

**CHAPTER 7
TRAFFIC AND PARKING REGULATIONS**

Section 7.01 **Definitions.** The definitions of terms used in this Chapter shall be those definitions set forth in Minn. Stat. § 168.011, as amended, and Minn. Stat. § 169.011, as amended, as well as those definitions contained herein.

Subd. 1. Recreational vehicle.

a. "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.

b. "Recreational vehicle" is a vehicle that:
1) is not used as the residence of the owner or occupant;
2) is used while engaged in recreational or vacation activities; and
3) is either self-propelled or towed on the highways incidental to the recreational or vacation activities.
(Source: Minnesota Statutes 2006, 168.011)

Subd. 2. Trailer. "Trailer" means any vehicle designed for carrying property or passengers on its own structure and for being drawn by a motor vehicle but does not include a trailer drawn by a truck-tractor semitrailer combination or an auxiliary axle on a motor vehicle which carries a portion of the weight of the motor vehicle to which it is attached.

Source: Ord. 773-2nd Series
Effective Date: 10/09/17

Section 7.02. **Unreasonable Acceleration of a Motor Vehicle.**
No person shall start or accelerate any motor vehicle with an unnecessary exhibition of speed on any public or private way within the city limits. Prima-facie evidence of such unnecessary exhibition of speed shall be unreasonable squealing or screeching sounds emitted by the tires of the throwing of sand or gravel by the tires of said vehicle, or both. Any person who violates this section shall be guilty of a petty misdemeanor.

Section 7.03. **Through Streets.**

Subd. 1. The council may designate "through streets" by erecting stop signs or yield signs at entrances thereto or may designate any intersection as a stop or yield intersection by erecting like signs at one or more entrances to such intersection; provided, that with reference to State trunk highways, the consent

of the Commissioner shall first be obtained.

Subd. 2. Each driver of a vehicle shall stop at a stop sign or at a clearly marked stop line before entering the intersection, except when directed to proceed by a police officer or traffic control signal.

Subd. 3. Specifically included in this section shall be "fold down" type of stop and yield signs, designed for use at critical periods during heavy traffic at specified intersections.

Section 7.04 **Presumption.** As to any vehicle parked in violation of Chapters 6 and 7, when the driver thereof is not present, it shall be assumed that the owner parked the same, or that the driver as acting as the agent of the owner.

Section 7.05 **General Parking Prohibitions.** It is unlawful for any person to stop, stand or park a vehicle except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the specific directions of a police officer or traffic control device in any of the following places: (1) on a sidewalk; (2) in front of a public or private driveway; (3) within an intersection; (4) within ten feet of a fire hydrant; (5) on a crosswalk; (6) within twenty feet of a crosswalk at any intersection; (7) within thirty feet upon the approach to any flashing beacon, stop sign or traffic control signal located at the side of a roadway; (8) within fifty feet of the nearest rail of a railroad crossing; (9) within twenty feet of the driveway entrance to any fire station; (10) alongside or opposite any street excavation or obstruction when such stopping, standing or parking would obstruct traffic; (11) in the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge of a curb of a street; (12) upon any bridge or other elevated structure upon a street; or, (13) at any place where official signs prohibit stopping.

Section 7.06. **Unauthorized Removal.** It is unlawful for any person to move a vehicle not owned by such person into any prohibited area or away from a curb such distance as is unlawful.

Source: Ord. 335-2nd Series
Effective Date: 12/28/92

Section 7.07. **Recreational Vehicle Parking and Trailer Parking.** It is unlawful for any person to leave or park recreational vehicle, as defined herein, on or within the limits of any street or right of way, except where signs are erected designating the place as a campsite, for more than twenty-four (24) hours. It is unlawful for any person to leave or park any

trailer, detached from its towing vehicle, on or within the limits of any street or right of way.

Source: Ord. 773-2nd Series
Effective Date: 10/09/18

Section 7.08. **Direction to proceed.** It is unlawful for any person to stop or park a vehicle on a street when directed or ordered to proceed by any police officer invested by law with authority to direct, control or regulate traffic.

Section 7.09. **Parallel Parking.** Except where angle parking is specifically allowed and indicated by curb marking or sign-posting, or not, each vehicle stopped or parked upon a two-way road where there is an adjacent curb shall be stopped or parked with the right-hand wheels of the vehicle parallel with, and within twelve (12) inches of the right-hand curb, where painted markings appear on the curb or the street such vehicle shall be within such markings, front and rear, provided that upon a one-way roadway all vehicles shall be so parked, except that the left-hand wheels of the vehicle may be parallel with and within twelve (12) inches from the left-hand curb, by the front of the vehicle in any event and with respect to the remainder of the vehicle, shall be in the direction of the flow of traffic upon such one-way street; and it is unlawful to park in violation of this Section.

Section 7.10. **Angle Parking.** Where angle parking has been established and is allowed, as shown by curb marking or sign-posting, or both, each vehicle stopped or parked shall be at an angle of approximately forty-five to sixty degrees with the front wheel touching the curb and within any parking lines painted on the curb or street, provided that the front wheel not touching the curb shall be the portion of the vehicle furthest in the direction of one-way traffic; and it is unlawful to park in violation of this Section.

Section 7.11. **Streets Without Curbs.** Upon streets not having a curb each vehicle shall be stopped if parked parallel and to the right of the paving, improved or main traveled part of the street; and it is unlawful to park in violation of this Section.

Section 7.12. **Controlled Parking Hours and Penalties for Violation.** Parking on the streets shall be limited as follows:

Subd. 1. It is unlawful for any person to stop, park or leave standing any vehicle upon any street for a continuous period in excess of twenty-four (24) hours.

Source: Ord. 335-2nd Series
Effective Date: 12/28/98

Subd. 2. The Chief of Police may, when authorized by the Council, designate certain streets, blocks or portions of streets or blocks, as five (5) minute, ten (10) minute, fifteen (15) minute, thirty (30) minute, one (1) hour, two (2) hour, three (3) hour, four (4) hour, six (6) hour, or eight (8) hour limited parking zones and shall mark by appropriate signs any zones so established. Such zones shall be established whenever necessary for the convenience of the public or to minimize traffic hazards and preserve a free flow of traffic. It is unlawful for any person to park a vehicle in any limited parking zone between the hours of 8:00 o'clock a.m., and 6:00 o'clock p.m., of any day for a longer period than is specified in the sign-posting of such zone.

Source: Ord. 413-2nd Series
Effective Date: 5/11/98

Subd. 3. It shall be unlawful to park a vehicle on a street against the flow of traffic, within a limited parking area or so as to block or infringe upon a cross-walk, sidewalk, driveway or upon a boulevard adjacent to a City street.

Subd. 4. **Penalties.** Violation of the restrictions placed on permitted parking, as defined in Subdivisions 1, 2 and 3 of this section, shall be defined as class A Violation and be a petty misdemeanor and the penalty for a violation thereof shall be:

a. If paid within 48 hours of the violation, a fine of \$10.00.

b. If such a fine is not paid within 48 hours of the violation and is not paid within 10 days thereof, the fine shall be \$20.00.

c. If such fine is not paid within 10 days of the violation, any person found guilty of such violation shall be punished as for any misdemeanor.

d. If a fine is paid within 10 days of the violation, as specified herein, it may be paid by depositing the same in a courtesy box provided for that purpose and at such convenient locations as maybe designated by the Chief of Police.

Source: Ord. 615-2nd Series
Effective Date: 1/11/08

Subd. 5. It is unlawful for any person to stop, park or leave standing any vehicle on a street in a traffic lane, within a loading zone while not actually unloading or within an otherwise designated no parking zone.

Subd. 6. **Penalties.** Violation of the restrictions paced on permitted parking, as defined in Subdivision 5 of this section, shall be defined as class C Violation and be a petty misdemeanor and the penalty for a violation thereof shall be:

a. If paid within 48 hours of the violation, a fine of \$25.00.

b. If such a fine is not paid within 48 hours of the violation, and is not paid within 10 days thereof, the fine shall be \$50.00.

c. If such fine is not paid within 10 days of the violation, any person found guilty of such violation shall be punished as for any misdemeanor. Failure to pay the fine as set forth above may also cause suspension of the person's driver's license pursuant to state law.

d. If a fine is paid within 10 days of violation, as specified herein, it may be paid by depositing the same in a courtesy box provided for that purpose and at such convenient locations as may designated by the Chief of Police.

Source: Ord. 615-2nd Series
Effective Date: 01/11/08

Section 7.13. **Emergency and Street Cleaning Parking Restrictions.** In order to facilitate movement of traffic and promote public convenience in times of emergency and street cleaning, the following additional parking restrictions shall be in effect:

Subd. 1. **"Emergency" Defined.** An emergency means a condition created on City streets because of the presence of snow,

freezing rain, sleet, ice or snow drifts thereon, or other natural phenomenon which create or are likely to create hazardous road conditions or impede or likely to impede the free movement of fire, health, police, emergency or other vehicular traffic when the same shall have been duly declared by the Street Commissioner, or in the Street Commissioner's absence, the Chief of Police.

Subd. 2. **Declaration of Emergency; Procedure and Effective Time.** Whenever in the discretion of the Street Commissioner, an emergency exists, the Street Commissioner may declare the same and notify news media requesting them to cooperate in giving notice to the community and its motorists. Two hours after notice to the news media the emergency shall be in effect, and shall remain in effect for a period of seventy-two (72) hours, but declaration and notice may extend such emergency for subsequent seventy-two (72) hour periods if given as herein required for the initial declaration and notice.

Subd. 3. **Unlawful Acts.**

A. For the purpose of facilitating snow removal, it is unlawful, between the hours of 1:00 o'clock a.m. and 7:00 o'clock a.m. on any day, to park or leave standing any vehicle upon either side of any street adjacent to the Douglas County Courthouse or within one-half block on either side of any street adjacent to any school, church or hospital.

B. For the purpose of snow removal on all streets other than those described in Sub-paragraph A of this Subdivision, it is unlawful, during a snow emergency declared by the Street Commissioner pursuant to Subd. 2 of this section, to park any vehicle on any City street for a period of 72 hours or until the snow emergency has been lifted.

Section 7.14. **Truck Parking.**

Subd. 1. It is unlawful to park a detached semi-trailer upon any street, municipally owned parking lot, or other public property.

Subd. 2. **Semi-Trailer Parking.** It is unlawful to park a semi-trailer, whether or not attached to a truck tractor, within the City outside of a designated trucking terminal unless the semi-trailer meets all of the following conditions:

A. The semi-trailer is located in an area zoned commercial or industrial and,

B. The semi-trailer is located entirely on private property and placed in a designated trailer parking area and,

C. The semi-trailer does not obstruct or limit access to or traffic flow on any public street and,

D. The semi-trailer is loaded or unloaded during a period not exceeding ten (10) days unless

1. The semi-trailer is used to store materials for manufacture or resale for an interim period of not more than 60 days, or

2. The semi-trailer is used as a construction site office or a construction site storage facility provided the name of the construction firm is identified on the semi-trailer, and the semi-trailer is located on the construction site or at the construction company's permanent place of business, and

E. The semi-trailer is located not closer than twenty (20) feet from any building.

Subd. 3. It is unlawful to park a semi-trailer attached to a truck-tractor on Broadway Street in the area bounded by Third Avenue to the north and Fifteenth Avenue to the south, between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on any weekday within any parking space. Parking of such vehicle for a period of not more than thirty (30) minutes shall be permitted in such space between 8:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. on any weekday for the purpose of necessary access to abutting property for loading or unloading when such access cannot reasonably be secured from an alley or adjacent street where truck parking is not so restricted.

Source: Ord. 740-2nd Series
Effective Date: 12/14/15

Subd. 4. **Bus Parking.** It is unlawful to park a bus upon any public street in the City of Alexandria except when engaged in loading and unloading operations, which operations shall not exceed eight consecutive hours.

Subd. 5. **Semitrailer Parking.** It is unlawful to park a semitrailer upon any public right-of-way, alley, or street except when engaged in loading and unloading operations.

Source: Ord. 773-2nd Series
Effective Date: 10/09/17

Subd. 6. **Penalty.** Violations of the restrictions as defined in Subdivisions 1 to 5 of this section shall be defined as a petty misdemeanor and subject to the same penalties as defined in Section 7.12, Subdivision 6.

Source: Ord. 740-2nd Series
Effective Date: 12/14/15

Section 7.15. **Parking Restrictions in Municipal Parking Lots and Ramps.** In municipally owned parking lots and ramps, the Council may limit the sizes and types of motor vehicles to be parked thereon, hours of parking, and prescribed method of parking, provided that such limitations and restrictions are sign-posted or meter-posted thereon. It is unlawful to park any vehicle in any municipally owned parking lots and ramps contrary to the restrictions or limitations so sign-posted or meter-posted.

Section 7.16. **Impounding and Removing Vehicles.** When any police officer finds a vehicle standing upon a street or municipally owned parking lot in violation of any parking regulation such officer is hereby authorized to require the driver or other person in charge of such vehicle to remove the same to a position in compliance with this Chapter. When any police officer finds a vehicle unattended upon any street or municipally owned parking lot in violation of any parking regulation, such officer is hereby authorized to impound such unlawfully parked vehicle and to provide for the removal thereof and to remove the same to a convenient garage or other facility or place of safety; provided, that if any charge shall be placed against such vehicle for cost of removal or storage, or both, by anyone called upon to assist therewith, the same shall be paid prior to removal from such place of storage or safekeeping.

Section 7.17. **Parking Privileges for Physically Handicapped.**

Subd. 1. **Scope of Privilege.** Any physically handicapped person who displays prominently upon the automobile parked by said person or under said person's direction and for said person's use, the distinguishing certificate or insignia specified in this Section shall be entitled to courtesy in the parking of such automobile and be relieved of any liability with respect to parking except as provided in Section 7.05.

Subd. 2. **Definition of Physically Handicapped.** "Physically handicapped" as employed herein shall include any person who has sustained an amputation or permanent material disability of either or both arms or legs, or who has been

otherwise permanently disabled in any manner rendering it difficult and burdensome for said person to walk.

Subd. 3. **Identifying Certificate.** The identifying certificate or insignia provided for herein shall be such as is issued by the Motor Vehicle Division in the office of the Secretary of State of the State of Minnesota, in accordance with rules and regulations of the Secretary of State, and upon application certified to by a qualified physician.

Subd. 4. **Revocation.** If the Police of this City shall find that such certificate or insignia is being used improperly, they shall report the same to their superior who shall report such improper use to the Chief of Police, and the Chief of Police shall, in turn, report such improper use to the Motor Vehicles Division in the Department of Public Safety of the State of Minnesota, and the Commissioner of Public Safety may, in said person's discretion, remove the privilege.

Subd. 5. **Penalty.** Any person who is not physically handicapped and who exercises the privilege granted a physically handicapped under Subdivision 1 is guilty of a petty misdemeanor and the penalty therefor, if paid within 48 hours of the violation, shall be a fine of \$50.00. If such fine is not paid within 48 hours of the violation, but is paid within 10 days thereof, the fine shall be \$100.00. If such fine shall not be paid within 10 days of the violation, any person found guilty of such violation shall be punished as for any misdemeanor. If a fine is paid within 10 days of the violation, as specified herein, it may be paid by depositing the same in a courtesy box provided for that purpose and at such convenient locations as may be designated by the Chief of Police.

Source: Ord. 615-2nd Series
Effective Date: 1/11/08

Section 7.18. **Loading Zones.**

Subd. 1. In controlled street parking areas in the City of Alexandria loading zone permits may be granted by the City Council for an annual term commencing January 1 of each year. Loading zones shall be marked by approved signs and it shall be unlawful to park or leave a motor vehicle unattended in a loading zone.

Subd. 2. Prior to the issuance of any loading zone permit the City council shall refer the application to the Police Department of the City of Alexandria for an evaluation as to potential safety and traffic hazards created by the issuance of the permits as applied for.

Source: Ord. 335-2nd Series
Effective Date: 12/28/92

Subd. 3. The annual fee for each loading zone permit shall be \$180.00. Each annual loading zone permit shall be issued for a calendar year, and permits issued for less than a calendar year shall be assessed a prorated fee for that remaining portion of the calendar year at the time of the issuance of the permit.

Source: Ord. 839-2nd Series
Effective Date: 10/26/2020

Subd. 4. The City Clerk shall determine dates of payment, permit forms and loading zone signs.

Subd. 5. For purposes of this ordinance the term loading zone shall be construed as being one parking space as designated in the City of Alexandria.

Subd. 6. The policy of the City of Alexandria shall be to issue one loading zone permit per applicant, however, upon special request and for good cause shown, two loading zone permits may be issued to the same applicant.

Subd. 7. Loading zone permits may be revoked or suspended by the City Council with our without cause at any time. Upon a revocation without cause the permit fee shall be refunded on a pro rata basis.

Section 7.19. **Reserved Parking - Off Street Parking Lots.**

Subd. 1. On city-owned off street parking lots, the City of Alexandria may issue reserved parking permits for individual parking spaces on an annual basis. The issuance of permits and identification of reserved parking spaces shall be determined by the City Administrator. Reserved spaces shall be marked by appropriate signs and the application for such a parking space shall identify by vehicle the designated occupant of the reserved parking space.

Source: Ord. 335-2nd Series
Effective Date: 12/28/92

Subd. 2. The annual fee for each reserved parking space shall be \$180.00. Each annual reserved parking permit shall be issued for a calendar year and permits issued for less than a calendar year shall be assessed a prorata fee for that remaining portion of the calendar year at the time of issuance of the permit.

Source: Ord. 840-2nd Series
Effective Date: 10/26/2020

Subd. 3. The City Administrator shall determine the dates of payment, permit forms and appropriate signs.

Subd. 4. Reserved parking permits may be revoked or suspended by the City Council, with or without cause, at any time. Upon revocation without cause, the permit fee shall be refunded on a pro rata basis.

Source: Ord. 335-2nd Series
Effective Date: 12/28/92

Section 7.20. **Special Use Vehicles.**

Subd. 1. Definitions. For purposes of Section 7.20 Special Use Vehicle is a motorized golf cart.

Subd. 2. Permit. A permit is required for the owner, or user, to operate a special use vehicle in the City on forms prescribed by the City and approved by the Alexandria City Council. Permits may be granted for a period not more than one year and shall expire annually on December 31. The City Council shall establish an annual fee for a special use vehicle permit. A permit may be immediately revoked or suspended if there is evidence that the permittee cannot safely operate the special use vehicle, and if the permittee objects to such suspension or revocation, the permittee may within five (5) business days of the revocation or suspension file with the City Administrator or his/her designee a written request for a hearing before the City Council which will hear and consider the permittee's objection at a regularly scheduled meeting within 30 days after the objection if filed. A copy of the permit must be carried in the vehicle, and the permit decal must be displayed at all times on the center front of the vehicle's chassis.

Subd. 3. Exceptions. Special events conducted by public or private groups or organizations are exempt from the requirements of Subdivision 2 if the event is three days or less in length and occurs once per calendar year. Event organizers must apply for and received permission upon notifying the Police Department of dates special use vehicles may be on city streets and proposed routes for special use vehicles.

Subd. 4. Designated Roadways. The special use vehicles are authorized on roadways as reviewed and approved by the City Council. Special use vehicles are prohibited on:

- a) T.H. 29 (Broadway) North and South,
- b) T.H. 27 East and West,
- c) CR 82 West,
- d) CR 22,
- e) North Nokomis Street,
- f) CR 42,
- g) CR 44,
- h) McKay Avenue,
- i) CR 45,
- j) CR 46,
- k) Geneva Road,
- l) Birch Avenue,
- m) South Broadway,
- n) Nokomis Street,
- o) Dakota Street,

- p) Aga Drive,
- q) Frontage road between Dakota Street and T.H. 29 South,
- r) 5th Avenue West,
- s) Fairgrounds Road,
- t) Willow/Latoka Drive,
- u) Cedar Street between 5th Avenue and 10th Avenue,
- v) Fillmore Street between 3rd Avenue and 10th Avenue,
- w) Hawthorne Street between 3rd Avenue and 10th Avenue,
- x) 6th Avenue between Fillmore Street and McKay Avenue,
- y) 10th Avenue between Cedar Street and Nokomis Street,
- z) Jefferson Street between 3rd Avenue and 30th Avenue,
- aa) Rosewood Lane,
- bb) 22nd Avenue,
- cc) 30th Avenue,
- dd) 34th Avenue,
- ee) 50th Avenue,
- ff) Interstate 94,
- gg) Central Lakes Trail, bike paths, walking trails, and sidewalks.

Subd. 5. Physician Certificate. As a condition to obtain a permit the operator must have a valid Minnesota Driver's License or submit a certificate signed by a physician that the operator is able to safely operate a motorized special use vehicle.

Subd. 6. Times of Operation. Motorized special use vehicles may only be operated from sunrise to sunset. They shall not be operated in inclement weather or when visibility is impaired by weather, smoke, fog, or other conditions, or at any time when there is insufficient light to clearly see persons and vehicles on the roadway at a distance of 500 feet.

Subd. 7. Slow-Moving Vehicle Emblem. The motorized special use vehicle, when operated on designated roadways, shall display the slow-moving vehicle emblem provided for in Minnesota Statutes 169.522.

Subd. 8. Insurance. The applicant shall provide evidence of insurance complying with the provisions of Minnesota Statutes Section 65.48, Subdivision 5.

Subd. 9. Crossing Intersection Roadways. The operator, under permit, of a motorized special use vehicle may cross any street or highway intersecting a designated roadway.

Subd. 10. State Law Compliance. The operator of any special use vehicle must comply with all state and federal traffic laws and regulations pursuant Minnesota Statutes Section 169.045.

Subd. 11. Rear View Mirrors. All special use vehicles must be equipped with a rear-view mirror pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 169.70.

Subd. 12. Violations and Penalties. Violation of this section shall be a misdemeanor and shall carry a maximum fine of \$1,000 or imprisonment for ninety days, or both.

Subd. 13. License Suspension or Revocation. The City Council may in its sole discretion and for any reasonable cause, upon notice and hearing, suspend or revoke any special use vehicle permit issued pursuant to the Alexandria City Code.

Source: Ord. 649-2nd Series
Effective Date: 12/14/09