

CHAPTER VII TRAFFIC REGULATIONS

Section 700. REGULATION OF TRAFFIC IN THE CITY OF LORETTO

Section 700:00. The regulatory provisions of Minnesota Statutes, (1963) chapter 169 and laws amendatory thereto are hereby adopted as a traffic ordinance regulating the use of highways, streets, and alleys within the city of Loretto and are hereby incorporated in and made a part of this chapter as completely as if set out here in full.

Section 705. REGULATION OF THE OPERATION OF SNOWMOBILES.

Section 705:00. OPERATION ON STREETS AND HIGHWAYS. No person shall operate a snowmobile upon the roadway, shoulder or inside bank or slope of any trunk or county state aid highway or any other public street or road in this city except as provided in this ordinance. No person shall operate a snowmobile within the right of way of any trunk or county state aid highway or any other public street or road between the hours of one-half hour after sunset or one-half hour before sunrise. No snowmobile shall be operated at any time within the right of way of any interstate highway or freeway or any other public street or road within this city.

- (a) A snowmobile may make a direct crossing of a street or highway or any other public street or road provided:
 - (1) The crossing is made at an angle of approximately 90 degrees to the direction of the highway or any other public street or road and at a place where no obstruction prevents a quick and safe crossing; and
 - (2) The snowmobile is brought to a complete stop before crossing the shoulder or main traveled way of the highway or any other street or road; and
 - (3) The driver yields the right of way to all oncoming traffic which constitutes an immediate hazard; and
 - (4) In crossing a divided highway, the crossing is made only at an intersection of such highway or any other public street or road with another public street or highway.
- (b) No snowmobile shall be operated upon a public street or highway unless it is equipped with at least one head lamp and one tail lamp, and with brakes which conform to standards prescribed by rules of the state commissioner of highways.
- (c) A snowmobile may be operated upon a public street or highway other than as provided by clause b in emergency during the period of time when and at locations where snow upon the roadway renders travel by automobile impractical.

- (d) All provisions of the ordinance of the city of Loretto shall apply to the operation of snowmobiles upon streets and highways, except for those relating to required equipment, and except those which by their nature have no application.

Section 705:05. OPERATION GENERALLY. It shall be unlawful for any person to drive or operate any snowmobile in the following unsafe or harassing ways:

- (a) At a rate of speed greater than reasonable or proper under all the surrounding circumstances;
- (b) In a careless, reckless or negligent manner so as to endanger the person or property of another or to cause injury or damage thereto;
- (c) While under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotics or habit forming drugs;
- (d) Without a lighted head and tail light when required for safety;
- (e) In any tree nursery or planting in a manner which damages or destroys growing stock.

Section 705:10. PENALTIES. Any person who shall violate any provision of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Section 710. MOTOR VEHICLES IN PLAYGROUNDS.

Section 710:00. No person shall operate a motorized vehicle on any public park, sidewalk, trail or other public ground that the city has posted with signs that prohibit motorized vehicles. The preceding sentence does not apply to any person who is performing maintenance or repair of the public ground at the direction of the city. Any unauthorized persons removing signs shall be in violation of city code. (*Amended, Ord. 95-2*)

Section 715:00. The acceleration of a motor vehicle so rapidly or abruptly that a tire or tires breaks traction with the surface causing a squealing sound or the dislodging of sand, gravel or other objects by the vehicle tires is a misdemeanor if the peace or safety of any pedestrian, resident, driver, or other person, animal, or property is disturbed or threatened thereby. (*Amended, Ord. 95-2*)

Section 720. TRAFFIC AND MOTOR VEHICLES.

Section 720:00. DEFINITIONS. Any term used in this chapter and defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 169.01 has the meaning given it by that section.

Section 720:05. THROUGH STREETS; ONE-WAY STREETS. The council by resolution may designate any street or portion of street as a through street or a one-way street or alley where necessary to preserve the free flow of traffic or to prevent accidents. The city shall post appropriate signs at the entrance to such streets or alley. No state highway or county highway shall be so designated unless the consent of the commissioner of transportation or county engineer to such designation is first secured.

Section 720:10. SPEED LIMIT IN SCHOOL ZONES. School speed limit zones may be established on city streets by resolution of the council in the interest of protecting pedestrian traffic. Upon the designation of such school speed limit zones and the time periods and the erection of appropriate signs designating the beginning and ending of such zone, no person shall drive a vehicle within the designated zones in excess of 15 miles per hour during periods of major pedestrian travel.

Section 720:15. SEASONAL WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS. The city may prohibit the operation of vehicles upon any street under its 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 city shall erect and maintain signs plainly indicating the prohibition or restriction of the streets affected. No person shall operate a vehicle on a posted street in violation of the prohibition or restriction. Section 720:15 shall not apply to the following:

- (a) school buses;
- (b) emergency vehicles;
- (c) garbage or recycling vehicles while on their collection routes;
- (d) municipal or utility vehicles while engaged in constructing, maintaining or repairing streets or utilities.

(Amended, Ord. 2008-03)

Section 720:21. *(Repealed, Ord. 2010-05)*

Section 720:22. *(Repealed, Ord. 2010-05)*

Section 720:25. *(Repealed, Ord. 2010-05)*

Section 720:30. *(Repealed, Ord. 2010-05)*

Section 730. ON-STREET PARKING. *(Amended, Ord. 2010-05)*

Section 730:00. In accordance with the authority granted to the city under state and federal statutory, administrative and common law authority, the city hereby elects pursuant to this chapter to manage on-street parking within its jurisdiction. *(Added, Ord. 2010-05)*

Section 730:05. DEFINITIONS. The following words, terms, and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall be the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning; *(Amended, Ord. 2010-05)*

Emergency means a condition created on city streets because of the presence of snow, freezing rain, sleet or ice on the streets, or other natural phenomena which create or are likely to create hazardous road conditions or impede or are likely to impede the free movement of fire, health, police, emergency or other vehicular traffic, when an emergency has been duly declared. *(Added, Ord. 2010-05)*

- (1) **Declaration of Emergency.** Whenever in the opinion of the public works director or in their absence the chief of police, an emergency exists, they may declare an emergency and cause an announcement to be made to local news media. *(Added, Ord. 2010-05)*
- (2) **Unlawful Act.** During an emergency, it is unlawful to park or leave standing any vehicle upon a street on which parking has been restricted by the declaration of an emergency. *(Added, Ord. 2010-05)*
- (3) **Exceptions.** This section shall not apply to persons in charge of wreckers or authorized emergency vehicles while actually servicing mechanical, fire, police or medical emergencies. *(Added, Ord. 2010-05)*

Recreational Camping Vehicle, Utility Trailer and Boat means any of the following: *(Added, Ord. 2010-05)*

- (1) **Travel Trailer** – A vehicular, portable structure built on a chassis, designed to be used as a temporary dwelling for travel, recreational, and vacation uses, permanently identified "Travel Trailer" by the manufacturer of the trailer. *(Added, Ord. 2010-05)*
- (2) **Pickup Coach** – A structure designed to be mounted on a truck chassis for use as a temporary dwelling for travel, recreation and vacation. *(Added, Ord. 2010-05)*
- (3) **Motor Home** – A portable, temporary building to be used for travel, recreation and vacation, constructed as an integral part of a self-propelled vehicle. *(Added, Ord. 2010-05)*
- (4) **Camping Trailer** – A folding structure, mounted on wheels and designed for travel, recreation and vacation uses. *(Added, Ord. 2010-05)*
- (5) **Utility Trailer** – A trailer used for the transporting of items typically associated with a residential use. Utility Trailers shall not include trailers used to transport equipment used for commercial use. *(Added, Ord. 2010-05)*
- (6) **Boat** – For the purpose of this definition, "boat" shall include any water craft. *(Added, Ord. 2010-05)*

Section 730:10. 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: *(Added, Ord. 2010-05)*

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730:10 (Rev. 2010)

- (a) On a sidewalk or trail;
- (b) In front of a public or private driveway;
- (c) Within an intersection;
- (d) Within ten feet either side of a fire hydrant;
- (e) On a crosswalk;
- (f) Within 20 feet of a crosswalk at any intersection;
- (g) In a signposted fire lane;
- (h) Within 30 feet upon the approach to any flashing beacon, stop sign or traffic control signal located at the side of a roadway;
- (i) Within 50 feet of the nearest rail of a railroad crossing;
- (j) Within 20 feet of the driveway entrance to any fire station and on the side of a street opposite the entrance to any fire station within 75 feet of the entrance when properly signposted;
- (k) Alongside or opposite any street excavation or obstruction when such stopping, standing or parking would obstruct traffic;
- (l) On the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge or curb of a street;
- (m) Upon any bridge or other elevated structure upon a street;
- (n) At any place where official signs prohibit or restrict stopping, parking or both;
- (o) In any alley, except for loading or unloading, and then only so long as reasonably necessary for such loading and unloading to or from adjacent premises;
- (p) In any manner or any location so that the traveled public street or private road is reduced to less than ten feet of clear, unobstructed width at any point;
- (q) Within 12 feet of either side of a U.S. mailbox or receptacle; or
- (r) Along any street in a manner that is not parallel to the curb or edge of the street.

(Added, Ord. 2010-05)

Section 730:15. PARALLEL PARKING. Parallel parking is permitted on public streets unless angle parking is established by council resolution for specific areas. *(Added, Ord. 2010-05)*

Section 730:20. PARKING ON ONE-WAY ROADWAY. Upon a one-way roadway, all vehicles may be so parked so that the left-hand wheels of the vehicle are parallel with and within 12 inches from the left-hand curb; but 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. *(Added, Ord. 2010-05)*

Section 730:25. PARKING HOURS. Parking on public streets shall be limited as follows: *(Added, Ord. 2010-05)*

Subd. 1. Medina Street (CSAH-19): On-street parking is prohibited year-round between the hours of 2:30 A.M. and 6:30 A.M. All other streets within the city: On-street parking is prohibited from November 1 through March 31 between the hours of 2:00 A.M. and 7:00 A.M. *(Added, Ord. 2010-05)*

Subd. 2. The chief of police may, when authorized by resolution of the council, designate certain streets, blocks or portions of streets or blocks as prohibited parking zones or five-minute, ten-minute, 15-minute, 30-minute, one-hour, two-hour, four-hour, six-hour, eight-hour, morning or afternoon rush 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 stop, park or leave standing any vehicle in a prohibited parking zone, for a period of time in excess of the signposted limitation, or during signposted hours of prohibited parking. *(Added, Ord. 2010-05)*

Subd. 3. It is unlawful for any person to remove, erase or otherwise obliterate any mark or sign placed upon a tire or other part of a vehicle by a police officer for the purpose of measuring the length of time such vehicle has been parked. *(Added, Ord. 2010-05)*

Subd. 4. For the purpose of enforcement of this section, any vehicle moved less than one block in a limited-time parking zone shall be deemed to have remained stationary. *(Added, Ord. 2010-05)*

Section 730:30. PARKING AFTER SNOWFALL. Parking is prohibited on all public streets at such times that vehicles prevent or obstruct the removal of snow from streets during snow removal operations. *(Added, Ord. 2010-05)*

Section 730:35. VEHICLE REPAIR ON STREET. It is unlawful for any person to service, repair, assemble or dismantle any vehicle parked upon a street, or attempt to do so, except to service such vehicle with gasoline or oil or to provide emergency repairs on the vehicle, but in no event for more than eight hours. *(Added, Ord. 2010-05)*

Section 730:40. PARKING FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADVERTISING OR SELLING MERCHANDISE. It is unlawful for any person to park a vehicle on any street or public parking lot for the purpose of advertising such vehicle for sale, for the purpose of advertising for sale or selling merchandise, or advertising any merchandise for sale or a forthcoming event. *(Added, Ord. 2010-05)*

Section 730:45. PARKING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY WITHOUT CONSENT. It is a misdemeanor to park or abandon a motor vehicle on the property of another, or upon an area developed as an off-street parking facility, without the consent of the owner, lessee or person in charge of any such property or facility. *(Added, Ord. 2010-05)*

Section 730:50. TRUCKS, TRUCK TRAILERS, SEMI-TRAILERS, BUSES, CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT, RECREATION CAMPING VEHICLES, UTILITY TRAILERS AND BOAT PARKING. Trucks, truck tractors, semi-trailers, buses, construction equipment, recreational camping vehicles, utility trailers and boats are allowed to park on-street within the city provided:

Subd. 1. Trucks, truck tractors, semi-trailers, buses, construction equipment, recreational camping vehicles, utility trailers and boats and/or trailers may not be parked on-street for a period exceeding 12 hours from 6 A.M. to 8 P.M. and/or four hours from 8 P.M. to 6 A.M.; and

Subd. 2. Construction equipment, recreational camping vehicles, utility trailers and boats may not be left on-street detached from a licensed vehicle for a period exceeding four hours from 6 A.M. until 8 P.M. At no time shall they be left detached from a licensed vehicle between the hours of 8 P.M. and 6 A.M.

Subd. 3. On-street parking of such vehicles and equipment may be allowed with prior authorization of the public works director or police chief, or in emergency situations.

(Ord. 2010-05; Ord. 2014-01)

Section 740. PARKING IN CITY LOTS.

Subd. 1. No person may park or permit any motor vehicle of any kind to stand upon any city-owned parking lot for more than 23 consecutive hours except: in areas designated by authority of the city council for such parking, in emergency situations, or where prior authorization has been obtained by the public works director or police chief.

Subd. 2. No person may park or permit construction equipment, recreational camping vehicles, utility trailers, boats and/or trailers to stand upon any city-owned parking lot for more than 23 consecutive hours except: in areas designated by authority of the city council for such parking, in emergency situations, or where prior authorization has been obtained by the public works director or police chief.

(Ord. 2014-01)

Section 755 through Section 780 (Reserved)

Section 790. ENFORCEMENT.

Section 790:05. POLICE DUTIES. The police department shall enforce the provisions of this chapter and the state traffic laws. Police officers are authorized to direct all traffic within the city, either in person or by means of visible or audible signal, in conformity with this chapter and the state traffic laws. During a fire or other emergency or to expedite traffic or safeguard pedestrians, officers of the police department may direct traffic as conditions require notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter and the state traffic laws. Officers of the fire department may direct or assist the police in directing traffic at the scene of a fire or in the immediate vicinity.

Section 790:10. IMPOUNDMENT. Any police officer may remove or direct the removal of a vehicle from a street to a garage or other place of safety when the vehicle is left unattended and obstructs traffic, hinders snow removal or street improvement or maintenance operations, or violates the parking restrictions established by this code. Such vehicle shall not be released until the fees for towing and storage are paid in addition to any fine imposed for violation of this chapter.

(Amended, Ord. 99-08)

Section 790:15. PENALTY. Any person convicted of violating any provision of this chapter may be charged with a petty misdemeanor and punishable in accordance with state law.