

## **Chapter 46 - TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES<sup>1</sup>**

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## **ARTICLE I - IN GENERAL**

### ***Sec. 46-1 - State statutes adopted***

The following state statutes are adopted and incorporated as if set out at length in this Code and shall be enforced within the city:

- (1) Minn. Stats. ch. 169.
- (2) Minn. Stats. ch. 170.
- (3) Minn. Stats. ch. 171.

(Code 1993, § 7-1.01)

**State Law reference** – Adoption by reference, Minn. Stats. § 471.62.

### ***Sec. 46-2 - Parking and driving of motor vehicles on private property***

- (a) *Purpose.* The city council has determined that the regulation of parking and driving motor vehicles on private property is necessary and desirable in order to assure adequate ingress and egress for fire trucks and other emergency vehicles to operate adequately in such areas and to otherwise provide for the government and good order in the city, the prevention of crime, the protection of private property, the benefit of residents, trade and commerce, and the promotion of health, safety, order, convenience and the general welfare.

- (b) *Parking restrictions.* No person shall stop, stand, or park a motor vehicle at any place on any private driving area within the city where official signs prohibit such.
- (c) *Sign installation.* The official signs shall be installed after passage of a resolution by the city council stating the specific area on which parking is to be prohibited, after finding that the parking prohibition is necessary and desirable in order to protect private property and promote the health, safety, order, convenience and general welfare and that the area regulated is affected with the public interest.
- (d) *Driving restrictions.* No person shall operate a motor vehicle on any privately owned parking lot or area within the city at a speed greater than is safe and reasonable under the conditions of traffic existing and in no event shall any such vehicle be operated in excess of a speed of 15 miles per hour. All operation and driving of motor vehicles on parking lots shall be done in a careful manner so that no sudden starting or erratic movement of such vehicle is deliberately engaged in by the driver. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any motor vehicle upon such lot in any manner that would constitute careless driving if done on a public street. No person shall engage in any drag racing or exhibition driving on any such parking lot or area.
- (e) *One-way traffic signs.* No person shall drive a motor vehicle into or out of a privately owned parking lot into a public street where official one-way traffic signs prohibit such driving. The official signs shall be installed after passage of a resolution by the city council stating the specific area on which driving is to be regulated and the terms of the regulation and finding that the regulation is necessary and desirable in order to protect private property and promote the health, safety, order, convenience and general welfare and that the area regulated is affected with the public interest.

(Code 1993, § 7-2.01)

***Sec. 46-3 - Prohibiting motorized vehicles on public walkways and pathways***

- (a) *Prohibited.* No person shall ride, propel or move a motorized vehicle upon any public walkway, pathway or sidewalk.
- (b) *Load limits.* No person shall drive any vehicle of any kind which has a gross weight on any single axle, (as defined in Minn. Stats. § 169.83) exceeding three tons, on any of the public streets in the city at a time when Ramsey County designates load limits for county roads. Contractors will be notified of weight restrictions by information provided on building permit forms.
- (c) *Exceptions.* The provisions of subsections (b) and (c) of this section shall not apply to fire apparatus, snowplowing equipment, buses, garbage trucks, road maintenance equipment or emergency vehicles of public utilities used incidental to making repairs.

(Code 1993, § 7-3.01)

***Sec. 46-4 - Snowmobile regulations***

- (a) Minn. Rules 6100.3300-6100.5800 are incorporated herein by reference.

- (b) No person shall operate a snowmobile in the city except on public trails on public property specifically designated and posted for such use by the governmental agency having jurisdiction and control over the use of such property.

(Code 1993, § 7-7.01)

***Sec. 46-5- Authority to set speed limits on City streets.***

The city engineer may establish speed limits for city streets under the city's jurisdiction in accordance with the provisions set forth at Minnesota Statutes Section 169.14. The procedures relied upon to set speed limits pursuant to this section shall be kept by City Engineer and updated as needed.

(Ord. No. 21-03, § 1, 09-22-2021)

***Secs. 46-6—46-25 - Reserved***

**ARTICLE II - PARKING<sup>2</sup>**

***Sec. 46-26 - Removal of motor vehicles***

Any motor vehicle parked in violation of this chapter may be removed without notice to the owner or operator, by any employee of the county highway department, any police officer, or any person, firm or corporation employed or designated for this purpose by the city. The motor vehicle so removed may be towed to and stored in any parking lot or garage designated by the city or its policing agency. Payment of the towing and impound charges shall not relieve the owner or operator from payment of the fine or penalty for violation of this chapter or any other applicable ordinance of this city.

(Code 1993, § 7-6.01)

***Sec. 46-27 - Parking; restrictions; uniform parking fine***

- (a) *Definitions.* The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this section, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

*Passenger vehicle* means a passenger automobile, pickup truck, van, and motorcycle.

*Recreational vehicle* means travel trailers including those that telescope or fold down, chassis-mounted campers, motor homes, tent trailers, and converted buses that provide temporary human living quarters. Recreational vehicle is a vehicle that is not used as the residence of the owner or occupant, is used while engaged in recreational or vacation activities, and is either self-propelled or towed on the highways incidental to the recreational or vacation activities.

*Trailer* means any vehicle designed for carrying property or passengers on its own structure and for being drawn by a motor vehicle.

*Truck* means every motor vehicle designed, used or maintained primarily for the transportation of property.

*Street or public grounds* means all public streets, highways, roads, alleys, lanes and park roads in the city and all public property in the city, whether owned by the city or some other public entity.

*Vehicle* means any passenger vehicle, recreational vehicle, trailer, truck, or other vehicle used or intended to be used for the transportation of persons or property, including all property or cargo located within, loaded upon or attached to any such vehicle.

(b) *Restrictions on parking of vehicles.*

- (1) No recreational vehicle, truck, unhitched trailer, bus or school bus shall be parked on any street or public grounds within the city for an additional time than is necessary to load or unload such recreational vehicle, truck, unhitched trailer, bus or school bus, not exceeding 90 minutes.
- (2) No vehicle shall be parked on any alley within the city except for normal pickup and delivery of passengers or commercial goods, not exceeding 30 minutes.
- (3) No passenger vehicle or hitched trailer in combination with a passenger vehicle shall be parked on any street or public grounds within the city for more than 48 consecutive hours.
- (4) No vehicle shall be parked on any street or public ground that has been designated a "No Parking" area or an area where parking has been restricted to certain hours or days, by motion or resolution of the city council, and posted as such.
- (5) No vehicle shall be parked on any boulevard within the city.
- (6) No person shall park a vehicle, except an authorized emergency vehicle, within an area designated a fire lane.
- (7) No vehicle shall be parked on any street or public grounds in front of a public or private driveway or alley or within five feet of any public or private driveway or alley.
- (8) No vehicle shall be parked on any public or private property, including commercial property, without the express or implied consent of the property owner or his or her agent and shall not remain parked in violation of the terms of such consent. The terms of such consent may be posted in a conspicuous place by the owner or his or her agent.
- (9) No vehicle shall be parked on any city street during snow removal, as described in [section 46-28](#).

(c) *Parking fine.* The fine for each violation of this section shall be set according to the City Fee Schedule.

(Code 1993, § 7-4.01; Ord. No. 08-05, § 1, 12-10-2008; Ord. No. 20-03 § 1, 2-26-2020; Ord. No. 23-05, § 1, 8-23-2023)

***Sec. 46-28 - Parking of motor vehicles during snow removal periods***

- (a) *Purpose and policy.* The purpose of this section is to regulate the parking of motor vehicles on the public streets of the city during periods of snow removal. Any motor vehicle parked on a public street of this city during a period of snow removal, as specified in detail herein,

is declared to be a public nuisance which interferes with and impedes the orderly removal of snow from said streets, interferes with and impedes the safe movement of emergency and other vehicular traffic, and is thus a danger to the health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of this city.

- (b) *Parking restrictions during snow removal.* Parking of a motor vehicle on an unplowed public street or within 30 feet of an intersection during a snow removal period shall be prohibited. The term "snow removal period" means:
1. For a maximum of 48 hours commencing after a snowfall where at least two inches of snow has accumulated on the public streets of this city, or
  2. Until a street has been plowed full-width; whichever comes first.
- (c) A snow removal period is in effect if [section 46-28\(b\)\(2\)](#) has been satisfied and an additional two inches of snow falls during the same storm event.

(Code 1993, § 7-5.01; Ord. No. 20-03 § 2, 2-26-2020)

***Sec. 46-29 – Establishment of Parking Zones using electronic payment systems (e-meters)***

- (a) *Purpose and Scope.* The purpose of this section is to establish regulations for managing parking through electronic payment systems, referred to as e-meters, which will operate via mobile applications provided by third-party vendors. This system is intended to enhance parking management and convenience while maintaining order and safety in public parking areas.
- (b) *Definitions.* The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this section, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

*E-meter* means a virtual parking meter system managed through a mobile application or similar electronic platform for collecting parking payments.

*Authorized Vendor* means a third-party provider approved by the city to operate e-meter services.

*Parking Zone* means any street, lot, or area designated by the city for public parking that requires e-meter payments. The City Council will designate by resolution which streets, lots or areas are established as parking zones, and for which dates and times the parking zones will be in effect.

- (c) *Payment Requirements.* The following requirements must be met by motorists parking

in a Parking Zone:

- (1) Motorists parking in a Parking Zone must register their vehicle's license plate and pay for parking via the authorized vendor's application.
  - (2) Payment must be completed immediately upon parking and remain active for the duration of the parking period.
- (d) *Parking Enforcement*
1. A vehicle is unlawfully parked if parked in a Parking Zone, except in accordance with the provisions of this Section 46.
  2. Vehicles found parked in a Parking Zone without an active payment record shall be subject to fines as determined by the City Fee Schedule.
  3. Enforcement officers may verify compliance through electronic records provided by authorized vendors.
- (e) *Signage and Notification*
1. The city shall install signage at designated Parking Zones to inform motorists of payment requirements and instructions for using the electronic system.
  2. Signage must clearly state the Parking Zone information and details for accessing the payment application.
- (f) *Data Privacy*
1. The city and authorized vendors must adhere to applicable data protection laws to ensure the privacy and security of motorists' information collected through e-meter systems.
  2. Any data collected shall be used solely for parking management and enforcement purposes.
- (g) *Exception.* This Section shall not apply to vehicles that are owned by a governmental entity and are being operated when the vehicle's driver is on duty or performing a governmental service.
- (h) *Violations and Penalties*
1. Failure to comply with e-meter payment requirements shall result in penalties as outlined in Sec. 46-27(c).
  2. Repeat violations may result in additional enforcement actions, including towing or immobilization.
  3. Any person who tampers with or attempts to circumvent the e-meter payment system shall be subject to a fine and/or other penalties as determined by the City Fee Schedule.

4. Nothing in this section shall limit the city's authority to regulate parking under other provisions of Chapter 46.

(Ord. No. 25-01 § 1, 3-26-2025)

Footnotes:

<sup>1</sup> **State Law reference** – Traffic generally, Minn. Stats. ch. 169; powers of local authorities, Minn. Stats. § 169.04.

<sup>2</sup> **State Law reference** – Stopping, standing and parking, Minn. Stats. § 169.32 et seq.; authority to regulate standing or parking of vehicles, Minn. Stats. § 169.04.