (1) The crossing is made at an angle of approximately 90 degrees to the direction of the street or highway and at a place where no obstruction prevents a quick and safe crossing.

(2) The snowmobile is brought to a complete stop before crossing the shoulder or main traveled way.

(3) The driver yields the right-of-way to all on-coming traffic which constitutes an immediate hazard.

(4) In crossing a divided street or highway, the crossing is made only at an intersection of such street or highway with another public street or highway.

(5) If the crossing is made between the hours of one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset or, in conditions of reduced visibility, only if both front and rear lights are on.

§ 7.3.04 CITY TRAFFIC ORDINANCES APPLICABLE.

City traffic regulations shall apply to the operation of a snowmobile or ATV not licensed as a motor vehicle upon streets and highways, except for those relating to required equipment, those which by nature have no application, and those inconsistent with the provisions herein.

§ 7.3.05 YIELDING RIGHT-OF-WAY.

No snowmobile shall enter any intersection without yielding the right-of-way to any vehicles or pedestrians at the intersection or close to the intersection as to constitute an immediate hazard.

§ 7.3.06 OPERATION BY PERSONS UNDER 18.

No person 14 years of age shall operate on streets or the roadway surface of highways or make a direct crossing of a trunk, county state-aid, county highway, or city street as the operator of a snowmobile. A person 14 years of age or older, but less than 18 years of age may operate a snowmobile on streets and highways as permitted under this chapter and make a direct crossing of such streets and - highways only if the person has in his or her possession a valid snowmobile safety certificate issued pursuant to M.S. § 84.872, as it may be amended from time to time.

§ 7.3.07 EQUIPMENT REQUIRED; IGNITION LOCK.

(A) Required equipment. It is unlawful for any person to operate a snowmobile or ATV any place within the limits of the city unless it is equipped with the following:

- (1) Standard mufflers which are properly attached and which reduce the noise of operation of the motor to the minimum necessary for operation. No person shall use a muffler cutout, bypass straight pipe, or similar device on a snowmobile or ATV motor;
- (2) Brakes adequate to control the movement of and to stop and hold the snowmobile or ATV under any condition of operation;
- (3) A safety or so-called deadman throttle in operating condition;
- (4) When operated between the hours of one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise or at time of reduced visibility, at least one clear lamp attached to the front, with sufficient intensity to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 100 feet ahead during the hours of darkness and under normal atmospheric conditions. Such headlamp shall be so aimed that glaring rays are not projected into the eyes of an oncoming snowmobile or ATV operator. It shall also be equipped with at least one red tail lamp having a minimum candlepower of sufficient intensity to exhibit a red light plainly visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear during hours of darkness under normal atmospheric conditions;
- (5) Snowmobiles shall fly a pennant flag of red or blaze material, of a size not less than 12 inches by nine inches, at a height of not less than six feet from the ground level at any time when the vehicle is operated on public streets; and
- (6) Reflective material at least 16 inches square on each side, forward of the handlebars or steering device of a snowmobile or ATV, and at the

highest practical point, on any towed object, as to reflect light at a 90-degree angle.

(B) Ignition lock. Every person leaving a snowmobile or ATV on a public place or way shall lock the ignition, remove the key, and take the same.

§ 7.3.08 EMERGENCY OPERATION PERMITTED.

Notwithstanding any prohibitions in this chapter, a snowmobile may be operated on a public thoroughway in an emergency during the period of time and at locations where snow upon the roadway renders travel by automobile impractical.

§ 7.3.09 ANIMAL PROTECTION.

It is unlawful intentionally to drive, chase, run over, or kill any animal with a snowmobile or ATV.