

CHAPTER 7: TRAFFIC AND MOTOR VEHICLES

(amended and adopted on May 14, 2014)

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Part 1. Highways and Highway Vehicles.

701.01. Definitions. Any term used in this chapter and defined in MN Stat. 169.01 has the meaning given it by that section

701.03. Through streets; one-way streets. The 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. The street commissioner shall cause appropriate signs to be posted at the entrance to such street. No truck highway shall be so designated unless the consent of the commissioner or transportation to such designation is first secured.

701.05. 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. The city street commissioner shall cause appropriate signs to be erected on such streets. No person shall operate a commercial vehicle on such posted street in violation of the restrictions stated.

701.06. Seasonal weight restrictions. The city street commissioner may prohibit the operation of vehicles upon any street under the commissioner'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. The commissioner shall cause to be erected and maintained signs 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.

701.07. Parking regulations.

Subd. 1. Angle and parallel parking. Angle parking shall be required on streets as designated by the council by resolution. On any such street every vehicle parked shall be parked with the front of the vehicle facing the curb or the edge of the traveled portion of the street and facing between the painted or other marking on the curb or street indicating the parking. On all other streets, cars shall be parked parallel to the curb or edge of the roadway in accordance with law. Every vehicle when parked where parking spaces are marked shall be parked in a single space marked for vehicle parking by painted lines on the street or curb, and no part of the vehicle shall extend into any other marked space.

Subd. 2. No parking, stopping or standing zones. The 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. The city street commissioner shall cause to be marked by appropriate signs 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 and standing is prohibited. No vehicle shall be parked in a no-parking zone during hours when parking is prohibited except that a vehicle may be parked temporarily in such zone for the purpose of forming a funeral procession and trucks 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.

Subd. 3. Time limit parking zones. The city council may by resolution designate certain areas where the right of parking is limited during hours specified. The city street commissioner shall cause to be marked by appropriate signs each zone so designated. During the hours specified on the sign, no persons shall park a vehicle on any limited parking zone for a longer period than is so specified.

Subd. 4. Time limit and winter parking.

- a. It shall be unlawful for anyone to park motor vehicles, equipment or structures on a residential street or alley in the city for more than 24 consecutive hours, without a special written permit from the clerk.
- 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 15 of the following year, those dates inclusive.

Subd. 5. Impoundment. The Mayor or the Mayor's designee or any law enforcement officer may request the removal of 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. The owner or driver of the vehicle must be notified, by notification on windshield or readily in person, to move the vehicle. Such vehicle shall not be released until the fees for towing and storage are paid.

Subd. 6. 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.

701.08. Truck zone, loading zone, etc.

Subd. 1. Establishment. The city council may by resolution established space 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. The street commissioner shall make each such zone by appropriate signs.

Subd. 2. Truck zone prohibitions. During truck zone hours, no person shall stop, stand, or park a truck except 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 period no longer than is necessary for the purpose.

Subd. 3. 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.

Subd. 4. Property owner initiative. Any person desiring the establishment of loading zone or truck zone abutting premises the person occupies shall make written application therefor to the city council. If the 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 city treasurer, the street commissioner shall install the necessary signs and paint the curb.

Subd. 5. 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.

Subd. 6. No truck parking zones. The council may by resolution establish “No Truck Parking” zones in the business district and the city street commissioner shall mark by appropriate signs any zone so established. Such zones shall be established in the business district where heavy traffic by truck or other traffic congestion make the 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 a.m. and 9 p.m. on any weekday upon any street in any such zone, but parking of such vehicle for period of not more than 20 minutes shall be permitted in such zone for the purpose of having access to abutting property when such access cannot conveniently be secured otherwise.

701.09. Certain vehicles and equipment prohibited on streets. It is unlawful to operate any vehicle or equipment of any type whensoever not equipped with pneumatic tires, a pneumatic tire being a tire in which compressed air is designed to support the load upon any street or alley in the city. A violation of this section shall constitute a misdemeanor.

701.10. Establishment of safety zone, lanes of traffic, etc. 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 street commissioner 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 with the approval of the city council. No regulation may be established on a truck highway unless the consent of the commissioner of transportation is first secured.

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

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

701.13. Penalty. Any person convicted of violating any provision of this ordinance is guilty of a petty misdemeanor.

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(amended and adopted on May 14, 2014)

Part 2. Snowmobiles and All-Terrain Vehicles

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Part 2. Snowmobiles and All-Terrain Vehicles.

The intent of this section to supplement the Laws of the State of Minnesota, MN Stat. Chas 168 through 171, as they may be amended from time to time, with respect to the operation of certain motor vehicles commonly called snowmobiles and ATVs. This section is not intended to allow what the State Statutes prohibit nor to prohibit what the State Statutes expressly allow.

702.01. Definitions. For the purpose of this part, terms defined herein shall have the following meaning ascribed to them.

- a. Snowmobile: Means a self-propelled vehicle designed for travel on snow or ice steered by skis or runners.
- b. All-terrain vehicle (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 not special mobile equipment designed in Minn. Stat. § Subd. 22.
- c. Owner: Means a person, other than a lien holder having the property in or title to snowmobile or ATV entitled to the use or possession thereof.
- d. Operate: Means to ride in or on and control the operation of a snowmobile or ATV.
- e. Operator: Means every person who operates or is in actual physical control of a snowmobile or ATV.
- f. Deadman throttle or safety throttle: Means a device which, when pressure is removed from the engine accelerator or throttle, causes the motor to be disengaged from the driving mechanism.
- g. Natural terrain: Means 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.

702.02. Uses of snowmobiles and ATV permitted. Except as herein specifically permitted and authorized, it is unlawful for any person to operate a snowmobile or ATV not licensed as a motor vehicle within the limits of the city:

- a. 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 or ATV 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 the purpose 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.
- b. On a public sidewalk provided for pedestrian travel.
- c. On boulevards within any public right of way.
- d. On private property of another without specific permission of the owner or person in control of said property.
- e. On any other public place except as may be specifically permitted by other provisions of the city.
- f. At a speed in excess of 10 miles per hour.

702.03. Crossing of streets or highways. A snowmobile or ATV not licensed as a motor vehicle may make a direct crossing of a street or highway, except an interstate highway or freeway provided:

- a. 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.
- b. The snowmobile or ATV is brought to a complete stop before crossing the shoulder or main traveled way.
- c. The driver yields the right of way to all on-coming traffic which constitutes an immediate hazard.
- d. 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.

702.04. Traffic ordinances applicable. City traffic regulation shall apply to the operation of snowmobiles or ATVs not licensed as a motor vehicle upon streets and highways, except for those relating to required equipment, those which by their nature have no application, and those inconsistent with the provisions herein.

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

702.06. Operation: persons under 18. No person under 14 years of age shall operate on streets or the roadway surface of highway or make a direct crossing of a trunk, county state-aid, county highway, or city streets 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 street and highways as permitted under this ordinance and make a direct crossing of such street and highway only if the person has in his or her immediate possession a valid snowmobile safety certificate issued pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 84.872.

702.07. Uses specifically prohibited. It is unlawful for any person to operate a snowmobile, ATV not licensed for highway use, or ATV licensed for highway use when operating on natural terrain within the limits of the city:

- a. At any place while under the influence of alcohol or drugs as designed in Minn. Stat. § 169.121 which is hereby incorporated herein by reference.
- b. At a rate of speed greater than reasonable or proper under all surrounding circumstances.
- c. At any place in a careless, reckless, or negligent manner or heedlessly in disregard of the right or safety of others, or in a manner so as to endanger to be likely to endanger or cause injury or damage to any person or property.
- d. 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

702.08. Equipment required. 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:

- a. Standard mufflers which are properly attached and which reduce the noise of operation of this motor to the minimum necessary for operation. No person shall use a muffler cutout, by-pass straight pipe or similar device on a snowmobile or ATV motor.
- b. Brakes adequate to control the movement of and to stop and hold the snowmobile or ATV under any condition of operation.
- c. A safety or so-called "deadman" throttle in operating condition.
- d. When operating within the City limits at least one clear lamp attached to the front, with sufficient intensity to reveal persons on 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.
- e. 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.

702.09. 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.

702.10. Emergencies, operation permitted. Notwithstanding any prohibitions in the part of the ordinance, a snowmobile may be operated on a public thoroughfare in an emergency during the period of time and at locations where snow upon the roadway renders travel by automobile impractical.

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