

## Chapter 6. Traffic and Motor Vehicles

### Part 1. Traffic

601.01. Definitions. For the purpose of this ordinance the terms defined in this section shall have the meanings ascribed to them.

Subd. 1. **Vehicle.** Every device in, upon, or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a street or highway, except devices moved by human power or used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks.

Subd. 2. **Motor Vehicle.** Every vehicle which is self-propelled and not deriving its power from overhead wires.

Subd. 3. **Motorcycle.** Every motor vehicle having a saddle for the use of the rider and designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, including motor scooters and bicycles with motor attached, but excluding a tractor.

Subd. 4. **Authorizes Emergency Vehicle.** Any of the following vehicles when equipped and identified according to law:

- a. A vehicle of a fire department;
- b. A publicly owned police vehicle or a privately owned vehicle used by a police officer for police work under agreement, express or implied, with the local authority to which he/she is responsible;
- c. An ambulance, whether publicly or privately owned;
- d. An emergency vehicle of a municipal department or a public service corporation.

Subd. 5. **Bus.** Every motor vehicle designed to carry more than 10 persons and used for the transportation of persons, and every motor vehicle other than a taxi cab designed and used for the transportation of persons for compensation.

Subd. 6. **Business District.** The territory contiguous to and including a highway when the property on such highway for a distance of 300 feet or more is occupied by buildings in use for business.

Subd. 7. **Police Officer.** The chief law enforcement officer or peace officer including a sheriff of the county, his/her deputies, and any other officer authorized to direct or regulate traffic or to make arrests for violations of traffic regulations.

Subd. 8. **City Council.** The local body having authority to adopt local police regulations under the constitution and laws of this state.

Subd. 9. **Commissioner.** The Commissioner of Highways of this State, acting directly or through his/her duly authorized officers.

Subd. 10. **Conviction.** A final conviction, either after a trial or upon a plea of guilty; also a forfeiture of cash or collateral deposited to guarantee a defendant's appearance in court, which forfeiture has not been vacated, is equivalent to a conviction.

Subd. 11. **Crosswalk.** That portion of a roadway ordinarily included within the prolongation of connection of the lateral lines of sidewalks at intersections; and any portion of a roadway distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other markings upon the surface.

Subd. 12. **Curb.** The lateral boundaries of a roadway, whether or not marked by curbing.

Subd. 13. **Custom Service Vehicles.** All Vehicles used as a well-drilling machine, wood-sawing machine, cement mixer, rock crusher, road grader, ditch digger, or elevating grader, and similar service equipment.

Subd. 14. **Department.** The Department of Highways of this state acting directly or through its duly authorized officers and agents.

Subd. 15. **Driver.** Every person who drives or is in actual physical control of a vehicle.

Subd. 16. **Owner.** A person who holds the legal title of a vehicle, or in the event of a vehicle is the subject of an agreement for the conditional sale or lease thereof with the right of purchase upon performance of the conditions stated in the agreement and with an immediate right of possession vested in the conditional vendee or lessee, or in the event of a mortgagor of a vehicle is entitled to possession, then such conditional vendee or lessee or mortgagor shall be deemed the owner for purposes of this ordinance.

Subd. 17. **Farm Tractor.** Every motor vehicle designed and used primarily as a farm implement for drawing plows, mowing-machines, and other implements of husbandry.

Subd. 18. **Intersection.**

- a. The area embraced within the prolongation or connection of the lateral curb lines, or if none, then the lateral boundary lines of the roadways of two highways which join each other, at, or approximately right angles, or the area within which vehicles traveling at any other angle might come in conflict.
- b. Where a highway includes two roadways 30 feet or more apart, then every crossing of each roadway of such divided highway by an intersecting highway shall be regarded as a separate intersection. In the event such intersecting highway also includes two roadways 30 feet or more apart, then every crossing of two roadways of such highways shall be regarded as a separate intersection.

Subd. 19. **Lanes Highway.** A highway the roadway of which is divided into two or more clearly marked lanes for vehicular traffic.

Subd. 20. **Limit Line.** Visible markings on highway pavement establishing bounds for vehicular traffic.

Subd. 21. **Motor Vehicle Dealer.** Any person engaged in the business of manufacturing or selling new and unused motor vehicles, or used motor vehicles, or both, having an established place of business for the sale or trade.

Subd. 22. **Official Traffic Control Devices.** All signs, signals, markings and devices not inconsistent with this ordinance placed or erected by authority of a public body or official having jurisdiction for the purpose of regulating, warning, or guiding traffic.

Subd. 23. **One-Way Roadway.** A street or roadway designated and sign posted for one-way traffic and on which all vehicles are required to move in one indicated direction.

Subd. 24. **Parking.** The standing of a vehicle upon a street or highway whether accompanied or unaccompanied by the operator thereof.

Subd. 25. **Pedestrian.** Any person afoot.

Subd. 26. **Person.** Every natural person, firm, co-partnership, association, or corporation.

Subd. 27. **Private Road or Driveway.** Every way or place in private ownership and used for vehicular travel by the owner and those having express or implied permission from the owner, but not by other persons.

Subd. 28. **Residence District.** The territory contiguous to and including a street or highway for a distance of 300 feet or more which is in the main improved with residences, or residences and buildings in use for business.

Subd. 29. **Right of Way.** The privilege of the immediate use of the street or highway.

Subd. 30. **Road Tractor.** Every motor vehicle designed and used for drawing other vehicles and not so constructed as to carry any load thereon independently or to carry any part of the weight of a vehicle or load so drawn.

Subd. 31. **Roadway.** That portion of a highway improved, designed, or ordinarily used for vehicular travel. In the event a highway includes two or more separate roadways, the term "roadway" as used herein shall refer to any such roadway separately, but not to all roadways collectively.

Subd. 32. **School Bus.** Every motor vehicle owned by a public or governmental agency and operated for the transportation of children to or from school or privately owned and operated for compensation for the transportation of children to or from school.

Subd. 33. **Semi-Trailer.** Every vehicle without motive power designed for carrying persons or property, and for being drawn by a motor vehicle and so constructed that some part of its weight and that of its load rests upon or is carried by another vehicle.

Subd. 34. **Sidewalk.** That portion of a street between the curb lines, or the lateral lines of a roadway, and the adjacent property lines intended for the use of pedestrians.

Subd. 35. **Street or Highway.** The entire width between the boundary lines of any way or place when any part thereof is open to the use of the public, as a matter of right, for the purposes of vehicular traffic.

Subd. 36. **Through Highway.** Every street or highway or portion thereof at entrances to which vehicular traffic from intersecting streets or highways is required by law to stop before entering or crossing the same when stop signs are erected as provided in this ordinance.

Subd. 37. **Traffic.** Pedestrians, ridden, or herded animals, vehicles and other conveyances, either singly or together, while using any street or highway for purposes of travel.

Subd. 38. **Traffic Control Signal.** Any device, whether manually, electrically, or mechanically operated, by which traffic is alternately directed to stop and to proceed.

Subd. 39. **Trailer.** Every vehicle without motor power designed for carrying persons or property and for being drawn by a motor vehicle and so constructed that no part of its weight rests upon the towing vehicle.

Subd. 40. **Truck.** Every motor vehicle designed, used or maintained primarily for the transportation of property.

Subd. 41. **Truck-Tractor.** Every motor vehicle designed and used primarily for drawing other vehicles and not so constructed as to carry a load other than a part of the weight of the vehicle and load so drawn.

Subd. 42. **Vehicle.** Every device in, upon, or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a street or highway except devices moved by human power or used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks.

601.02. **Speed Restrictions.** Subdivision 1. **Basic Rules.** No person shall drive a vehicle on a street or highway within the city at a speed that is greater than reasonable and prudent under the conditions and having regard to the actual and potential hazards then existing.

Subd. 2. **Speed Limit.** No vehicle shall be driven on any public street or alley in the city at a rate of speed exceeding 15 miles per hour in the business district, or 20 miles per hour in the residential district of said city. This shall not apply to any public highway within the city where a different speed has been established by the Commissioner of Highways under Minnesota Statutes, 169.14, or by ordinance. On any street where a different speed has been so established, and signs have been posted calling attention to such zone, no vehicles shall be driven at a greater than that indicated on such signs.

Subd. 3. **Impeding Traffic.** No person shall drive a motor vehicle at such a slow speed as to impede or block the normal and reasonable movement of traffic except when reduced speed is necessary for safe operation or in compliance with the law.

Subd. 4. **Reduced Speed Required.** The driver of every vehicle shall, consistent with the requirements, drive at an appropriate reduced speed when approaching and crossing an intersection of railway grade crossing, when approaching and going around a curve, when approaching a hill crest, when traveling upon any narrow or winding roadway, and when special hazards exist with respect to pedestrians or other traffic by reason of weather or highway or street conditions.

Subd. 5. **Emergency Vehicles.** The speed limitations set forth in this section do not apply to authorized emergency vehicles when responding to emergency calls, but the drivers thereof shall sound audible signal by siren and display at least one lighted red light to the front. This provision does not relieve the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of persons using the street, nor does it protect the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle from the consequences of a reckless disregard for the safety of others.

601.03. Divided **Highway-Crossovers.** Whenever any highway has been divided into two roadways by leaving an intervening space or by a physical barrier or clearly indicated section so constructed as to impede vehicular traffic, or by a double center line, every vehicle shall be driven only upon the right-hand roadway and no vehicle shall be driven over, across, or within any such dividing space, barrier section, or double center line, except through an opening in such physical barrier, or dividing section or space or at a crossover or intersection established by public authority.

601.04. Slow **Moving Vehicles.** Upon all roadways any vehicle proceeding at less than the normal speed of traffic at the time and place and under the conditions then existing shall be driven in the right-hand lane then available for traffic, or as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway, except when overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction, or when preparing for a left turn at an intersection or into a private road or driveway, or when a specific lane is designated and posted for a specific type of traffic.

601.05. Turning **at Intersection.** The city council may cause markers, buttons, or signs to be placed for traffic control and thereby require and direct that a different course from that specified under statutes be taken, and when markers, buttons, or signs are so placed no driver of a vehicle shall operate a vehicle other than as directed and required by such markers, buttons or signs.

601.06. **"U" Turns-Turning Around.** No vehicle shall be turned around by making a "U" turn upon any street or highway in the city unless such vehicle shall first proceed to an intersecting street; provided however, that a "U" turn at any intersection on any street or highway in this

city where a police officer is stationed, or where a "Stop and go" are illuminated "Slow" signal or "School Sign" or "Through Street Stop Sign" or "Danger Corner Stop Sign" or "No U Turn Sign" is located the intersection, is prohibited. No driver shall reverse his direction of travel upon any street or highway by driving or backing a vehicle into an alley or driveway from such street or highway, and then backing or driving such vehicle out into the same street or highway so that it faces in the direction opposite to the original line of travel.

601.07. Starting **Parked Vehicles**. No person shall start a vehicle which is stopped, standing, or parked unless and until such movement can be made with reasonable safety.

601.08. Change **of Course**. No person shall turn a vehicle at an intersection unless the vehicle is in proper position upon the roadway as required in this section, or turn a vehicle to enter a private road or driveway or otherwise turn a vehicle to enter a private road or driveway or otherwise turn a vehicle from a direct course or move right or left upon a highway unless and until the movement can be made with reasonable safety and then only after giving a clearly audible warning by sounding the horn if any pedestrian may be affected by the movement or after giving an appropriate signal in the manner hereinafter provided in the event that any other vehicle may be affected by the movement.